

Community netWORKS

What is Community netWORKS?

Community netWORKS is an award-winning career development partnership. Partners include Regina Public Schools, Regina Catholic Schools, Prairie Valley Schools and many committed community businesses and organizations. We continue to strive for excellence in promoting career awareness for youth. Community netWORKS is the past recipient of the Saskatchewan Labour Force Development Board's "Educational Partnerships" award, in 1999 and 2001, and the Junior Achievement Educator of the Year Award for the 2006/07 school year.

What makes Community netWORKS unique?

Community netWORKS initiates activities that involve home, school and community working together to enhance career development for our students. Our partnership involves three school divisions in Regina and area working with committed businesses and organizations. We have the potential to reach 21,000 students from grades 6 through 12, their parents, their educators, and their community members!

Community netWORKS continues to offer direct programming for three distinct and essential groups: Students; Educators & Community Members; and Parents/Guardians. Activities complement and enhance career development curricula and programs that already exist in our schools. We work every day to raise awareness of the need for quality career development programming for our students. We focus on career development through an experiential Learning approach for students. Through these activities, students are able to establish career pathways and transition from high school to employment, apprenticeship training or other post-secondary programs.

How has Community netWORKS contributed?

Over the past few years, Community netWORKS have introduced a number of innovative initiatives involving home, school and community. Activities are planned for students, educators and parents. We focus on experiential learning and taking a "people" approach by starting small, building quality programs, and inviting participation. Community netWORKS would like to thank our partners for your work with us over this past year and look forward to working again with you in the future.

Activities for Students

Pre-Health Professional Club

In the fall of 2006, a Pre-Health Professional High School club was established in partnership with Community netWORKS, the University of Saskatchewan, Colleges of Medicine, including the School of Physical Therapy, and Nursing. The club provided an opportunity for over 100 primarily Grade 12 students, who explored and experienced career pathways within the health sector.

The Club sessions included: a club overview, career presentations from health professionals, post-secondary requirements, mentorship orientation, mentorship opportunities as well as a summary and evaluation. Club sessions involved parents, school guidance counselors, consultants from the school divisions, First Nations elders, post-secondary institutions personnel and practicing professionals.

In addition to or instead of the general sessions, approximately 50 First Nations and Metis high school students had the opportunity to access two sessions to explore these careers from an Aboriginal perspective.

Students who demonstrated a commitment to the program had an opportunity to select and experience a two ½ day mentorship with a professional in the health profession that they have explored through the club. Approximately 100 professional mentors from the Regina Qu'Appelle Health District, University of Saskatchewan, and private practice participated in student mentorship experiences

Career Spotlights 2008

This popular series encompasses a variety of career paths that are often inaccessible through work experience and other existing programs. Enthusiastic presenters from the community share their time and expertise with senior students in a two-hour, interactive format.

Cardboard Boat Challenge

Cardboard Boat Challenge is an activity that supports the Middle Level Practical and Applied Arts. Students in grade 7/8 will compete in teams of four to design, construct and race a cardboard boat across a swimming pool. Armed with cardboard, duct tape and a few other odds and ends the students will transform these materials into a vessel that not only floats but carries passengers as well.

Automobile Industry Career Days

This event provides an opportunity for high school students to learn more about the wide variety of career opportunities in our local automobile industry. Participating students and their industry mentors will begin their experience with an orientation breakfast sponsored by members of the Saskatchewan Automobile Dealers' Association before heading to work at one of our local dealerships.

NAOSH Week (North American Occupational Safety & Health Week)

As a simultaneous effort in Canada, the United States, and Mexico, this week is an opportunity to raise awareness regarding health and safety issues. Community netWORKS plans to work with their partners to create relevant activities for students. In the past, young people who had been injured at work made presentations in our schools, encouraging students to know their rights and their responsibilities.

Young Tradesperson Program

The "Young Tradesperson" program is an interactive mentoring opportunity for interested senior students to learn about careers in the construction sector. In the past, we've called upon carpenters, electricians, plumbers, welders, technicians and many others to open their doors to students. This activity offers students the chance to discover some of the challenges and rewards of careers in the trades and become more aware of apprenticeship and safety programs. SCA members who would like to participate are invited to contact **Doug Folk at 525-0171 or 539-8492 (cell)**.

Activities for Teachers

Ready for Work

Ready for Work resources have been developed, in partnership with Saskatchewan Learning and Saskatchewan Labour, to strive to make learning at work safe for students. This one-day session will be of special interest to Guidance Counsellors, Practical & Applied Arts teachers, especially those teaching Career & Work Exploration, and anyone who offers a work-based learning component as part of their program.

The Real Game Series

The Real Game series offers six interactive career/life/work development programs for elementary and secondary students. Each game applies the "High Five" of career development and has earned the "blueprint compliant" stamp by adhering to national career development standards. Visit www.realgame.com and www.blueprint4life.ca for more information. At all levels of the Real Game series, students explore and experience the realities of the adult world through activities that are engaging, interactive, and fun!

[The Make It Real Game \(Grades 5 & 6\)](#)

This highly interactive program requires students to assume adult roles, create simulated towns and businesses and engage in an international business venture. Make It Real offers 12 core activities that can be played over 16 hours.

[The Real Game \(Grades 7 & 8\)](#)

Students "try on" different occupations; manage their lifestyles within salary limits; face recession; and plan for the future. The game offers 18 core activities for up to 25 hours of integration of career development into several subject areas.

[The Be Real Game \(Grades 9 & 10\)](#)

The Be Real Game is designed as a journey. Each session represents a step of the journey, and each subsequent step builds on the previous one. The journey is divided into three units: Brave new world of work; Agents of change; Exploring the Future. Some sessions are followed by optional activities and discussion segments.

Destination 2020

Destination 2020 is a resource designed to help grade 8 students gain insight into their future. The program incorporates a variety of quizzes, activities, articles and over 200 Occupational Profiles. Students are given the opportunity to identify their skills, interests, and personality and to discover how some of the choices they make now can have an impact on their futures. Visit www.lifework.ca for more information.

Smart Options

Smart Options is a new way for grade 7 students to learn more about themselves; to look at their talents and abilities; and to link to jobs and occupations. Centered around the concept of multiple intelligences, Smart Options identifies and describes eight "smarts" (Body, Image, Music, People, Self, Logic, Word, and Nature). Teachers will get a program overview and be provided with a Facilitator Guide, a poster, and a class set of student resource books. For advance information, go to www.lifework.ca.

Community netWORKS Supports ...

Agribition Career Expo

Skills Canada

Community netWORKS support this event by coordinating the transportation of teachers and students to the provincial competition from Regina Public Schools, Regina Catholic Schools and Prairie Valley School Divisions. The mission of this national organization is to promote careers in skilled trades and technologies as a first choice for young Canadians. Provincial and national competitions are held in a wide variety of events.

Community netWORKS' Activities

AT A GLANCE

For Students

Pre-Health Professional Club
Career Spotlights
Cardboard Boat Challenge
NAOSH Week

Sector Days

Automobile Industry Career Days
Young Tradesperson Program

For Students Through Educators & Community Members

Ready for Work
The Make It Real Game (Grades 5/6)
The Real Game (Grades 7/8)
The Be Real Game (Grades 9/10)
Destination 2020
Smart Options

Community netWORKS Supports ...

Agribition Career Expo
Careers Unlimited
Girls' Exploring Trades and Technology
Kids in the Shop
Stepping Stones