

Looking for some career-focused summer reading?

- [Failed Launches from School to Good Jobs Cost Canada Billions Annually](#) by Phil Jarvis through LinkedIn is worth a read.
- Explore a [Career Theory Wiki](#)
- Relevant career-focused articles can be found through online journals, by conducting various internet searches, and through virtual communities such as [www.contactpoint.ca](#).

Begin exploring today!

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www.scwea.com

May 2015

Skills Canada National Competition and Try a Trade



Above: Students engaged in Brick Laying Competition.

Below: Do you know what Essential Skills are needed to be a Millwright?



Above: Baking competitor engaged in intense competition.

Below: Sheet metal workers in action.



The Educator Forum was a new edition to the Skills Canada National Competition. It was an excellent opportunity for Teachers, Guidance Counsellors, Career Counsellors, HR Managers, Administrators, and Parents to engage in positive dialogue around the Essential Skills.

These facts were indicated by [The Essential Skills Educators Forum](#).

THE FACTS

74% of employers find essential skills relevant to their business (ABC Life Literacy, 2013)

The level of essential skills required in the skilled trades and technology careers is as high or higher than it is for many other jobs.

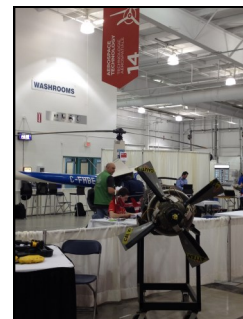
Employers report that graduates are coming to their workplace with only 30% of the skills needed for the job

Canadians aged 16-24 rank below average in their literacy and numeracy skills compared to 23 other countries (OECD, 2012)

Essential Skills are linked to better performance, which then leads to better quality work, productivity, and retention.

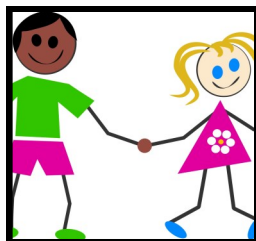
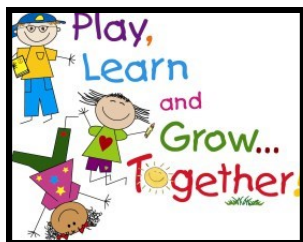
Having an employee with a higher level of essential skills is much more valuable to potential employers because the individual will have:

- an attention to safety
- the ability to work in a team setting
- a greater aptitude in problem solving
- better client service skills
- an ability to adapt to change
- an advanced knowledge of numerical skills, including estimation, budgeting and calibrations



Skills shortages remain a significant challenge for Canada. Our country supports initiatives that help ensure Canadians have the essential skills needed to participate fully in the labour market and in their communities.

Dual Credits for Early Childhood Educators



- The Government of Saskatchewan recently announced a dual credit partnership with Saskatchewan Polytechnic to offer high school students three courses that will be recognized as a credit towards both high school graduation and an Early Childhood Education certificate or diploma.
- Beginning in September 2015, Saskatchewan Polytechnic's Interpersonal Communications; Health, Safety and Nutrition; and Role of Play in Early Childhood Education courses will be available province-wide through distance education options to all Grade 11 and 12 students, including students in First Nations schools.
- By successfully completing all three courses, students will be eligible for the Ministry of Education's Early Childhood Educator I certification.
- This will provide high school students with the opportunity to explore this exciting field of work and increase the availability of qualified staff for child care centres. To learn more, visit the [Ministry link](#).



Looking for a unique professional development opportunity this summer?

**"Rock'n the Classroom"
GEOVENTURE PROGRAM**

For Educators

August 15—21, 2015

The Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) is offering a unique **GeoVenture Program** for Saskatchewan educators. A great way to learn about occupations in the mining industry!

Email info@saskmining.ca for more details.

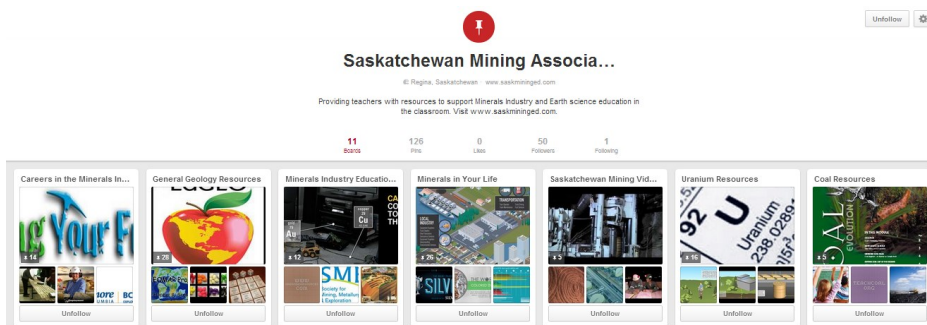
Sask Careers Web System Initiative



The Saskatoon Industry Education Council in partnership with school divisions, community based organizations, post-secondary institutions, First Nations and Metis communities, industry associations, Chambers of Commerce and provincial government ministries has launched an extremely exciting new free website for all things related to career development for people of all ages.

The website is <http://www.saskcareers.ca>. There are exciting opportunities on this web system for students to create an account and track credits, take interest/skill based inventories, explore and compare different careers, explore post-secondary opportunities in our province, and access employer information. This website also supports the upcoming A3: Graduation Rate Outcome around transition plans beginning with Grade 9 students in the 2015-2016 school year.

Saskatchewan Mining Association is on [Pinterest](#) - lots of career-related links!

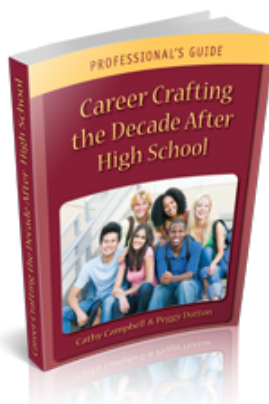


Career Crafting the Decade After High School: Professional's Guide

Career Crafting the Decade After High School: Professional's Guide (2015)

Visit the [CERIC](#) website today for a **FREE** PDF download.

Paperback copies are also available for purchase.



This is the newly enhanced and updated edition of the popular Decade After High School guide!

NEW 2015!



OR buy a paperback copy of the book for only **\$19.99**.



- The [Relevance Magazine](#) continues to be an amazing Career Education and CWEX classroom resource.
- The resource is extremely classroom friendly and features profiles of numerous Saskatchewan role models. The Job Chart alone is a valuable resource for students and their parents.

Regina Industry Education Council Spring and Summer Programs

The Regina District Industry Education Council (RDIEC) is in the final stages of planning its Spring and Summer programs.

Middle Level Summer Skills Camps

This program will focus on middle level students and run July 20 - 24, 2015. These camps will be one week in duration focusing on a particular trade or skill area. Students will be required to complete preliminary safety training before tackling a variety of hands-on activities designed to develop basic skills and introduce them to a targeted career area. This year RDIEC is pleased to offer Summer Skills Camps in the areas of Robotics, Small Engines and Culinary Arts. For more information on these and other programs please visit <http://www.rdiec.ca>.

Summer Apprenticeship Program (SAP)

This program will focus on grade 10 and 11 students looking to explore occupations in the trades. The students will have the opportunity to be employed for 6 weeks during July and August, earn up to two high school Apprenticeship credits, document these hours on a 6A form and receive Early Safety Training. Students will complete the Young Worker's Readiness Certificate (YWRC) and Safety Construction Orientation Training (SCOT) programs prior to starting the safety training and will be required to enroll in the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) Program. Job opportunities will be advertised on the RDIEC website (www.rdiec.ca) and in Regina area schools.



Review Twitter Feed at
#contactconf2015

For your chance to win a Tim Horton's Gift Card... A random draw will be made from all who contribute ideas to the padlet site by Friday, June 19, 2015.

Please share your thoughts:

- As we wrap up the 2014-2015 school year, what should be next year's areas of focus for our SCWEA Executive?
- Please provide suggestions for the fall workshop/conference. We are trying a new format for the conference this year (see below). Feel free to let the conference committee know what you would find most meaningful for sessions on our SCWEA day as this professional development event geared to you. Maybe you wish to present!?
- To share your ideas, go to:

<http://padlet.com/lewey1/8lk3p7lxp7xo>

and double click on the screen. Include your first name and your ideas. Share your thoughts. **Padlet** has a multitude of uses. It is an excellent tool for sharing, collaborating, and/or showing what you know.

Contact Conference 2015

Once again, the Contact Conference organized by the Saskatoon Industry Education Council, was a huge success. The keynotes provided a tremendous variety of career focused content. Dr. Rich Feller spoke about "Reimagining Careers in Changing Times", Dr. Sean Lessard's address was "Rooted in Experience...Working Alongside Indigenous Youth In and Outside of School Places", and Zarqa Nawaz spoke about her experiences in creating "Little Mosque on the Prairie".

A multitude of relevant breakout sessions were offered. A few highlights:

ROAD TO EMPLOYMENT

Clinton Nellist and Denis Luchyshyn with Roads to Employment spoke about spending 4 months on the road while talking to employers, career developers, and youth in creating their documentary called "[Roads to Employment](#)". There are many ideas in their story to help engage youth in life/career related decision making.

Ruth Kinzell spoke about "A Hard Look at Soft Skills". For a copy of her presentation, visit the [Contact Conference 2015 Website](#).

Tang Choy, a Career Consultant at Ryerson University, spoke about ideas to equip career counsellors with strategies to help students/clients build a personal brand and positive digital presence highlighting their skills and interests and encouraging social networking, etc.



STEMfest 15 and SCWEA 'Power PD' Workshop 2015

September 28th and 29th, 2015



STEMfest and SCWEA unite for a unique experience for Saskatchewan Science Teachers and Career Education Teachers. Attend Day 1 (September 28th) of STEMfest to learn about STEM Careers and join SCWEA on Day 2 (September 29th) for a full-day workshop. Through this first ever partnership, participants will listen to speakers share stories of working in robotics, making a career out of building games, job prospects for working outdoors, the future of drones, and more. They will also visit exhibitors to learn about the career options available in various STEM fields. Day 2 will focus on lessons supporting the career-related outcomes of the science curricula, visits to industry and post-secondary institutes, supports/resources to address the A3 – Increased Graduation Rates, and more! This career-focused professional development opportunity will support Career Education Teachers, Career Counsellors, Career and Work Exploration Teachers and Science Teachers. This is an excellent opportunity for school divisions to support the attendance of a team of Science and Career Teachers. Please visit www.scwea.com for more information and registration details.

SCWEA Conference Summaries 2014

Design a Life You Love: SCWEA Conference 2014

Living and Learning in a Digital World *SCWEA Keynote – Alec Couros*

Alec Couros delivered an entertaining, informative, and powerful keynote address during the opening session for SCWEA Conference 2014. Alec engaged the audience in thought, reflection, and discussion about what it means to live, work, teach, and learn in a digital age. He provided our membership with food for thought in relation to creating a positive digital identity, remaining consistent between digital spaces, and engaging in connected learning from the perspective of both teachers and students.

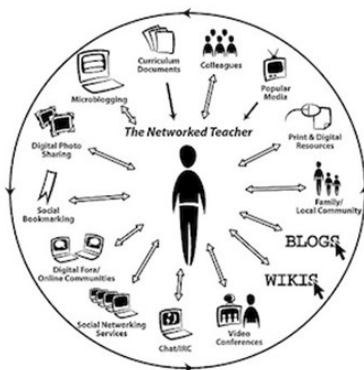
Some highlights:

- These days, young people have a digital footprint before they are born.
- When learning and working online, think public by default, private with effort.
- The concept of online networks is here to stay even though tech tools to support connections will continually change.
- New Maslow's picture
- "We systematically overestimate the value of access to information and underestimate the value of access to each other." – Clay Shirky

Alec shared with the conference delegates examples of both positive and negative digital citizenship choices. For instance, he shared the story of a young lady who sent out a Tweet via Twitter before boarding a plane and by the time she landed, had lost her job and received many comments regarding the inappropriateness of her post. On the positive note, Alec showed videos and provided examples of how young people are using technology tools to showcase learning such as the Monster Trap Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMboI4cOAUQ> in which a young boy makes his thinking visible by devising and documenting the process of his Rube Goldberg experiment.

Alec concluded the keynote presentation by posing questions for consideration by our SCWEA membership:

- How are we preparing our students for the world they currently live in?
- How are we living and learning in this digital age?.



(Flickr Creative Commons Image, original created by Dr. Alec Couros, shared by Flickr user Leif Harboe.)

SCWEA Conference Summaries 2014

Design a Life You Love: SCWEA Conference 2014

Design a Life You Love *Keynotes and Breakout Sessions presented by Carol Vecchio*

Over the course of our two-day conference, keynote Carol Vecchio presented ideas for navigating in our rapidly changing world and uncovering our true passions. Our world is constantly changing and we must be equipped with the skills and competencies necessary to manage change. Carol suggested that finding our passions can lead to happiness, help us to make a positive difference in this world, and assist us in navigating uncertainty. Our world is constantly changing and we must be equipped with the skills and competencies necessary to navigate change.

Carol provided conference delegates with strategies and tools for embracing uncertainty and uncovering our passions. Through a series of keynote addresses and breakout sessions, she shared a toolbox of ideas/skills addressing:

1. How the Career Process Really Works framework
2. Activities helpful during different phases of the Career Process; and
3. A short Life/Career Self-Test that provided delegates with a snapshot of current life/work situations to encourage self-reflection. It can be accessed and utilized for free at: <http://centerpointseattle.org/lifecareer-self-test/>



She also helped us reflect our childhood as a tool/strategy for tapping into our passions. By recalling what it was we spent tons of time doing/imagining/playing, during our youth can help us connect to meaning in our lives.

As Career Counsellors/Practitioners, Carole provided us with ideas for self-assessment and reflection but also how to use these concepts to support our students. Of great importance is the ability to ask deep open-ended questions of students and to engage in active listening. The idea is to help students tell life stories which help to reveal their true interests. To help with this, Carol shared a workbook by Career Guru, Mark Savickas, called My Career Story which is available for free by .pdf at: http://www.vocopher.com/CSI/CCI_workbook.pdf. Depending on clients, conversation starters might include questions such as:

- Who were your role models growing up?
- When did you feel most alive in your life?
- When is the first time you felt like you?
- If you could design 5 separate lifetimes, what would they look like? Look at themes threads and patterns.
- Where do I go from here if you had all the money in the world. How would you spend your time? At first, later on?
- What dream is deep in your heart, that you have maybe not even told anybody?

For more information:

<http://centerpointseattle.org/carolvecchio/>

Carol's Book:

Carol has written a book titled, *The Time Between Dreams: How to Navigate Uncertainty in your Life and Work*, it is available for purchase at various online locations including Amazon.ca.

<http://www.amazon.ca/The-Time-Between-Dreams-Uncertainty/dp/098818480X>

Drop Everything And Daydream (DEAR)

Submitted by Kevin Gawletz as inspired by SCWEA Conference 2013

Yes it is a horrible acronym, but it represents something really good. A few years ago our school division started an initiative to improve reading levels for all of our students. Part of the strategy to improve reading levels was implementing D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time into every school day. Students would read for a 15 minute designated time period every day at school. My thoughts about D.E.A.D. stemmed from this concept.

I attended the SCWEA Conference at Cypress Hills in 2013 and had an opportunity to attend a number of Denise Bissonette sessions. In one of her sessions she talked about how daydreaming was one way that people connect to their future possibilities and career decision making. It made perfect sense, as we all think to ourselves about all kinds of things. That thinking often includes the future and what directions we should go in life. Very few people make purely spontaneous decisions without prior thought. She also stated that we often do a less than adequate job of encouraging this daydreaming during our school days.

Then I thought that if we can take time to read each day, maybe we could take time to dream each day. I don't mean the deep sleep type of dreaming, just the 3-4 minute lost in our own thoughts type of dreaming, hence the acronym D.E.A.D. To enhance, encourage and maybe even direct the dreaming to a career decision frame of reference, I added the idea of playing music while students close their eyes and dream. Youth are so connected to music that it seemed like a natural fit. I looked for songs that had lyrics that talked about dreaming, the future or actually directly about career possibilities. I discovered that a lot of songs' lyrics are about those very things. Below is a list of songs that serve as examples:

Hero – Kutless
 Dream Weaver – Gary Wright
 Superman – Five for Fighting
 Hall of Fame – The Script
 The Time of My Life – David Cook
 Dreamer – Supertramp
 Awake and Alive – Skillet
 I'm Gonna Be Somebody – Travis Tritt
 Dream On – Aerosmith
 World - Five For Fighting
 Anything (Censored Version) – Hedley

When I had Grade 10 portfolio development sessions, I would start each class with D.E.A.D. time where the students would close their eyes and daydream while I played a song. We would take a minute or two after the song to discuss the lyrics and relate the song to their own career decision making.

Thanks for sharing, Kevin! It is awesome to hear from Career Teachers who are inspired by sessions at SCWEA and to receive some classroom-friendly ideas. If anyone has submissions for inclusion in future versions of the SCWEA eNews, please share with an Executive Member.