

manitoba School Counsellor

spring 2014



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- **We Day Manitoba hits the MTS Centre for the third year in a row**
- **The University of Winnipeg's new United Health and RecPlex opens its doors this fall**

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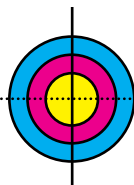
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MSCA president's message

Charu Gupta, M.Sc., M.Ed, CCC



As I sit down to write my farewell message as MSCA president for the 2013/14 school year, I can't seem to wonder where the time has gone? It feels like it was only September yesterday and I was getting all geared up to start my role as the president of MSCA. This year, the record-breaking, frigid, cold months have been sluggishly eternal, but the warm enthusiasm of the MSCA executive and board has been unwavering. Regardless of the frosty temperatures, I hope everyone has cherished the year and made time for yourself and your loved ones.

SAGE 2013 was a colossal success and I want to sincerely thank the executive for making this day so successful, especially Joëlle Émond, the past president of MSCA for bringing us Dr. Danie Beaulieu, founder and president of Académie Impact, a training institute in Lac-Beauport, Quebec. Dr. Beaulieu astounded us with her creative impact therapy strategies that counsellors, therapists, teachers, and other school staff can use with all their students to improve their self-esteem, focus their attention, increase their motivation, and acquire personal, social and emotional skills. The feedback from the SAGE participants was affirmative. I also want to thank the staff and students of Collège Jeanne-Sauvé for letting us host the event and helping us with the set-up and tear-down of the site. I also want to thank the United Church, the Faith Lutheran Church, and the Sterling Mennonite Church, all of which are on Dakota Street, for letting us use their parking facility for SAGE. Finally, I want to thank all the SAGE participants for their participation and support to MSCA.

Planning for the Rotary Career Symposium is well underway and the dates are March 18 to 19, 2014 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. The Rotary Career Symposium provides a dynamic venue where students and adults gain valuable information about various education and employment options available in Manitoba. MSCA will be setting up the booth once again and I hope to see you there with your students.

The one-hour professional development piece of the board meetings had some dynamic presenters. We kicked off the year in September with a question/answer session on "Occupational Therapy for Students in Student Services/Counsel-

ling" – Stepping outside the box! This session was led by Janie Kupskay a counsellor from RETSD. In November, we had two presenters, both very energetic and enthusiastic. Kim O'Brien, intelligence officer from Canada Border Services Agency – Enforcement & Intelligence Operations Division gave a brief 15 minute information session on the recruitment of Future Women in Law Enforcement (FWILE). Please visit their website at <http://www.iawp2014.org/> for more information. We also had Bonnie Snow, program supervisor at Adoption Options Manitoba who talked about adoption as a choice, birthparents considering adoption, and/or children who have been adopted, and adoptive families in general. Snow also had a student intern accompany her to the meeting and they both shared their personal stories. Check out their website, www.adoptionoptions.mb.ca, for more information. Robert Shewchuk talked to us about his book, *Careers for Kids* in March. This book is for parents to help their kids choose a career they'll love. We spent the month of January's PD time to plan for SAGE 2014. Please stay tuned for more information in the near future, or visit MSCA's website at www.msca.mb.ca.

Once again, MSCA's AGM will be held in May 2014. Please visit MSCA's website for information regarding the date and venue. I would like to give my gratitude to MSCA executive and board members for making this year successfully pleasurable. I appreciate your experience and knowledge. I want to send my wishes to Susan Hocken-Attwell who will be stepping into the shoes of the president. Hocken-Attwell brings to us her vast knowledge of counselling and will be an amazing leader for MSCA.

Finally, it has been my honour to serve as the president of MSCA. Counsellors do marvelous work within their schools and communities for the enhancement of students. I encourage you to continue to network with other counsellors and support one another.

Lastly, I want to end with a final note by Deepak Chopra, "Giving connects two people, the giver and the receiver, and this connection gives birth to a new sense of belonging".

Happy networking! ☺

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate (WVC) is now offering **online** instruction for Manitoba First Nation high school students

Through WVC, students will be given provincially approved curriculum; interactive instruction from highly qualified teachers; access to the most effective interactive tools and course content available today; taught post-secondary and career ready required courses all while allowing students to remain in their home communities.

GET A HEAD START AND ENROL NOW!

Look for updates on the Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate website: www.wapaskwa.ca

Visit and find next year's 2013-2014:

- School Calendar
- Class Selection

To find out more about this incredible opportunity by visiting our website at www.wapaskwa.ca or contact Allison McDonald, Principal, allisonm@mfnerc.com, (204) 594-1290 ext. 2013 for more information.



**Your Future
Starts Here.**



Wapaskwa
virtual collegiate

Stop, think, connect

Cyber safety is more than just password-protecting your phone

BY SHAYNA WIWIERSKI



Thousands of kids accept friend requests on Facebook every day from friends and acquaintances, but do they really know who is on the other side of the screen?

According to the Print Measurement Bureau (PMB), approximately one-third of social media networkers are under 25, and nine out of 10 teenagers are on social media. Ranking as the most popular social media site online, almost one in every three Facebook users is under 25, compared with one in four of the Cana-

dian 12+ population. One in every two Facebook users is under 35.

With a high usage in social media, there should be barriers put in place for both safety of oneself and the devices used to access these sites. According to McAfee Security, the world's largest dedicated security technology company, a day in the digital life of a family consists of 27 per cent of teens that have infected their home computers with malware. Criminals increasingly target younger kids with pop

ups containing malware, such as viruses, spyware, etc. And, it's not just pop ups; searching for hot topics of celebrities can lead to dangerous sites as well. Odds are that about one in 10 websites contain malware with a search for Heidi Klum.

Viruses and hacking can easily lead to another hot topic – cyberbullying, something that few kids tell their parents about. According to McAfee, 43 per cent of teens aged 13 to 17 have reported that they have experienced cyberbullying in the past year, and girls are eight per cent more likely to be a victim of the act.

Cyber safety is a huge factor when it comes to preventing cyberbullying. There are numerous stories in this past year alone of teenagers who have committed suicide after being bullied by people online. UK teen Daniel Perry and Canadians Rehtaeh Parsons and Amanda Todd all took their own lives after being targeted by people online; people who weren't who they said they were.

"What [Amanda Todd's] story represents is that it can happen to anybody," says Carol Todd, Amanda's mother who spoke to students at Sisler High School about cyber safety on November 19, 2013. "They say they like your shirt, they like your hair and then they become your friend online, but you have never seen them before. My question is, how many of you have [online] friends in another state or country? How many times have you talked to them? You classify them as a friend, although you have never met them. Do you know who is at the other end?"



Amanda's story is much like Perry's and Parson's. In an online chat room, she exposed herself online, with the person on the other end screencapping the image. The Port Coquitlam, B.C. girl was blackmailed and bullied by the person, which eventually led her to take her own life in October 2012.

"She got trapped into the Internet through chat rooms, and someone convinced her she was beautiful and gorgeous. It turned out to be someone who was quite evil and they convinced her to show her chest and on the other end they took a photo of it. She was 13," said Carol. "This evil person posted the picture of Amanda bare chested on an adult porn site, and as soon as you open them and watch them, you have that content in your smartphones, in your computers, and it's illegal to have in possession porn of kids under 18."

A friend of Amanda's saw the link and shared it with her parents who then contacted the RCMP, which showed up at Carol's doorstep in the middle of the night. That one photo was the turning point in a downward spiral that caused Amanda's death.

"That photo of her, ultimately when it got shared in her school, her peers, who she thought were her friends, they decided it would be really good to share it. And it would be really good to make

fun of her. She was embarrassed to go out; it was well known in our community. When she moved to a new school, 30 minutes away, the Internet and social media allowed it to follow her. Wherever she went, it followed her. The evil person infiltrated her Facebook and got ahold of her friends on [the site] and shared it."

Amanda's story is filled with exploitation, physical bullying, cyber harassment, mental health, and more. Carol says that parents need to understand what's out there and that whatever you put on technology stays in concrete.

Cyberbullying has become such a hot topic that Justice Minister Peter MacKay introduced Bill C-13, also known as the Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act, on November 20, 2013. Under the bill, anyone who posts or distributes an "intimate image" of another person without their consent would face up to five years in prison.

Nova Scotia introduced their own legislation on cyber safety on April 25, 2013. The act created a CyberSCAN unit, which investigates complaints of cyberbullying, a first of its kind in Canada. Anyone can call CyberSCAN to file a complaint about cyberbullying, which investigators will then try to resolve informally by contacting the individual, family members, or others as necessary. Through amendments to the Education Act, the Cyber-Safety Act also clarifies the authority of school principals to respond to incidents of bullying and cyberbullying that occur off school grounds or after school hours.

Currently in Canada, Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Alberta, and British Columbia are the only provinces that don't have any cyberbullying legislation. Carol Todd hopes to change all that. She started the Amanda Todd Legacy, which works towards supporting youth mental health, anti-bullying, and online exploitation.

"As adults, we want to share the message to teach [kids] how to be safer, so we don't have anymore stories like Amanda Todd's." 📧



About 30 million cell phones are lost every day. Lost personal information on phones, including emails, contacts, texts, personal banking information, etc. can end up in the wrong hands. Here is how to keep safe with your devices.

KEEP A CLEAN MACHINE

Keep up to date with operating updates and security software.

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT

Spammers are getting smarter in the way they target computers. If it sounds too good to be true (that free cruise you just won? Those 500,000 Air Miles?), it probably is. Don't open any attachments and hit delete.

SAFETY FIRST

Safeguard your mobile device with a password (and don't share it!) and install a remote wipe feature like Find My iPhone for iOS devices, which can completely erase data on a device from a remote location. Also, make sure you log out of all accounts before switching apps.

BE CAUTIOUS OF STRANGERS

Only accept people you know and trust on your social media sites. Be wary of anonymous friend requests.

WHERE IN THE WORLD...

Turn off location-enabled features. People can find out where you live or where you are just by sending a photo or a tweet.

THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Employers and universities often search names in Google when doing research of a prospective applicant. An inappropriate photo or post could make the difference between landing a job, making it into university, getting that dream scholarship, or not.

Back to We

We Day Manitoba inspires students and educators for the third year in a row

BY SHAYNA WIWIERSKI



One of education's biggest shows made its way back to the MTS Centre on October 30, 2013.

We Day, Free The Children's premier event, brought together 16,000 students, educators, and Manitoba philanthropists under one roof to educate, engage, and empower the next generation to change the world.

The third-annual event is a stadium-sized affair that is held in cities across Canada, the United States, and as of this year, the U.K. We Day connects world-

renowned speakers and performers with thousands of elementary and secondary school students and educators in an inspirational setting to learn about global and regional issues.

This year's list of speakers included Emmy and Golden Globes award-winning actor Martin Sheen, human rights advocate Martin Luther King III, *New York Times* best-selling author Amanda Lindhout, former Mexican president Vicente Fox, and other We Day favourites such as Spencer West, Molly Burke, Chris Tse,



A crowd of 16,000 students and educators get inspired to take action on local and global causes at Free The Children's We Day Manitoba on October 30, 2013. (Photo credit: Barry Panas\Free The Children.)



Martin Luther King II's famous "I Have a Dream" speech was a reoccurring theme throughout We Day Manitoba 2013. Photo by Shayna Wiwierski.

and Free The Children founders Craig and Marc Kielburger. Musical performers included Shawn Desman (who also hosted the show), Neverest, Maria Aragon, and the Kenyan Boys Choir, among others.

"This is the beginning of something incredible that will take place in our lives. You have the opportunity to change the world," said Martin Luther King III, whose father, Martin Luther King II's iconic "I Have a Dream" speech celebrated its 50th anniversary on August 28, 2013.

King's famous speech was a reoccurring theme throughout the show.

"A dream shared by many becomes a movement," said Craig Kielburger, Free The Children founder.

"This movement is going to bring about so many wonderful changes on our planet," adds Luther King III before he introduced Craig and Marc Kielburger to the enthusiastic crowd.

More than 380 schools from across Manitoba are currently active in We Act, a year-long educational program. In 2012 alone, students and educators from across Manitoba achieved remarkable social change results, including the 20,800 pounds of food for local food banks as part of the We Scare Hunger campaign; \$17,900 by pledging 24 hours of silence in the We Are Silent campaign; and over

\$74,000 for the We Create Change campaign that supports Free The Children's water projects in developing communities overseas.

We Day originally started in Toronto in 2007 with 8,000 youth. Today, We Day spans across three countries and two continents, with the inaugural U.K. We Day happening in March 2014 in London, England. Since 2007, youth involved in We Day have achieved remarkable social change results, including \$37 million raised for more than 1,000 local and global causes, 9.6 million hours volunteered for local and global causes, four-million pounds of food collected for local food banks, and 7.5 million hours of silence logged by youth who stood up for children in developing communities silenced by poverty and exploitation.

Famed actor Martin Sheen, who may be best known for his role on *The West Wing* and father to troubled star Charlie Sheen, has been an activist since he was 13.

"Acting is what I do for a living, activism is what I do to stay alive," said Sheen, adding that Craig Kielburger and Paul Watson – both of whom are Canadian – are two of his greatest heroes.

Billie Brandon, a Grade 11 student at Major Pratt School in Russell, Man., at-

tended the event with 50 other kids from his school. Being his first We Day, Brandon said the highlight of the show was listening to Me to We inspirational speaker and double amputee Spencer West.

"It's interesting how he is still able to do things like climb Mount Kilimanjaro when some people can't, even though they have legs," said Brandon, 16. West climbed Mount Kilimanjaro – the highest free-standing mountain in the world – in June, 2012. This past year, West made the trek, by hand, from Edmonton to Calgary in 11 days, something that he said was harder than his climb up Kilimanjaro.

"We did 30 kilometres a day and I did it with my two best friends who inspired me to keep going."



Emmy® and Golden Globe® award-winning actor and activist Martin Sheen speaks about the importance of being active global citizens and inspires 16,000 youth at We Day Manitoba on October 30, 2013. (Photo credit: Barry Panas\Free The Children.)

Inspiration is a huge theme of We Day, as the show features speakers who have overcome great odds. People like Molly Burke, who stood up to bullying even though she is blind, or Amanda Lindhout, a Canadian humanitarian and journalist who was held captive for 15 months in Somalia.

Vincente Fox, former Mexican president and international public speaker, also had some inspiring messages to the crowd.

"You are leaders. Your purpose is to bring happiness to those kids who don't have opportunities. You have the capacity to do it and you will do it!" 🦋

Understanding adoption:

the adoption journey and options available

BY BONNIE SNOW



Photo courtesy of Adoption Options.

Adoption touches many families and children within Manitoba. Adoption is a beautiful way to create a family and the decision to place a child for adoption is done with love.

Most adoptions these days are open adoptions. In an open adoption there is a sharing of personal information between birthparents and adoptive parents and some form of ongoing contact; from annual updates and pictures to getting together a couple of times per year. Some people wonder if this is confusing for a child. It's not if it is discussed in an honest, positive, and age-appropriate manner. Their parents are their parents... they simply have another layer of history (a family tree with roots) which includes their birthparents.

Open adoption can benefit everyone within the adoption triad (adoptive parents, birthparents, adoptees). For adoptees, knowing who their birthparents are can help a child prevent and understand identity issues. For birthparents, having an open adoption can help them feel comfortable with the decision they made; knowing that their child is loved and given the life they dreamed for them. For adoptive parents, having an open adoption provides them with more information about, and for their child.

Not all adoptions are open adoptions. While some children who are adopted internationally may know a bit about their birth family, many do not.

There are likely two different adoption scenarios that students could bring

to a guidance counsellor; issues faced by adoptees, and issues when facing an untimely pregnancy.

For adoptees, some situations may come up in school, or parents may seek the input from a school counsellor or teacher for advice. For example, chances are that children who enter a family through adoption may not look like their parents, especially if their parents are of a different racial background. Children sometimes need to have words handy when another child says something to them like – “Is that your mother? She doesn't look like you.” Very often for transracial families, when they are at home as a family, they will not notice differences. It's when they go out in public, that this difference may be noticed by others. This reminds me of a story shared by an adoptive mother of two children, a daughter adopted from within Manitoba and a son adopted from an African country. In this family, the parents are Caucasian and in their effort to have conversations about race within their family, the father regularly read a story with their son about different types of families and how sometimes people within a family look different from one another. After hearing this story a few times, the boy looked up at his father and said, “I know why you are reading this to me.” The father, preparing himself for a conversation about race asked his son, “Okay, tell me why you think I'm reading this story to you.” The son replied, “It's just like you and me! Mommy and sister have blues eyes and you and I have brown eyes... they are a bit different than us.” Ah, through the eyes of

a child. At his preschool age, he does not see difference, he sees similarity. Beautiful. But there may be times in a child's life where their sense of identity or their sense of family is challenged by other students.

Other areas in which adoptees and parents may seek direction is dealing with feelings of loss and attachment if a child is adopted beyond infancy. It is during these times, families may seek guidance.

School projects that ask students to trace their family history or genetic traits can sometimes be difficult for children who were adopted. On the other hand, it may be very simple for them as they do not view their family as any different from any other family. The trick is to follow their lead, don't assume there will be struggles – but be cognizant that there might be. For instance, an alternative to the family tree is something called the "Family Wheel". This allows children (whether adopted or not) to identify the special people in their lives, which may include birthparents, step-parents, foster parents, guardians, etc. Or a family tree with roots, where the birth family provides the child his/her roots and the adoptive family provides the child his/her branches.

A young woman facing an untimely pregnancy might be another instance when a guidance counsellor may be faced with the topic of adoption. Pregnant youth may seek the assistance of a guidance counsellor to help explore all of her options; one of which might be adoption. The decision to place a child for adoption is likely the most difficult decision someone will face in their life. The emotions are intense – as are the pressures from family and friends. What we see at Adoption Options are birthparents who are courageous, strong, and making a decision based on love. No birthparents coming to our agency would ever be pressured into making an adoption plan. We always assume that birthparents are just exploring options, with adoption being one of those options. Birthparents who want to continue with an adoption plan are fully in control of the process. She will receive counselling and the adoption process will be tailored to meet her needs. After this process, she will review profiles of prospective adoptive parents and choose who she believes will be the best parents for her child. There are many periods of time during this process for her to reflect on her decision and she has 21 days after consenting to the adoption to change her mind. Feedback that we regularly hear from birthparents who have chosen adoption is that they feel relieved to have found the perfect parents for their child. They feel reassured in their decision through updates and visits throughout the year. They feel a sense of pride in creating a family. Accompanying that feeling of comfort is often deep grief. We offer post-adoption supportive services to birthparents and the support of a peer group if they are interested.

Bittersweet is a word often used to describe adoption. It is the most amazing gift in the world – the gift of a child, of family. But it is also a journey of grief and sorrow. It is a path that has



Photo courtesy of Adoption Options.

challenges, but one with amazing outcomes – beautiful children, loving parents, and courageous birthparents.

Adoption Options is a resource in the community. If you have questions about any of these issues or would like more information for your students, please feel free to visit our website at www.adoptionoptions.mb.ca, or call at 204-774-0511. 📞

A black and white photograph of a pregnant woman standing in profile, leaning against a wall. She is wearing a dark tank top and jeans. To the right of the photo is the Adoption Options logo, which features a stylized heart shape with two figures inside. Below the logo is the text: "1313 Portage Avenue", "Winnipeg, Manitoba", "Telephone: 204-774-0511", and "www.adoptionoptions.mb.ca".

Adoption Options

1313 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Telephone: 204-774-0511
www.adoptionoptions.mb.ca

From Nunavut to Africa:

local fashion design graduates showcase talent



Jasmine Champagne Lusty showcases her collection of outfits.

The Fashion Design and Apparel Production Diploma program at MC College is a 12-month program designed to provide students with the skills for various careers in the fashion industry, such as design assistant, merchandising, and independent designers. Students learn exciting topics ranging from pattern grading, drafting, portfolio development, to the psychology and sociology of fashion.

Students have the opportunity to showcase a collection of eight outfits, designed and sewn by themselves at the annual MC College New Designers Fashion Show. The show, which sells out every year, also gives the students the chance to network with local designers, fashion bloggers, and prominent members in Winnipeg's fashion industry.

One of the graduates who showcased her collection in last year's runway show, Victoria Kakuktinniq, was featured in the February 2014 issue of *Elle Canada* and was also featured in *Nipit Magazine*.

"Going to MC College was the best decision I have ever made, I will never forget my wonderful experience," says Kakuktinniq.

Inspired by her grandmother and her Nunavut upbringing, she incorporates aspects of Inuit cul-



An outfit that Victoria Kakuktinniq created for MC College's New Designers Fashion Show.

ture and tradition through the use of embroidery, leather, seal skin and large hoods in her design pieces. Kakuktinniq's style is elegant and sophisticated, which reflects the qualities of the Inuit women who inspire her. Since graduating, she has moved to Iqaluit where she is starting her own business and is currently preparing for the Northern Lights Trade Show in Ottawa.

Another graduate from the Fashion Design and Apparel Production program at MC College is Jasmine Champagne Lusty, who has been designing and creating her own clothing since her early teens. As the founder and designer of Champagne Dreams Design House, she is inspired by timeless elegance and Hollywood glamour. She enjoys creating day-to-night pieces made from silk, organza and lace. Her extensive portfolio includes a collaboration with Canadian fashion designer Justina McCaffrey, creating a hand-beaded evening gown for Laureen Harper, wife of Prime Minister Stephen Harper. In November 2012, Champagne Lusty developed a partnership with Ibrahim Bangura, a survivor of Sierra Leone's civil war who creates and sells handbags in his community. She works with Ibrahim to sell his handbags in the Canadian market and invests in his company to "help him develop better facilities, staff, skills and the success he so deserves." Champagne Lusty recently planned and hosted a fashion show fundraiser, Making Dreams Come True, with "all proceeds going directly to assist Ibrahim to set up a shop in Sierra Leone, Freetown where he and his employees will earn a fair living wage".

MC College offers the only fashion design diploma program in Winnipeg. Graduates of the program pursue entrepreneurship opportunities and are able to work in a variety of careers in the fashion industry.

For more information, visit www.mccollege.ca/fashion_program/.



experience the artistry

To find out more about
our programs, visit
www.mccollege.ca
or contact our Admissions
Advisor, Desiree,
DMorrisseau@mccollege.ca,
(204) 786- 5081

your potential, our passion

MC College is Canada's leader in Hairstyling, Esthetics and Fashion Design. We offer programs that give students hands-on, real life experience while offering the fundamental business skills needed for a successful career in the beauty and fashion industry.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

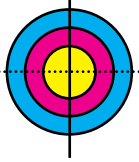
Up to \$800 scholarships. Work Experience Program. International trips. Community events. Student competitions. Gain practical experience on clients at the MC College Salon and Spa.

BUSINESS PROGRAM

Through the Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba, students learn the business skills and knowledge needed to succeed in a client driven industry by focusing on topics such as marketing and client building.



Winnipeg Campus
575 Wall Street



Math really counts!

The value of a math or computer science degree

BY GLEN KIRBY, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, BRANDON UNIVERSITY



Students matter.

Neil Enns was just 18 when he left Brandon, Man. to begin working for Microsoft. Today, he's well into his second decade of a dream career, designing and developing software for some of the world's largest software companies.

"I love working on products that help creative people share stories," says Enns, now a senior project manager with Adobe. His recent projects include creating digital versions of best-selling magazines, including *National Geographic* and *Time* for the iPad, Kindle, and Android devices.

He credits Brandon University (BU), where he graduated in 1996 with a degree

in computer science, with percolating his interest and natural abilities.

"Hanging out in the Bit Cave at BU shaped me today," says Enns from his office in Seattle, WA. "The BU experience is quite unlike the experience at other universities."

Mathematics and computer science at BU remain immensely popular programs for young minds because the potential for employment is high in many varied professions, with above-average earnings.

"Our grads can find jobs in the corporate world, government departments, including Stats Canada, national security

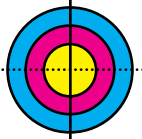
agencies, and even casinos," says Dr. Jeff Williams, chair of BU's Mathematics and Computer Science Department. "[Really], any organization that requires data analysis, problem-solving and records-keeping; everything from creating video games to keeping our country's secrets safe."

A 2011 study by the *Wall Street Journal* online evaluated and ranked 200 careers, looking to find the best jobs in North America. The top five were software engineer, mathematician, actuary, statistician, and computer systems analyst – all careers involving a math or computer sciences degree.

"In high school, you only see a small fraction of math and computer science," says BU math professor Dr. Sarah Plosker. "In university, you see the full range of opportunities. Your potential, with a degree in mathematics or computer science, is quite exciting."

Matteo Di Muro graduated from BU in 2011, accepting a job at Vincent Massey High School in Brandon where he teaches math and computer science. His brother Fabrizio, also a BU alumni, is assistant professor at the University of Winnipeg and recently published research about how our spending is influenced by the visual appearance of money.

"Brandon University offers an added bonus for anyone serious about pursuing these kinds of careers," says Dr. Plosker. "We take a more personalized approach to each student's educational experience.



Gaze into the galaxy in 74:185 The Galaxy and the Universe.



Senior geology students participate in hands-on research projects.

At BU, I know all my students by name. They can talk to me or their other professors if they find themselves challenged. You don't have that at larger universities where you share a classroom with hundreds, or sometimes thousands, of students."

The Conference Board of Canada has found that workers with scientific degrees tend to earn more than fine arts and humanities graduates – about \$10,000 annually just five years after graduating. A 2013 report in *Forbes* magazine suggested

that computer scientists and computer engineers are the most sought-after candidates on the market and among the highest-paid entry-level hires, according to the latest research from the National Association of College Employers (NACE).

"If you really need a final push to pursue that degree in math or computer science," says Dr. Williams, "just remember that Bill Gates, before he started Microsoft – the world's largest personal-computer software company – and became one of the world's richest people,

was studying math and law at Harvard University."

Remember, too, years later, it was Microsoft and Bill Gates who scooped a young computer whiz from Brandon University named Neil Enns.

For more information about enrolling in mathematics and computer science at Brandon University, please call Katie Gross, director of recruitment and retention at 204-571-7847, or email kgross@brandonu.ca.

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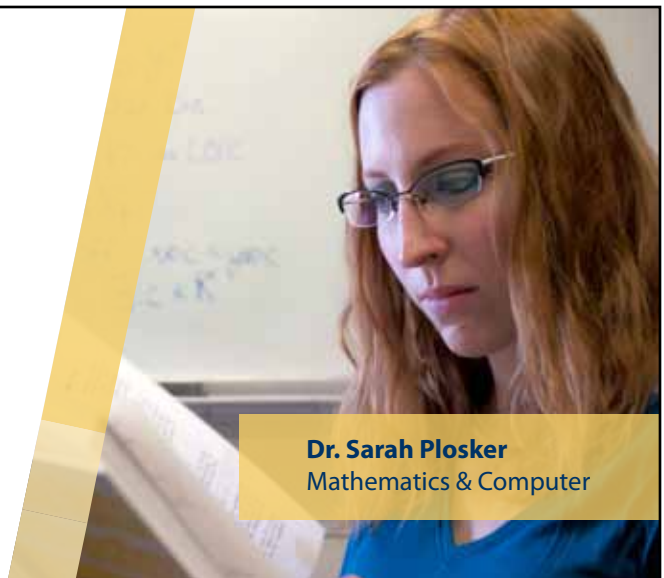
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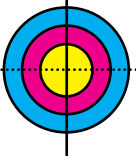
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Aboriginal Business Education Partners

Journeys to success at the University of Manitoba's Asper School of Business

BY JUDY WILSON



Jeremy McKay, a fourth-year student at the Asper School of Business, says Aboriginal Business Education Partners (ABEP) is a vibrant community that has inspired him to explore his leadership potential.

A bachelor of commerce degree can open doors to careers in business anywhere in the world, or show you how to start a business of your own. Since 1995, Aborigi-

nal Business Education Partners (ABEP) at the Asper School of Business has worked closely with countless First Nation, Métis and Inuit students pursuing a bachelor of commerce (honours) degree to achieve their dreams of successful careers in business.

"We partner with our students every step of the way," says ABEP program coordinator Peter Pomart. "Each journey is unique, and we're here to make sure our students have access to the resources and opportunities they need to become strong leaders and business professionals."

ABEP provides academic support through tutoring and student advisors, and offers endless opportunities to connect with peers, partners, and potential employers at networking events.

Jeremy McKay, a fourth-year Asper ABEP student, says the partnership's greatest strength is the vibrant community it offers aboriginal business students.

"Aboriginal students come from all kinds of backgrounds and communities. ABEP gives us a place to share perspectives, ideas and experiences, and talk about issues that concern us in a comfortable and supportive environment."

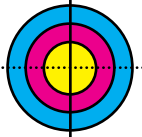
McKay adds that ABEP events, like the annual Excellence in Aboriginal Business Leadership Awards gala, offer a chance



Asper ABEP student Karine Sabourin visits Santorini, Greece on an international exchange adventure made possible thanks to an International Study Award.

for students to meet and gain inspiration from the stories of successful aboriginal business leaders.

Since entering Asper and joining ABEP, McKay has been inspired to explore his



own leadership potential. Last year, he was elected president of the Association of Aboriginal Commerce Students, an ABEP student group, and helped organize a public discussion that brought together students, academics, and founders of the Idle No More movement. He also delivered a statement about the educational crisis faced by First Nations communities to the United Nation's Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In May 2014, he'll head to Germany to participate in the G20 Youth Forum, where he hopes to learn how other countries recognize and address diversity in the workplace.

In addition to offering academic support and an empowering community for aboriginal students, ABEP also provides financial aid each and every year in the form of scholarships, bursaries and awards.

It also opens doors to international exchange opportunities. Karine Sabourin, a third-year ABEP student majoring in finance, recently spent a semester abroad at the Kedge Business School in Bordeaux, France.

"I'd always wanted to go on an Asper student exchange, but was limited financially," she says. "ABEP provided me with a very generous International Study Award that made my dream possible."

While overseas, she explored Europe, from the island of Santorini, Greece to Rome, Prague, and Berlin.

"Experiencing different cultures and finding myself in challenging situations while travelling has definitely helped me mature as a student and as a person. As a future business professional, the experience provided me with countless connections all over the world, as well as the ability to apply what I learned in the classroom to real-life situations."

ABEP also works closely with the Asper School's Career Development Centre to help students find well-paying summer

internships with its corporate partners, and puts students on track towards permanent employment opportunities after graduation. ABEP grads have gone on to launch careers across Manitoba, Canada, and around the world.

ABEP partners with students admitted to the Asper School of Business through University 1 or Direct Entry.

For more information about ABEP, visit www.asper.ca.

Judy Wilson is the director of marketing & communications at the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba. She can be reached judy.wilson@umanitoba.ca or 204.474.8960.

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An inside look at **Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate**



Tashena Okemow

On November 20, 2013, Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) was thrilled to announce the ground-breaking accreditation of Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed with Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning for the operation of a virtual collegiate.

MFNERC's executive director Lorne C. Keeper stated, "I am pleased to announce that Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate (WVC) is now Manitoba's first accredited virtual high school. The staff of the WVC, along with our partners at Credenda Virtual High School and Manitoba Education, have worked collaboratively to see the creation of a learning institution worthy of the 21st century. Our First Nations students and their provincial counterparts will now have new educational opportunities to build strong and promising futures."

A visit to Southeast Collegiate in Winnipeg to watch the virtual classrooms in action is all that is needed to gain an understanding of how this news, and WVC

itself, directly impacts Manitoba's First Nations students.

While many of Wapaskwa's students live in remote, isolated communities in Manitoba's northern regions, in the case of Southeast Collegiate, the students have moved to Winnipeg to live and go to school. However, the school doesn't have a large enough student population to offer certain courses, and that's where Wapaskwa comes in.

Students log into their online classroom at the appointed time and wait to hear their teacher's voice to begin the lesson. The teacher is located at MFNERC's office and, also online, is ready to interact with students in real time via headset, microphone, chat box, and PowerPoint presentation.

"It was hard to get used to at first," says Grade 11 student Roman Bee. "But [WVC teacher] Ron explains things well, he always says 'don't worry if you screw up, just try' and now I'm getting much better at it."

Education assistant Josh Thompson is also on hand in Southeast Collegiate's computer lab to answer any other questions the students might have.

"WVC is the perfect solution for our school because with some courses we just don't have the student demand, but we still want to be able to offer a class like pre-cal. Now we can," says Thompson, who also logs into the class and follows along so he can see what the students are learning.

Students listen and watch a problem being worked through step-by-step and then tackle one on their own.

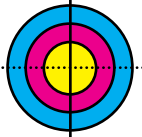


Roman Bee

"If you have a questions, you can just type it into the chat box for the class to see," explains Bee. "Or you can make your question private, so only Ron will see."

"Virtual learning is challenging," says Dorothy Wesley, resource teacher. "These kids know they have to take ownership and be dedicated. That if they want the credit, this is what they need to do. It takes a lot of focus and commitment." Things Bee seems to have in abundance. His goal is to study drafting, become a carpenter or electrician, and return to his home, God's Lake First Nation, to help build houses. And with his high grade-point average and dedication, he is well on his way.

The success rate of students who complete online courses in universities across Canada is around 85 per cent. WVC has a success rate higher than the national average. And with the popularity of online learning only increasing, and Wapaskwa's new accredited status, even more students will be able to graduate and, like Bee, achieve their goals. ✍️



Enhance your university education by living on campus

BY AARON EPP

This past fall, a work trip took me to Waterloo, Ont. While there, I visited my friend, Joel. Joel and I have been friends for more than 10 years, and while we don't see each other very often, the relationship we formed while living in residence together at university is a deep one.

Even though I attended a university that is in my hometown, and could have lived at home with my parents during my studies, I wanted to live on campus.

I felt living on campus would give me a unique experience, and it certainly did.

Living in residence can make it easier to meet people and make friends, and often these develop into great friendships that extend far beyond your years at university. Joel is just one example of the many friends I made during my time in university who are still an important part of my life today.

There are other advantages to living in residence as well.

One is location. You can be close to everything! When you live on campus, you are at the heart of the action. Campus events and things like student services, academic buildings, the library, and the fitness centre are never far away. Since I didn't have a car when I was a student and would have had to take the bus, living on campus saved me three hours of commuting each day.

In addition to being a place to get your education, university is a place to make and expand a network of significant relationships. Living on campus makes it easier to get involved in the university community. Your involvement on campus

builds leadership, opens friendships, and strengthens your academic experience and achievement.

I found this through my involvement as a residence assistant and, later in my university career, as president of the student council. Both experiences prepared me for leadership roles I have taken on during my work career.

Another advantage of living in residence is that you receive personal support. With university comes transition. When you live in residence, there are residence assistants and other staff available to support you and give you advice. Instead of living on your own right after high school, living in residence can be a great "middle ground" between leaving mom

and dad's and finding a place of your own.

Finally, living in residence can increase your academic success. You have the opportunity to interact with your peers outside of the classroom, and can carry on conversations and debates about course material long after your professor has gone home for the evening. You can also take advantage of designated study spaces and talk to older students who can act as your scholastic role models.

As I spent time with Joel during my work trip to Waterloo, I couldn't help but think how much richer my university experience was as a result of living on campus.

I wouldn't trade it for the world.

Aaron Epp is a writer in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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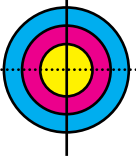
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Students discover their passion and potential at Red River College



Red River College (RRC) continues to keep step with the changing demands of the job market by providing choices that help students find their passion and foster their potential on the way to achieving career success.

The province's largest institute of applied learning – and its only polytechnic – RRC offers a wide range of degree, diploma, and certificate options in such fields as health care, business and management, computer programming, community services, creative arts, engineering, and trades and transportation technologies.

Many of the college's programs and credentials are designed specifically to meet industry needs, by ensuring graduates are armed with the knowledge, confidence and experience required to succeed in today's economy. As a result, RRC grads enjoy a competitive edge once they enter the workforce, having already received hands-on training and fieldwork

experience from instructors and employers with proven industry track records.

And with an ever-expanding array of programming options to choose from – plus an increased focus on applied research, degree accreditation and joint partnerships with universities and other post-secondary institutions – the college retains its own edge in providing job-ready graduates who can hit the ground running.

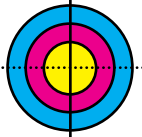
"When it comes to hiring, employers obviously value graduates who can make an easy transition to the workplace," says Clint Thiessen, one of RRC's student recruiters. "It's a win-win situation. Employers save on training costs because their new hire already has on-the-job experience. And the students benefit from knowing they'll be in-demand once they graduate – sometimes even before that – on account of their theoretical and practical knowledge."

With hundreds of full- and part-time options, many through evening classes or distance delivery, RRC caters to a broad spectrum of learners – everyone from high school grads interested in fast-tracking their employment, to those seeking professional development or even a career change.

The college is committed to increasing access to its programs: in addition to its primary campuses and aerospace training centre in Winnipeg, there are satellite schools in the Interlake, Portage la Prairie, Steinbach and Winkler. Mobile training labs deliver trades training to rural and First Nation communities, and in recent years, the college has expanded its presence in Downtown Winnipeg, opening the Paterson GlobalFoods Institute, home of RRC's prestigious culinary arts school, as well as its very first student residence.

Similar growth is evident at RRC's Notre Dame Campus – which already houses a cache of cutting-edge research facilities focused on manufacturing, ro-





botics and transportation – and will soon be home to a state-of-the-art Technology Access Centre. (Prospective students can check out the Winnipeg campuses every February during Open House, or arrange for a personal tour from the student recruiters at any time.)


In recent years, RRC has partnered with community groups in inner-city neighbourhoods, expanded its continuing and distance education options, and struck new international partnerships with post-secondary institutions in Asia, India, and South America. It's also increased the diversity of its degree and di-

ploma options, providing even more opportunities for students to attain a range of post-secondary credentials.

"College is not what it used to be," says fellow recruiter Jennifer Powell. "More and more, colleges and universities are combining their resources to offer joint-degree programs – which allow students to gain a much broader post-secondary experience, while exposing them to the merits of both respective models."

One of the benefits of the college model is the ability to fast-track career plans. The majority of RRC's programs can be completed in two years or less, and feature built-in practicum components and other opportunities for making industry inroads. With trades technologies and specialized skill areas continuing to dominate career forecasts in coming years, that gives RRC grads a distinct advantage in the workforce.

"Many of our students receive further contract work or even job offers as a direct result of their work placements," says Thiessen. "Even those who don't, find they're still way ahead of their peers on account of their experience with workplace culture and emerging technologies."

For more on specific programs and courses, or to find out about upcoming recruitment events, open house opportunities, and information sessions, visit www.rrc.ca. 



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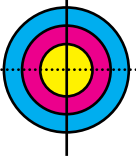
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RED RIVER COLLEGE





Career Trek: Understanding the power of “why”

In 1996, Career Trek opened its doors hoping its programming would remain relevant. Fast-forward 18 years, and a journal kept by 10-year-old Rachelle, clearly documents the relevance of sound career development education and programming on young minds.

Over the 20 weeks of programming, Rachelle kept a journal that chronicled her experiences at post-secondary insti-

tutions in Winnipeg. More importantly, it documented her increasing engagement with her schoolwork and her ongoing dialogue with potential future occupations.

Journal entry, Day 5

I was an outdoor fitness program planner person. I got to design a game with my family and show it off to the class. After that was Agriculture. I got to make ICE CREAM! Then I got my wheat back, it was germinating... I went to Electrical Engineering and made a mini solar-powered oven. Sweet! When I got to Biology I got to be a doctor on my sisters... I got to test their reflexes, see if they were colour blind, and shine a light in their eyes! Awesomest day ever.

“Prior to Career Trek she was disengaged. She didn’t really take [schoolwork] very seriously,” says Terrylynn McPhee, Rachelle’s mom. “If she had an assignment, she would work on it, then when she got bored, she would quit working on it and leave it.”

McPhee says she and her husband tried to motivate Rachelle and nothing ever seemed to work. If she didn’t see the point in finishing her schoolwork it just wasn’t important to her.

Career Trek evaluations indicate that 92 per cent of participants aged 10 and 11 agree that their school subjects are important to their futures, but only 57 per cent say they understood why.



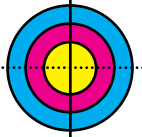
Career Trek participant Rachelle.

“Student engagement isn’t a new challenge,” says Ruth Stargardt, Career Trek’s career development specialist. “Not understanding the ‘why’ of things can lead to disengagement, and disengagement can have long-lasting consequences on how children see themselves as learners.”

Career Trek’s program model turns participants into occupational explorers. With 40 minutes of hands-on learning per occupation, participants develop their fundamental skills and problem-solving capabilities as they are exposed to up to 80 occupations.

“[Career Trek] was really fun because usually you don’t get to do most of the stuff in school, you just learn about it,” says Rachelle. “I am one of those learners that learns when you actually do the thing...it made me feel good. It was better





than how we are taught in school.”

After attending Career Trek, Rachelle became more interested in her studies and is now completing her homework and is interested in doing well in math and science. McPhee attributes this change to Career Trek, saying, “She was able to make the connection between what she’s taking in school now and what she’s going to be doing in the future.”

According to Stargardt, making participants’ studies relevant is the key. The

skills learned during hands-on activities increase competence and confidence, helping participants feel empowered. Empowered students actively engage in their learning because they better understand how it is relevant.

“I would say that her knowledge increased and her ability to talk about different things and her experiences,” says McPhee. “I think it just made her feel really empowered.”

One of the strengths of Career Trek’s

programming is that it exposes participants to career development at an early age, helping them understand the relevance of their school experience and actively engaging them in exploring their future.

“Now I know what I have to do to get the job, so I am like, ‘ok, I should do it,’” says Rachelle.

Helping kids understand the power of why is one of the things that keeps Career Trek programming relevant. ✍️

Thinking about the importance of *Education?*



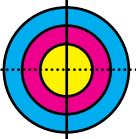
Thanks to CAREER TREK so are they!



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Career Trek is a Manitoba based career development organization that helps children discover and attain their education and career goals. We provide hands-on career experiences in a multitude of fields to help clarify the link between education and career success.

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WTC carpentry students ready to earn serious dollars after only five months

Whether you are looking to work your way from the ground up in the construction industry, are considering a career change, or just looking to build a little expertise when it comes to doing your own home renovations, the five-month carpentry program at Winnipeg Technical

College (WTC) will provide you with the essential skills you need.

"Students tell us that what they enjoy the most is how the courses teach them everything they need to know to work in carpentry," says Rae-Lynn Rempel, WTC marketing and communications manager.


"The program requires them to build a house on-site at the college each year. Through this experience, they get to see how the process works from start to finish."

A combination of these applied skills and the theory-based curriculum leads students to a Level 1 Apprenticeship accreditation upon graduation. This accreditation sets a solid foundation for a career in the construction industry, which according to *Maclean's* magazine's "2014 Guide to Jobs in Canada" will see an estimated 319,000 jobs become available over the next 10 years nationwide.


The report indicates that due to current demands of the industry, between 85 per cent and 95 per cent of trade school grads are able to secure employment within six months of entering the workforce.


These figures, coupled with another projection made by *Maclean's* that the median salary for a journeyman carpenter in Canada will be \$63,223 by the year 2020 (with drywall installers and cabinetmakers expected to earn \$61,997 and \$45,866 respectively), demonstrate that the incentives of becoming an accredited carpenter are already quite high and will continue to grow in the years to come.

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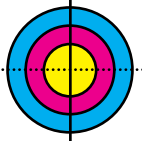
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nity to enter the workforce immediately, graduates from the WTC carpentry program have gone on to complete their own personal construction and renovation projects and have taken on work with volunteer organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity.

Whatever your personal education goals may be, this program will get you there in five months for only \$1,950. It has two start dates during the year, September and February, allowing students to choose the educational schedule that best fits their needs.

Trades skill developers hit pay dirt with Gold Seal leadership training at WTC


For those individuals already working in the construction industry, Winnipeg Technical College now offers strategic leadership training for senior-level employees seeking professional development opportunities, through the Manitoba Construction Sector Council's (MCSC) Advanced Construction Leadership Program.

Along with Assiniboine Community College, WTC is helping MCSC train the future leaders of the province's construction industry.

Greg Scheelar, manager of business development at Winnipeg Technical College, describes the program as a lucrative opportunity for anybody who wants to learn from those who already have many years of experience in the field.

"Each course is taught by a recognized expert from a Manitoba organization," says Scheelar, "meaning that students have the privilege of receiving valuable information from somebody who is known to have a proven track record for success."

The program consists of 16 courses, all of which are available through the Winnipeg Technical College Corporate and Continuing Education Department. Students who complete each course and successfully submit a detailed management plan will also receive nine Gold Seal credits from the Canadian Construction Association.

For more information on these or other WTC programs, visit the college website at www.wtc.mb.ca. 

During our annual survey, 97% of Winnipeg Technical College students reported that they felt the staff cared about their academic success.

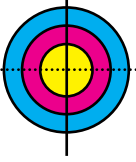
97%



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Students gaining from rapid evolution at the University of Winnipeg



The new United Health and RecPlex at UWinnipeg will provide indoor training space for all Wesmen teams; its artificial turf field will accommodate a soccer pitch that meets minimum FIFA standards, but it can also be used for sports like rugby, ultimate and lacrosse.

The ever-expanding campus at the University of Winnipeg (UWinnipeg) has everything students need to DISCOVER, ACHIEVE and BELONG, including much you may not know about.

DISCOVER how new growth is giving students a better-than-ever post-secondary experience, inside the classroom and out. This fall, the highly anticipated United Health and RecPlex will open its doors. Connecting with an updated Duckworth Centre via skywalk, the stunning complex will provide indoor training space for all Wesmen teams. Its artificial turf field will accommodate a soccer pitch that meets minimum FIFA standards, but it can also be used for sports like rugby, ultimate, and lacrosse. The complex will also in-

clude a four-lane rubberized sprint track, gymnasium, retractable batting cages to withstand the force of Wesmen sluggers,

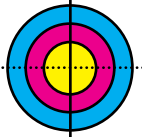


UWinnipeg's new RecPlex will serve as a home base to the Faculty of Kinesiology, and a hub of health and recreation services for all students.

and a yoga and dance studio to support fitness with flow.

Together with the Duckworth Centre, the United Health and RecPlex will serve as a home base to the Faculty of Kinesiology, and a hub of health and recreation services for all students.

ACHIEVE personal goals, while defining individual success in education. The University of Winnipeg's five undergraduate faculties offer a wide range of programs for every learner. The burgeoning entrepreneur can hone critical thinking skills while earning a degree through the Faculty of Business and Economics, while students in the Faculty of Science can uncover the mysteries of the universe in the spectacular Richardson College for the Environment and Science Complex. Students wanting to share a love for learning



At Richardson College for the Environment and Science Complex, UWinnipeg students and faculty alike engage in cutting-edge research in biology, chemistry, environmental studies, Indigenous science and the social sciences – in one of the most energy-efficient educational buildings in North America.

will gravitate toward the Faculty of Education, active learners will be drawn to the Faculty of Kinesiology, while others can find their niche in the many programs offered by the Faculty of Arts.

By distributing millions in scholarship funds each year, and by providing opportunities to assist with groundbreaking research, UWinnipeg makes sure to support students driven to achieve.

BELONG to a community realizing its potential. The university is growing along with Winnipeg's historic downtown, the heart of the city's arts and culture scene. A downtown revival is underway and students at UWinnipeg are at the centre of it all.

With several on-campus housing options available, students can choose what works for them. There's everything from independent apartments, to all-inclusive dorms at the McFeetors Hall Great West Life Student

Residence. Students can connect with peers over healthy, sustainable meals provided by the award-winning Diversity Food Services, take in performances at the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film, or reflect on art displayed in Gallery 1C03.

Students can get involved with events that make the university experience unforgettable, such as the annual Snowweek, and make their voice heard by participating in groups like the Aboriginal Student Council, or the University of Winnipeg Students Association. They can find inspiration in the knowledge shared by our faculty, and uncover what mark they will make on the world upon graduation. Until then, UWinnipeg is a community anyone would be proud to belong to.

To find out more, visit uwinnipeg.ca/futurestudent.

Photos supplied by The University of Winnipeg.



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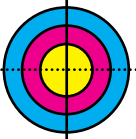
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DISCOVER · ACHIEVE · BELONG



New year, new career



Journeyman James Reis shows off his recently earned Certificate of Qualification for industrial mechanic.

The start of a new year often means making resolutions, evaluating the future and a fresh start. James Reis can relate. Five years ago, Reis was delivering pizzas and feeling what he describes as “lots of uncertainty” about his future. This year, however, Reis rang in 2014 with something to celebrate: completing his apprenticeship and receiving his Red Seal as an industrial mechanic (also known as a millwright).

“It feels pretty awesome,” says Reis of his recent achievement. “I finally have a sense of accomplishment. Starting an ap-

prenticeship was definitely a step in the right direction.”

Industrial mechanics install, test, remove, repair, and service a wide variety of industrial machinery and equipment. In Manitoba, an industrial mechanic apprenticeship consists of four levels, each of which takes about one year to complete.

As a career training option, apprenticeship is available in Manitoba in over 55 trades. The program allows apprentices to gain experience in their chosen trade through on-the-job practical training and in-school technical training.

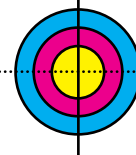


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Good fit

Apprentices earn an income for the hours they work on the job, which Reis says made the program a viable option for him.

"I chose apprenticeship mainly for the ability to work and make money while working towards my certification," he says, adding that the creative, hands-on aspect of the skilled trades was also a selling point.

"The ability to learn in a hands-on fashion was a bonus. I chose to be a millwright because I was always handy and crafty. It was a good fit. I can't stand sitting at a desk or doing production work. My job keeps me thinking and using my hands as well."

Reis started his apprenticeship in 2009 with his current employer, Canadian Tool and Die Ltd. Since then, he hasn't looked back.

"With this newfound education, I now have drive and a purpose," he observes. "It gives me the opportunity to earn more which, in turn, will open new doors."

Reis encourages those who are looking for a career change to consider apprenticeship. "It can definitely result in opportunities that most people probably didn't realize were there," he says. "It offers you the ability to learn and work, earning and gaining a valuable and usually in-demand skill."

"It seems a lot of places are hiring. It definitely has the potential to be a life-long career."

As for Reis, he looks forward to enjoying many new years to come as a certified journeyman.

"My future definitely seems a whole lot brighter," he adds. "Things are looking up."

For information on
Apprenticeship Manitoba, visit
www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers.



"It feels pretty awesome," says Reis of his recent achievement.

"I finally have a sense of accomplishment. Starting an apprenticeship was definitely a step in the right direction."

Help students jump-start a rewarding career with the High School Apprenticeship Program

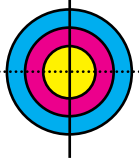
The High School Apprenticeship Program (HSAP) helps students:

- **explore different careers** and use academic skills in on-the-job settings
- **earn high school credits** while they work in a participating trade
- **earn post-secondary apprenticeship credits** towards full-time apprenticeship after they graduate
- **obtain an apprenticeship tuition exemption** for up to four levels of technical training
- **earn while they learn** – HSAP participants earn above minimum wage while they learn a trade

Get complete details on how your students can benefit from the HSAP or book a school presentation on this exciting program by visiting manitoba.ca/tradecareers

**Apprenticeship
Manitoba**

Manitoba 



From up here, you can see your career go for miles



Standing on top of a 90-foot wooden pole in the middle of a Manitoba winter storm is not for everybody. Being a power line technician (PLT) is not an easy job but can be very rewarding. When your job is to get the electricity turned back on, you can be called out to work at all hours of the day. For any of the 548,700 customers that Manitoba Hydro serves, they are very happy to see the big bucket truck pull into their neighbourhood. What makes the job worthwhile is getting the power turned back on after an outage and knowing they've made a difference.

For power line technicians, the day-to-day work is rarely ever the same. A PLT can work with live or dead power lines. They build and fix wooden poles and steel structures, overhead and underground lines, and connect new service to homes and businesses. As weather usually dictates where a PLT will be working, you must be adaptable as work priorities can change quickly.

While a PLT's goal is getting the power turned back on, the number-one priority is to work safely. Manitoba Hydro offers extensive safety training while in the apprenticeship program, as well as during the rest of your career. Safety equipment includes fire-resistant clothing, tools, fall arrest equipment, rubber sleeves, hard hats, and safety eyewear.

Manitoba Hydro recruits for the Power Line Technician Training Program twice a year. It is a four-year program that offers trainees a paid apprenticeship program that includes on-the-job training, rotational assignments and trade schools.

Qualifications:

High school diploma with

- Math 40S (Applied or Pre-Calculus)
- Physics 30S
- English 40
- Class 5 Manitoba driver's licence (intermediate or full)

Aboriginal Pre-Placement Program

Aboriginal candidates who have successfully completed their high school diploma but do not have the minimum qualifications for direct entry into the Power Line Technician Training Program can apply for the Aboriginal Pre-Placement Program, where they will have access to academic upgrading. To participate, the applicants must have proof of aboriginal ancestry, a valid classified driver's licence; and one of the following: English 40, Math 40S (Applied or Pre-Calculus); or Physics 30S.

Who are we looking for?

We're looking for people who have a mechanical aptitude, love the outdoors and working with their hands. They enjoy



working as part of a team and take the safety of themselves and their team very seriously. They should also be comfortable working at heights and enjoy traveling the province.

Manitoba Hydro will provide:

- Paid on-the-job training
- Challenging work
- Nine-day work cycle (every 2nd Monday off)
- Competitive salaries
- Paid vacation
- Educational upgrading and funding
- Top ranked benefits package
- Opportunities for advancement (trainer, supervisor, manager, safety officer, design technician, energy services advisor, and more!)

For more information on student opportunities, or to schedule a classroom Career Awareness presentation, please visit our website at: www.hydro.mb.ca/careers, or call our employment line at (204) 360-7282, or toll-free 1-800-565-5200.



High school awards

Manitoba Hydro's Educational Funding Program supports the continued education of Manitoba's students by offering awards, bursaries, and scholarships to those in high school, college, and university registered in programs that will prepare them for an exciting job with the company.

Aboriginal (Status, Non-Status, Metis, and Inuit) high school students that are taking the courses that make you eligible for the Power Line Technician Training program also make you eligible for financial awards.

Application Deadline: July 15, 2014.

Trio awards

Grade 10 – 20S Math (Applied or Pre-Calculus) & English, 20F Science	\$200
Grade 11 – 30S Math (Applied or Pre-Calculus), English and Physics	\$300
Grade 12 – 40S Math (Applied or Pre-Calculus), English and Physics	\$500

Northern Student Award

- Open to all aboriginal students in junior high or high school living north of the 53rd parallel;
- Must be nominated by a teacher as an outstanding student based on academic performance, personal achievements and other accomplishments.

Amount: three awards of \$300 each

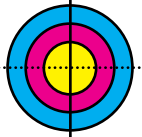
Physics Award

- Open to aboriginal students from Fox Lake, Nelson House, Split Lake, War Lake and York Factory communities;
- Enrolled in Physics 30S or 40S;
- Consideration will be given based on academic performance, community involvement, and career interests.

Amount: one award of \$200

Physics teachers will nominate their most successful student who is willing to self-declare as being of aboriginal ancestry.

Application forms are available from our website at www.hydro.mb.ca/careers/student_opportunities/awards/high_school/index.shtml



“This is easily the coolest job. Hanging 30 feet up in the air and climbing on cross arms with nothing holding you up but a little piece of leather. It’s awesome. Awesome.”

Adam Haggan, Power Line Technician
Clandeboye, Manitoba



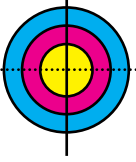
Manitoba Hydro's First Female Power Line Technician

In the Fall of 2013, Jessica Hadfield completed her four-year apprenticeship in the Power Line Technician Program to achieve Power Line Technician status and officially become Manitoba Hydro's first female Power Line Technician.

Jessica explains how her commitment to finishing a challenge and love of the outdoors led her to this career. “I was working in an office setting and I was really unhappy there,” said Jessica, who researched different careers in the trades before applying to Manitoba Hydro.

Through her four-year apprenticeship, Jessica admitted there were times she wondered, “what I have gotten myself into?” Ultimately, “The challenge [to become a PLT] and how much I like the job kept pushing me to do it,” said Jessica. “I wanted to succeed because it was something I wanted to do and feel that sense of completion.”





New psychology program unlike any other undergraduate program offered in Canada



One of the greatest strengths of a psychology degree is the incredible variety of career opportunities available to graduates. Social services, health services, corrections, education, marketing and public relations, labour relations, and so much more.

However, like most fields, the job market is extremely competitive.

In developing its new psychology degree program, Booth University College wanted to ensure its graduates would have a distinct edge in the job market through an undergraduate program experience that is unlike any other in Canada.

“Our program is unique in that it addresses practical social, cultural, and di-

versity issues — preparing students to work in today’s increasingly intercultural and multicultural workplaces,” said Dr. James Cresswell, assistant professor of psychology at Booth UC. “With an added emphasis on ethics, we equally prepare them to become valuable contributors to morally diverse environments.”


In their second year, students also have the opportunity to specialize in applied psychology, which involves a series of courses focusing on applying theory through community-based service and experiences. As a Christian University College guided by The Salvation Army’s nearly 150-year history and experience as a provider of social services to communities around the world, Dr. Cresswell said Booth UC is the perfect environment to pursue a degree in psychology.

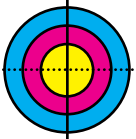
“Individuals who are attracted to studying psychology tend to be those with a passion for making a difference and in search of a career focused on helping others,” he said. “What better place for them to obtain their degree than at an institution dedicated to delivering graduates who are inspired to bring about positive social change and committed to giving back to their community?”

Booth University College is located in downtown Winnipeg, and offers a vari-



ety of programs, including a bachelor of social work program, a bachelor of business administration program, and five bachelor of arts programs (in behaviour sciences, English and film, general studies, psychology and religion).

Explore all that Booth UC has to offer at www.BoothUC.ca. 



Fly high with Prairie Helicopters

See the world from a different perspective as a commercial helicopter pilot. Helicopters provide much-needed transport and support to remote areas where there are no roads. They are often used in emergency situations to transport people to hospitals or away from dangerous conditions.

Forest fire suppression, wildlife studies, crop spraying, film production, mineral exploration, aerial construction, and northern infrastructure maintenance are just a few of the many tasks that a commercial helicopter pilot may deal with in their career.

Prairie's flight school is located in our head office at the Gimli airport, just 45 minutes north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Low air traffic volume at the Gimli Airport provides ideal conditions for our students to acquire radio communication skills pilots require throughout their careers. Real-life bush flying is only minutes away. Since much of a pilot's career will be spent flying over and into forested areas, competency and familiarity with this terrain is critical. Our students do all their training on the turbine-powered Bell 206B Jet Ranger. This is one of the aircrafts our company uses for commercial charter services. The Bell 206B Jet Ranger has one of the best safety records in the industry.

The vast majority of helicopter service operators utilize turbine-powered aircrafts. Turbine helicopters range in price from half a million dollars to millions of dollars. The owners of these helicopters prefer hiring pilots who have many hours of experience flying them. Prairie is the only turbine-based flight training school in Manitoba. Our graduates finish with

100 hours of turbine helicopter experience.

In addition to having the backing of veteran former Transport Canada check pilots, our chief flight instructor has many years of experience meeting the training needs of flight students.

At Prairie Helicopters Inc., we limit our class size in order to provide one-on-one training to each of our students. Progress is based upon the student's ability to master the required flying skills and understand the study materials and topics. This is why so many of our graduates have been successful in finding employment in the helicopter charter industry and experienced helicopter pilots can earn over \$100,000 a year.

We are a Transport Canada-approved flight-training facility and qualified students are eligible for Canada Student Loans. Accommodations are readily available in Gimli for out-of-town students. Gimli is a small, friendly community with enough amenities to provide for all the personal needs of the student.

We invite you to come and have a look for yourself. Check out our new classroom, meet the instructors, and examine the Bell 206B turbine helicopters we use for training. Better yet, sign up for an introductory flight with one of our instructors to get a sense of what you will be doing once you enroll in our program! Our instructors are friendly, personable, and willing to answer all your questions about the program and training. We strongly suggest you register early, as our class sizes are limited.

To learn more about our flight training, visit our website at www.prairiehelicopters.com.

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The many roles of the modern accountant



The accounting profession tends to be different in people's minds than it is in practice. Gone are the days of the stereotypical accountant with only a calculator and pencil in hand, stuck behind a desk crunching numbers all day long. Today, the accounting profession is as diverse as it is dynamic, with new opportunities created every year as business adapts to an ever-changing landscape. Professional accountants serve important roles in all areas and at all levels of an organization, solving problems and improving business function. If numbers are the language of business, then accountants are the proverbial translator – well-positioned to help each and every business calculate, interpret, and communicate what those numbers mean.

Thinking about career direction, much less choosing one, is a challenging exercise for most students. It can be especially daunting when presented with numerous career paths. In the world of accounting, however, that unappealing paradox of choice turns into a great boon for students. As a professional accountant, the career possibilities are truly count-


less. From government to entertainment, big business to non-profit organizations, and every type of company in-between, accountants are essential. So how does a student determine whether or not accounting is right for them? To gain some perspective, consider a few of the unique accounting fields that continue to evolve today.

For instance, financial accounting focuses on producing information for external use in the form of financial statements. These financial statements are prepared according to set standards and guidelines, and reflect an organization's past performance and current financial position. Students are often exposed to introductory levels of financial accounting if they take accounting courses in high school. At all levels of business, financial accounting is a necessary function in order to keep businesses accountable, transparent and a responsible, respected part of their industry, as well as their community.

Another unique area of accounting is management accounting. This type of accounting is primarily based on producing information suitable for internal use by an

organization's management. This information can include budgets and forecasts which assist in planning for the future. Other information can also be reported to assist in meeting goals or in making important decisions. Within management accounting, there is also cost accounting, which involves monitoring and controlling costs. This is especially important in manufacturing environments.

An area of accounting that often captures the imagination of students is forensic accounting. Forensic accountants use investigative techniques along with accounting knowledge in situations of suspected fraud or other financial mismanagement. At times, forensic accountants may even be called on to testify as expert witnesses in legal proceedings.

Undoubtedly, professional accountants will continue to play important roles in the business world. Whether it's assisting organizations in making appropriate decisions or finding ways to help companies innovate, the accounting profession will remain an attractive career path for students of every stripe. 

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September 2014

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