



Sharing Career News and Events In and Around Saskatchewan

March 2015

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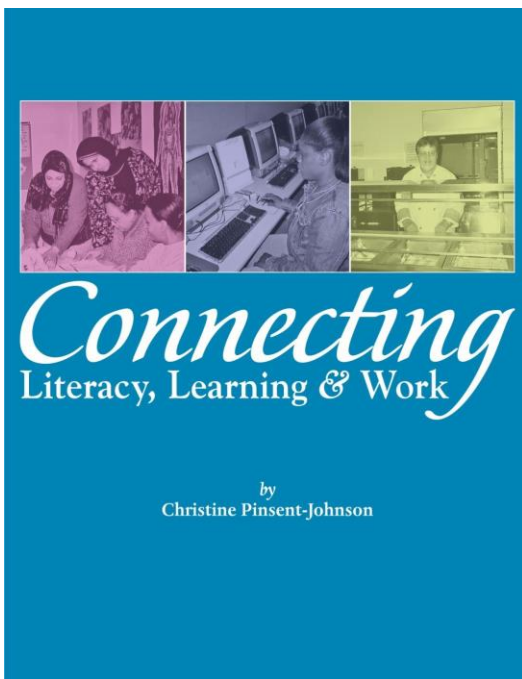
<http://ssc.stf.sk.ca/scwea/index.html>

### SaskCareers Update March 5, 2015

The advisory/writing team, of which I am a member, met at E.D. Feehan High School on Thursday, February 26, for a full day writing and planning session with a focus on the next phase of the website that will be available to the pilot school divisions by the end of March. Also, during this very challenging and packed session was the opportunity to begin the initial draft writing for what the Grade Nine Transition Plan could potentially look like. Furthermore, in this next phase will be a bundle of new resources, especially an emphasis on having more inventories for students to attempt. The biggest piece of the next phase will be the communication piece, linking teachers digitally with their students. This will be known as the educator role which allows students to share their portfolio work with their teacher. This will allow teachers to review/assess portfolio progression via the SaskCareers portal. There are many exciting features that will allow students to share their work with their particular teacher. Documents are easily uploaded to their assigned teacher and the teacher is able to comment and assess directly on the document and simply send it back to the student. This can be done for an entire class where the teacher can simply upload an entire class submitted assignment, comment on it and the next student's assignment will pop up for the teacher to assess until he or she has examined the entire class. The programming has been tested and is being tested throughout March and the team leaders are still listening to and making changes from feedback being given by classes who are currently testing this phase. This has been an enormous challenge, but Saskatchewan is taking the lead on developing a "one stop site for career development in Saskatchewan. Like any pilot, there has been obstacles, barriers and roadblocks, yet the passion and commitment to design and complete a program that will benefit students in the years to come is clearly worth the initial struggles. Stay tuned for further updates in April.

## Transitioning Adult Basic Education Students into the Workforce (Webinar February 25 and workshop March 6, 2015, Saskatoon)

I was fortunate to sit in on a webinar on Wednesday, February 25 and then I attended a full day workshop on March 6 in Saskatoon. The premise behind the SARN (Saskatchewan Action Research Network) is for educators, businesses and the Ministry of the Economy to coordinate programming to create opportunities for adult basic education students to see a connection between educational institutions and the workforce. I have included the link to the power point presentation, but I will highlight some of the key points from the two workshops. I hope you will see that the transition's connection to our work as high school teachers or career practitioners is clearly relevant to our work.



### Lessons Learned from My Experience

1. Learning about work is all about learning work culture and communication.
2. Rethink text-based activities.
3. Work experience is invaluable.
4. Work-related certificates really do help.
5. Meaningful holistic planning first, then apply outcomes and standards.
6. Both educators and students will have a range of responses to changes.
7. Greater retention and completion.

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SARN Webinar February 25, 2015

Transitions LINK





# ES

## WHAT IS AN ESSENTIAL SKILL?

An essential skill is a necessary developed ability or capacity acquired through deliberate, systematic, and sustained efforts to smoothly and adaptively carry out complex activities or job functions involving ideas, things, and/or people.

The Government of Canada and other national and international agencies have identified and validated 9 key essential skills for the workplace.

## WHAT ARE THE 9 ESSENTIAL SKILLS ?

Numeracy / Oral Communication / Working with Others / Continuous Learning / Reading Text / Writing / Thinking / Document Use / Digital

## WHY DO WE NEED ESSENTIAL SKILLS?

Essential Skills are the skills that people need for work, learning and life. They provide the foundation for learning all other skills.

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND THE TRADES

Good Essential Skills means you will understand and remember concepts introduced in technical training. The level of Essential Skills required for most trades is as high or higher that it is for many office jobs.

## HOW DO WE GET TO KNOW OUR ESSENTIAL SKILLS?

There are many fun ways to test your students' Essential Skills. The following activities can be a group activity and works best with teams of 4. Create your own point system or make it a race against time! May the best Essential Skill win!

# IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES\*

## ACTIVITIES TO EXPLORE SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY CAREERS

There are many interesting ways to explore skilled trades and apprenticeship with your students.

This section includes a number of classroom activities to get your students thinking about the skills and knowledge required to perform a trade. You will also find a number of "Quick Tips" to get you started.

### QUICK TIPS

- Invite a skilled tradesperson to your classroom to talk about their profession. Tradespeople can be found through:
  - local businesses
  - trade associations
  - labor groups
  - community colleges
- Contact your local Skills/Compétences Canada office nearest you. Their staff would be happy to help you organize a classroom presentation about skilled trades for your students.

- Organize a field trip for your students to a skills competition in your region. These exciting Olympic-style skills competitions showcase students' technical and leadership skills. Students participate in practical challenges designed to test skills required in technology and trade occupations. For more information, contact the Skills/Compétences Canada office nearest you.
- Assign a research project on a skilled trade. Start by dividing your class into groups. Have each group select a trade they are most interested in. Have them write down their initial perceptions and knowledge of their chosen trade.

Then have each group research their trade to identify:

- the duties involved.
- the education and skills needed to perform the trade.
- the wage and the number of hours generally worked.
- the work environment.

Finally, have each group make a presentation on their trade to the class. Make sure they talk about their initial perceptions and how they are different from the reality of the trade.

\* This information has been adapted/modified from the "Skilled Trades: A Career You Can Build On" Educators Toolkit. This toolkit is available online at [www.careersintrades.ca](http://www.careersintrades.ca)



We invite you to join us at the 2ND International STEMfest. Schedule of Events – Select what you want to attend! Options include two FREE events for classes, a not-to-miss International Education Conference and Science on Stage Canada Festival.

## **Monday, September 28, 2015**

### **Careers of the Future Day (FREE)**

**Grades 10 to 12 and Post- Secondary Students**

Exhibitors will talk to students interested in career options in different fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and speakers on the main stage will share their stories. What is it like to work in robotics? How do I make a career out of building games? How do I get to work outdoors and help the environment? What is the future of Drones? Will cars drive themselves or fly?

Meet with organizations from around the world from the New York Film Academy to South East Asian Ministers of Education Organizations, to mining companies and technology giants.

**10am to 3pm, Monday, September 28, 2015. Register your class online at:**

<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-careers-of-the-future-day-stemfest15-event-91-tickets-12868958401>

## **Tuesday, September 29, 2015**

### **STEM FAIR and OPEN DAY (Free)**

**Suitable for grades 3-9**

Join us between 10am and 3pm for a fun and exciting day of science, technology, engineering and math. Learn something new and be inspired. Students receive a STEMfest Explorer Passport on arrival and move around up to 65 exciting and educational STEM activities. Free to register, this event does have limited places and so pre-registration is required for classes (max 30 people per group).

Register your class online at: <http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-stem-fair-and-open-day-stemfest-event-92-tickets-12869000527>

#### **Bus Charters and Funding Support for Careers of the Future Day and STEM Fair Day.**

If you require funding for a bus to bring a group of students to the Careers of the Future Day or STEM Fair & Open Day please email Kim Ali at [kimali@onpurpose.ca](mailto:kimali@onpurpose.ca) Grants are available including 70 grants of \$100 for a Saskatoon based school, and 25 grants of \$250 for schools outside of the city limits. To enquire simply email us to seek availability. Buses are on a first come first served basis, and limited to a maximum of one grant per school. Put your name down today for a STEMfest Bus Grant.

Once approved we will send you the agreement and you will be requested to arrange your transport and submit your receipt to STEMfest for a refund up to the agreed amount.

**At the present time the SCWEA executive is planning to join the conference and provide some professional development opportunities tied to career infusion with the new Science 10 curriculum. Stay tuned for more information!**

**Cheers and have a well-deserved Easter break!**

