



## E—News October 2014

### SCWEA Conference 2014



Looking for some career-focused professional development? Check out:

- <http://cannexus.ca/>
- Cannexus 2015 January 26-28 in Ottawa, Ontario
- <https://www.acteonline.org/>
- ACTE Career-Tech Vision 2014 Nov. 19-22 in Nashville, TN <http://www.careertechvision.com/>
- Relevant career-focused articles can be found through online journals, by conducting various internet searches, and through virtual communities such as [www.contactpoint.ca](http://www.contactpoint.ca).
- Contact Conference 2015 April 22-23 in Saskatoon, SK
- The National Skills Canada Competition May 27-30 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
- <http://www.skillscanada.com/>
- <http://www.skillscanadasask.com/>

The theme of this years SCWEA Conference was “**Design a Life You Love**” and it was hosted at the beautiful Temple Gardens Hotel and Spa. Professor Alec Couros got things of to a great start Thursday night, by bringing to light the realities of the new digital world and how we can assist students in developing a positive digital identity. Carol Vecchio graciously shared the tool box of skills breaking down: How the Career Process Really Works Framework, 2) activities helpful at different phases of the Career Process, and 3) a short Life/Career Self-Test which she developed over 35 years in the Career Counselling field, Congratulations to Paul Blankestijn from the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission for earning the SCWEA Award of Excellence for his efforts in promoting the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship Program. Also Brian Shankowsky and Gord Heidel also received the SCWEA Award of Excellence for their work in establishing an industry education council for the Regina region. Thank you to the conference organizers Cory Cochrane and Renette Edgar for organizing another great SCWEA Conference.

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### Canadian Education and Research Institute for Counselling (CERIC)

Once again CERIC has put together a great line up of speakers for the upcoming Cannexus 15 National Career Development Conference.

**SCWEA is proud to be a supporting organization**, for the upcoming **Cannexus 15 National Career Development Conference** to be held on **January 26-28, 2015 at the Ottawa Convention Centre**. As a Supporting organization, SCWEA members are entitled to a **10% discount** on the Conexus conference registration **until November 3** (end of early bird registrations) and **5% discount** thereafter. For more information visit <http://www.cannexus.ca/>

## Skilled Trades and Technologies Week November 2 -8, 2014



With the provincial Skills Canada Saskatchewan competition taking place in April 16-17 in Moose Jaw and the National Skills Competences Canada Competition planned for May 27-30 in Saskatoon, 2015 should probably be called *Skilled Trades and Technology Year* in Saskatchewan. It took almost a decade before Saskatchewan was in the position to host its first National Skills Competences Canada Competition in 2007 and eight years later the Nationals are coming to Saskatchewan again. For those of you who have not had the privilege of attending a National Skills Competition it is something you do not want to miss. Experiencing the Nationals is inspiring, energizing and enlightening! Seeing these young competitors competing and excelling in their chosen fields, you can't help but walk away from the competition feeling that the future is in good hands. Schools are being encouraged to bring students to the event to tour the completion sites and experience the *Try a Trade* event. Please note that there will be transportation grants available for schools and the application form will be sent out with this E-news. Also you should encourage your PAA colleagues to check the websites for information on Dewalt tool grants and equipment grants that will be available following the National competition. <http://www.skillscanadasask.com/>  
<http://www.skillscanada.com/>

### Benefits of Take Our Kids to Work For students, it's an opportunity to:

- ▶ Understand the importance of staying in school by learning first-hand what skills are required in today's workplace.
- ▶ Start exploring career options in a practical way and gain a better understanding of just how many career choices are open to them.
- ▶ Develop an appreciation for their parents' careers and roles in supporting their families.

For parents, it's preparing your child for the future. You can:

- ▶ Participate in a shared experience with your child.
- ▶ Begin a career dialogue based on actual experiences.
- ▶ Enrich your child's experience with discussions before, during and after the workplace visit.

## Take Our Kids to Work Day Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Take Our Kids to Work, The Learning Partnership's signature program, is celebrating its 20th year of providing Grade 9 students across Canada with the opportunity to experience and learn about the world of work as they begin to explore possible career paths. The Learning Partnership began running this program in 1994 in Ontario and it has since grown into a national program that reaches students in all provinces and territories across the country. More than 250,000 Grade nine students and at least 75,000 businesses and organizations nationwide participate in Take Our Kids to Work day annually.

### Did You Know

- **Take Our Kids To Work Day falls on the first Wednesday in November every year.**
- **Organizations who register for Take Our Kids to Work are eligible to apply for the Learning Partnership's Canada's Outstanding Employers Award.**
- **The program helps teachers make the connection between education and future career paths.**
- **It enhances a company's brand by improving employee engagement, morale and loyalty.**
- **It demonstrates that a workplace is progressive and committed to education.**

## Sask. Careers Websystem Update

<https://www.saskcareers.ca/>

The official Media launch of the SaskCareers.ca website is scheduled for November 7, 2014 at Marion Graham Collegiate in Saskatoon. With phase 1 of the website now complete, the SaskCareers website is on its way to becoming an invaluable resource for all Saskatchewan residents. It is important to remember that because of the large number of stakeholders and the broad target audience, it will take time for this resource to reach its full potential. The website has had, what it is called in the Information Communication Technology industry, a *soft launch*. Currently, it is being piloted in eight school divisions, coupled with research and testing taking place within two First Nations communities

The website focuses on four critical sections relating to the career development process: In the first section *Know Yourself* there are assessments that will assist the user to discover their strengths, interests and learning styles. The next section, *Discover Career Path*, provides information on 16 key industry sectors of the Saskatchewan economy. This section allows the user to access information about potential careers within a sector or research specific occupations. The third section of the site, *Explore Education & Training*, provides the user with access to a high school planner, information on post-secondary options, education programs and scholarships. Because course options will vary from one institution to another it is important to note that the high school planner will have to be integrated with each school or division course or class lists. The final section, *Connect with Employers*, will be populated over time with employer information, career information, labour market information, and potential ways in which employers would be willing to work with students or education systems.

There is also an online e-portfolio built into the site and integrated with all the components, including any favourites selected by the user as they explore the sections of the site (For example: High School Planner, Post-Secondary Planner or Occupational search).

Future phases will include:

*Onboarding information to the scholarship section and the employer/business section.*

*Development of a financial literacy section.*

*Development of a parent and career advisory sections..*

*Establishing processes for populating the events section of the site.*

*Development of a logic model evaluation process with built in analytic capabilities.*

*Integration of resume' builders.*

*Continued vetting and testing*

Development of this websystem is no small undertaking. This websystem has the potential to provide everyone in the province with access to tools, resources, career pathing information, labour market information and communication/collaboration information that will directly and positively impact the prosperity of Saskatchewan .

Thank you to SIEC and their team dedication to this project.

Please mark in your Calendars: SIEC Contact Conference April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 in Saskatoon. Please click on the following link for more information. <http://www.contactconference.ca/>

**contact2015**  
 **Future Forward...Careers by Design**

### **Executive Positions for 2014-2015:**

Past President – Marlene Flaman-Dunn (2nd year of a 2 year term)

President – Cynthia Wright-Fulton (2nd year of a 2 year term)

Vice-President – Kelly Bararuk (2nd year of 2 year term)

Secretary - Vanessa Lewis (2nd year of 2 a year term)

Treasurer – Jocelyn Kennedy (2nd year of a 2 year term)

Director/Editor - Leanne Merkowsky

Director – Renette Edgar

Director – Cory Cochrane

Director – Barb Mckinnon

Director – Gord Heidel

Director— Kerrie Binetrui  
Advisor—Rick Clarke

## Regina District Industry Education Council (RDIEC)

Since the RDIEC office was established in October 2013 a great deal has been accomplished. A fourteen member board has been established with equal representation from industry and education. The board has met several times ratifying RDIEC Bylaws, approving the Policy and Procedures Manual, establishing committees and beginning a strategic planning process.

Six RDIEC programs were established in 2013-14 reaching 3346 students directly, partnering with 53 outside organizations resulting in over 1400 in-kind hours of direct student contact time by industry. Highlights included:

- “Grade 9 Try a Career Days” with approximately 3000 grade 9 students from the Regina Region attending the event over three days.
- Twenty one Career Spotlights were completed, surpassing the goal of 20 set at the beginning of the year.
- Two Career Connection programs completed with the ground work done to double the number of Career Connection programs offered in 2014-2015. Four students went on to complete a work placement and earn Career & Work Exploration credits with three of the placements facilitated during the summer.
- 100% completion by our 19 Summer Apprenticeship Program students resulting in 37 Credits being issued.
- Very positive feedback on the first ever RDIEC Small Engine Summer Skills Camp for middle level students.
- The establishment of a structure to facilitate coordination of the UR Accelerated Program by the RDIEC in 2014-15.
- New for 2014-15 will be a Spring Job Expo, Health Links Program, and a Parents as Career Coaches event accompanying the expansion of current program offerings.

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## Looking for Career Education Resources

<https://www.saskcareers.ca/>

<http://vocopher.com/>

[http://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/home\\_page](http://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/home_page)

<http://www.rbe.sk.ca/teachers-staff/instruction/career-development>

<http://www.careertech.org/>

<https://www.acteonline.org>

<http://www.ceric.ca/?q=en>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nLZC7Mwgeg>

<http://www.saskmininged.com/>

<http://www.millierdickinsonblais.com/blog/canadas-workforce-crisis-moving-from-conversation-to-action>

