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career and learning management
is an essential life skill.



CES Newsletter

Winter 2010

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Executive Director

Brenda Graziano

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Eva Ratzburg, CES Conference Chair 2009, reports on the 32nd CES Career Education Society Conference — November 25, 26, and 27, 2009.

The 32nd annual provincial CES Conference focused on the theme, **Career Development: Preparing for Transition, Change and Challenge**. The conference was evaluated by attendees as maintaining its long-standing tradition of excellence!

This year's conference featured highly sought after keynote speakers Dr. Stephen Ibaraki, on current and future technology issues, and Dr. Karyn Gordon, acclaimed 'Generation Y' expert. Their perspectives helped conference delegates explore the challenges of preparing youth to transition into a constantly shifting and changing global economy.

In total, forty workshops were delivered, with attendance varying from 50 to 90 delegates each. Workshops focused on the diverse topics that make Health and Career Development vital and current in our schools and classrooms in BC. Experienced presenters with a wealth of information, enthusiasm, and passion delivered workshops that included relevant information in the areas of Health & Career Education, Planning 10, SSA (Secondary School Apprenticeship), Work Experience, ACE-IT programs, and other innovative career, trades, technical and transition programs.

Delegates from all over the province and other provinces were in attendance, including teachers and administrators from public and private schools; and representatives from business, colleges, and universities. The Industry Training Authority was an integral part of the conference hosting the pre-conference ITA Youth Day on Wednesday and offering a number of workshops on Thursday and Friday. In total, there were two keynotes, 49 presenters, 20 exhibitors, and approximately 400 attendees.

Suggestions for the 33rd CES Conference, November 2010, are invited. Help us to plan a relevant and excellent conference by submitting your ideas for workshops. Please forward your suggestions via e-mail to Eva Ratzburg, CES Conference Chair 2010, at eratzburg@nvsc44.bc.ca



News from the regions ...

Central North East—Frances Armstrong, Director

School District #27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin) ... continues to enroll ACE-IT students in programs at the TRU campus in Williams Lake. Numbers of SSA students are growing again. The district is very active with the Mining sector developing programs in partnership with both mines in the area. Currently, in partnership with Taseko Mines and the Mineral Resources Education Program of BC, we are undertaking the development of video profiles of trades workers at Gibraltar Mines.

School District #57 (Prince George) ... has 71 students enrolled in ACE-IT programs this year. Last year, 91% of ACE-IT students were successful in completing their programs. All students are taking their technical training at the College of New Caledonia. Students are engaged in the following ACE-IT programs: Heavy Duty/Commercial Transport Technician, Auto Service /Autobody Technician, Carpentry/ Cabinetry, Electronics/ Electrician, Cook, Industrial Mechanic, and Welding. Students did summer work experience at Canfor Pulp, the City of Prince George and School District 57's maintenance department.

In 2008/ 2009 with the support of a Building Capacity in SSA grant, we expanded our SSA program from 23 to 82 students.

School District 57 supports 7 community programs in partnership with various community organizations. They include: Junior Initial Attack, Fire/Rescue, RCMP Youth Academy, Natural Resource Camp (COFI), BC Ambulance Ride-Along, Northern Health Circuits, Heavy Metal Rocks. These programs are all long-term, well-subscribed initiatives. The strength of these programs is the community support we receive from our partners. In general we facilitate the application interview process for our students then our community partners provide the program.

School District No. 59 (Peace River South) ... Fifty-two students are enrolled in dual-credit programs first semester in 10 different programs. Over 20 students are actively participating in SSA. 80+ students are registered in Work Experience. We are currently working with the college and our Northern Opportunities partners to introduce academic programs /courses as dual-credit options in the region.

Four members of the SSA Advisory Committee and the SSA Coordinators participated in Gen Y Workshops presented by The CFDC Skills Advisory Council in Dawson Creek. Grade 12 students from all the secondary schools in the district participated in *Experience NLC* to learn what it is like to be a college student for a day.

School District No. 60 (Peace River North) ... Two students have been accepted to the first Wind Turbine Technologist program at Northern Lights College, among the 68 entrants into traditional Dual Credit programs. Fifty students are interested in Dual Credit Academics, which include Biology, Psychology, Math, Business, Early Childhood Education). 144 students are participating in Work Experience; 76 in SSA.

Career Programs participated in the North East Native Association Career Fair, where student role models spoke to their peers at the booth. Visits are being planned to do joint presentations with industry of potential careers in Aboriginal communities, as part of our efforts to increase Aboriginal participation in Career Programs.

School District No. 81 (Fort Nelson) ... In the ACE-IT Cosmetology program, there are 12 students continuing from last year and 11 registered for a new group beginning in Semester 2. Transition to Trades will be offered in Semester 2, with 21 students registered. We're working on developing a Gas and Oil focused BAA. Work Experience placements are occurring in a number of local businesses. Aboriginal Career Fair took place at Fort Nelson Secondary, with students from FNSS and Chalo schools participating in this event that highlighted a number of opportunities available for students.

Chalo School ... Offering a Planning 10 course with a new and eager teacher who is introducing students to all types of industry and employment opportunities. Students were able to attend the Energy Expo at Chalo School. The students were introduced to a variety of exhibits learning about employment opportunities within the region.

School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes) ... ACE-IT students from throughout the district continue to participate in the CTC/Prince George (millwright, electrical, culinary arts, welding). The continued partnership with local CNC campuses (Vanderhoof, Fort St. James, Burns Lake, Fraser Lake) has allowed the district to offer ACEIT programs in the following locales:

Culinary Arts – Burns Lake, Fort St. James	Welding – Fort St. James , Burns Lake
Heavy Duty Mechanic – Vanderhoof	Electrical – Fraser Lake

Career Prep programs continue to be well subscribed and local coordinators retain a very proactive and hands-on approach to the continued relevance of Career Prep and its benefits to students. SSA placements are up from last year and efforts are being made to further increase the number of SSA placements. Throughout the district school career coordinators are also the Grad Transitions Coordinators. Career Coordinators and Planning 10 teachers are working much closer together this year in terms of complementing each other in preparing students for the workplace. The district supports Career Programs very positively.



Congratulations to

Vicki Munn

whose exceptional service to the purposes of the CES was recognized with an Honorary Member award at the 2009 Fall Conference.

- **Conference Chair 2004/2005**
- **Regional Director—3 years**

Addressing the need for Career Education workshops for parents and guardians!

'Parents As Career Coaches' are workshops being offered in the Delta School District for parents with questions about helping their children with career and education planning. The following is a description of this workshop:

When your teenager asks for advice on what post-secondary training they should pursue or what career path they should follow, can you give them the guidance they need? Do you need help understanding the myriad of options out there? In this workshop, learn how to engage in productive career discussions with your teen, understand today's labour market and the skills youth need to succeed, access career and post-secondary websites and other resources to explore education and work options, and become a career coach and ally for your teen. Topics include the economic outlook for employment sectors, post-secondary options, career exploration, financing options, scholarship resources, and developing a career map.

Both of these programs are taught by Yvette Livingston who is a Career Advisor in the Delta School District.

Thanks to Marijke Merrick for sharing information about this initiative in the Delta School District.

Resources

- ➡ The *Pan-Canadian Study of Career Development Practices* is a snapshot of the current presence of career education in schools. This research project was funded by the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation and evaluated by R. A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. The final report is available on the Malatest website.

<http://www.malatest.com/CMSF%20Time-Motion%20Final%20Report%20-%20Dec%202009.pdf>

Significant conclusions of the study:

- ◆ Guidance counselors are spending too much time on non-guidance activities.
- ◆ Lack of mandatory Career Education courses offered in school.
- ◆ Lack of Career Education workshops for parents and guardians.
- ◆ Students are not participating in cooperative education opportunities.

Read the full report for recommendations for future consideration.

- ➡ The *Best Practices* resource, compiled from the 2008/2009 'Building Capacity in Secondary School Apprenticeship' projects, is available on the CES website and the Educator webpage of the ITA website.

<http://www.ces.bc.ca/resources.cfm?wp=en&page=9>

<http://www.itabc.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=1421>

➡ TWO NEW REAL GAME SERIES PROGRAMS!

- ◆ *Jouer ... pour de vrai*
- ◆ *The Be Real Game*

The Real Game 2.1 Digital Edition for middle schools (students aged 11—15) is now available in FRENCH. *Jouer...pour de vrai* is online at www.jouerpourdevrai.ca

The new digital *Be Real Game* 2.0 Digital Edition for high schools was launched at Cannexus 2010 on January 26, 2010. This resource has been extensively piloted across Canada during its revision.

Contact careereducationsociety@shaw.ca for the name of a CES Real Game Ambassador in your region. The Ambassador will be happy to share more information about the Real Game.

The CES partnership with National Life Work Centre offers BC schools and community agencies a 10% discount on orders. Contact careereducationsociety@shaw.ca for information on securing this discount with your order.



News from the regions ...

Kootenays—Shelly McKay, Director

The ACE IT promotional video, made by a grade 12 Mount Baker student, is now up on the College of the Rockies website as well as on YouTube. COTR: http://www.cotr.bc.ca/trades/cotr_web.asp?IDNumber=185 <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/trades/cotr_web.asp?IDNumber=185> YouTube (full size version): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_vo2eE9pFk

For the 25 ACE IT students, their instructors have agreed to provide monthly updates on attendance and progress to the Transitions Coordinator, who in turn will monitor the students' performances and forward the reports to their home school counselors. It is hoped that this way there can be earlier intervention and help for students in need. Most frustrations are related to weaker than required mathematics skills and extra tutorial help is available at the College for free.

Project Heavy Duty is planned for April in Cranbrook and in May for Sparwood. There will be 24 grade 11-12 students participating at each site. These opportunities are made possible by extensive partnering with the following groups: College of the Rockies, School District #5, WorksafeBC, City of Cranbrook, Finning, Teck Coal, local businesses, etc.

The College is planning bus tours to Cranbrook campuses for all the nine schools in the region. The purpose is to get interested students to the College so that they can experience first-hand what program options are available. The feedback from last year's tours was very positive and helped many grade 12's decide on post-secondary studies.

School District 8 (Kootenay Lake) ... 10 ACE IT students first term and another 8 second semester. 1 SSA so far and some good possibilities in the works. Working closely with Selkirk to do "trade shadows" with students going to Selkirk for a day.

GT is going very well and working closely with all our "social development" organizations to assist us in HCE and Planning. LVR is working on reorganizing Planning 10 and GT 12 with the possible addition of a BAA course that includes Career Dev along with Safety, Foodsafe, and Life Skills component in both grade 10 and 11 and then GT 12 in grade 12.

School District 6 ... 3 ACE It programs - Cook, Carpentry Framing and Horticulture - all in conjunction with College of the Rockies. An Intro to Trades will be offered full time term 3 in conjunction with COTR. DTSS houses a 3000 square foot community greenhouse for school and community use.

School District 20 ... 22 students enrolled in SSA to date. This is the second year that we have had a position to support and find SSA students as well as increase opportunities for Work Experience - primarily with ACE IT students

Carpentry and Cooking ACE IT programs running again. Millwright/Machining program suspended this year due to low enrolment.

Selkirk offering Mill/Mach program on campus, to begin in February (ACE IT Program)

Selkirk also offering ACE IT programs in Welding and Electrical. One student is currently completing Welding on campus and Selkirk is looking for Electrical students to begin in February.

ACE IT students have had access to SIDIT Bursaries to decrease/eliminate costs associated with completing programs - Trades Advisory Council meeting regularly to provide direction for Trades in the area.

Northwest—Mike Jones, Director

School District #54 (Bulkley Valley) ... Students had opportunities to participate in the Heavy Equipment Operators' Program at Smithers Secondary, the Project Natural Resource Management program, and the RCMP Youth Academy. Good participation in the 'Take Our Kids to Work' day! Continued good participation in Work Experience.

School District #82 (Coast Mountains) ... Students participated in the ACE IT program in a full range of apprenticeship programs, both school-based and NWCC delivered. The strong partnership between School District #82 and NWCC continues to facilitate participation in the ACE IT program including automotive, carpentry, culinary arts, millwright, electrical and welding. There was continued success in the Secondary School Apprenticeship Program with participation in meat cutting, bakery, plumbing, electrician, carpentry, and others. The School Board sponsored SSA students in placements throughout the district. Four graduates were successful in meeting the requirements of the SSA Scholarship Program. A YES 2 IT program was offered.

Following the Regional competitions at NWCC in Terrace, gold medal winners in carpentry, welding, culinary arts and auto service took part in the Provincial **Skills Canada** competitions in Abbotsford.

District students took part in a variety of extracurricular career programs including the RCMP Youth Academy, the Canadian Forces Bold Eagle Program and the Rotary 'Adventures in Forestry' and 'Adventures in Industry' programs, COFI Integrated Resource Management Camp and the 'Take Your Kid to Work' Day. Participation in the 'Encounters with Canada' and the 'Forum for Young Canadians' saw students go to Ottawa. Some students attended the Provincial Aboriginal Youth Conference in Kelowna last year, and several students participated in the New Opportunities program. Some Career Centers continue to provide career testing and counseling services as well as the LPI and SAT tests. Grad Transitions program is well underway.

School District #92 (Nisga'a) ... Various in-school programs were offered including carpentry and automotive. Partnerships with other agencies offered projects in construction safety, fishing, fire suppression, Food Safe. There is a developing partnership in the Nass Valley with BCIT.



Update on the CES/ITA 'Building Capacity in Secondary School Apprenticeship' Project

The participation in the 'Building Capacity in SSA' project grew from 20 school districts in September, 2008, to 25 by February, 2009, to 41 currently involved in Project 2 to the end of June, 2010. The 41 school districts collectively enroll approximately 76% of the provincial grade 10 -12 student population. They are representative of all regions of the province, from large urban areas to small rural communities.

Contrary to what may be expected with the lingering economic slowdown and resulting increasing youth unemployment rates in BC, the number of new SSA youth apprentices continues to grow in the school districts that are participating in the project! The table below provides comparative data with the same time period of a year earlier.

Time Period	SSA Registration All Districts	% change	SSA Registrations CES Project Districts	% change	SSA Registrations Districts NOT in the Project	% change
2009 July - December	505	+38%	448	+57%	57	-27.85%
2008 July - December	365		286		79	

The numbers for both years were provided by ITA from its registration database; therefore, they are reported with a high level of confidence in the accuracy.

The school districts participating in the current project are:

First Year

#34 – Langley	#35 – Abbotsford
#22 – Vernon	#67 – Okanagan Skaha
#33 – Chilliwack	#68 – Nanaimo-Ladysmith
#40 – New Westminster	#69 – Qualicum
#45 – West Vancouver	#79 – Cowichan Valley
#62 – Sooke	#82 – Coast Mountain
#28 – Quesnel	#58 – Nicola Similkameen
#46 – Sunshine Coast	#81 – Ft. Nelson
#48 – Sea to Sky	#85 – Vancouver Is. North
#51 – Boundary	#92 – Nisga'a

Second Year

#39 – Vancouver	#57 – Prince George
#41 – Burnaby	#23 – Central Okanagan
#43 – Coquitlam	#44 – North Vancouver
#05 – South East Kootenay	#59 – Peace River South
#06 – Rocky Mountain	#60 – Peace River North
#08 – Kootenay Lakes	#64 – Gulf Islands
#19 – Revelstoke	#70 – Alberni
#20 – Kootenay Columbia	#73 – Kamloops/Thompson
#27 – Cariboo Chilcotin	#78 – Fraser Cascade
#47 – Powell River	#83 – North Okanagan/ Shuswap
#58 – Okanagan Similkameen	

Commendations and thanks to the SSA contacts and support staff for your enthusiasm and hard work on the project.

Share the excitement of career development initiatives in your school district or community with other CES members by writing an article for the newsletter! **Email to careereducationsociety@shaw.ca**