

DR. STIRLING MCDOWELL
Foundation
FOR
RESEARCH INTO TEACHING

2005-2006

ANNUAL REPORT

Amended December 2006

Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching Inc.
2317 Arlington Avenue
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7J 2H8

Tel: (306) 373-1660; Toll Free: 1-800-667-7762; Fax (306) 374-1122
E-mail: mcdowell@stf.sk.ca; Website: www.mcdowellfoundation.ca

CONTENTS

Foreword	3
Overview of the Organization	4
McDowell Foundation Function Areas	6
• Research	6
• Fundraising.....	12
• Organizational Communications.....	14
• Governance and Administration	14
Auditors' Report	16
Financial Statements.....	17

FOREWORD



Those of us connected with the McDowell Foundation like to point out that in just 15 years the research that we have funded has enhanced the teaching practice of thousands of teachers across Saskatchewan. It has also provided an opportunity for innovative teachers to emerge as

professional leaders and contribute sound, practice-based knowledge and ideas related to curriculum and instruction. What has begun to emerge is a culture of teacher participation in research into teaching. Each fall the Foundation's Learning from Practice Exchange of Teacher Knowledge and Research is a celebration of what teachers can accomplish when they have access to adequate time and supports.

The future of the McDowell Foundation depends on how well teachers and others understand and value the contribution that it is making to public education in our province. The endowment fund that provides the money for the Foundation's work continues to grow slowly in a competitive fundraising environment. Also, the pool of teachers that is turning to research to improve teaching and learning in their schools continues to be concentrated in the major cities. There is still a need to expand the Foundation's base of support if it is to become the sustainable, effective force for educational improvement that was envisioned when it was created in 1991.

As we review the organization and programs of the McDowell Foundation in 2006-07, the Board of Directors will be looking for both feedback on the past 15 years and ideas about the directions the Foundation should take in the future. Of particular interest would be your thoughts about the future of the Foundation in the areas of organizational governance, fund-raising, research efforts, and the communications and recognition program of the Foundation. At this point, nothing is being taken for granted, even the continued existence of a charitable organization devoted to the promotion of teacher-led research. If you have a perspective or opinion that you would like to share with us, please take the time to contact me or anyone connected with the Foundation. We are interested in hearing from you as we sort through the issues, barriers and opportunities that currently exist.

Yours in Education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyle A. Vinish". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lyle A. Vinish
President and Chair of the Board of Directors

OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION

The McDowell Foundation is an independent charitable organization that was established by the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation in 1991. Its general purpose is to support research, inquiry and the dissemination of information that focuses on teaching and learning within the publicly funded K-12 education system. In all its projects and activities, the Foundation is guided by the voice of practising teachers and works in consultation with organizational partners in business and education. As articulated in the Strategic Plan developed by the Foundation's governing bodies and updated annually, the organization has one foundational function, which is to fund, support, disseminate, recognize and promote educational research.

The McDowell Foundation calls for research proposals on an annual basis and selects research projects for funding according to established budgets, policies and criteria. It also sponsors opportunities for teachers and others to learn about educational research, encourages researchers to come together as an educational research community and supports researchers in sharing their research with each other and the general public. The most prominent of these sharing opportunities is the annual Learning from Practice Exchange of Teacher Knowledge and Research, which the Foundation hosts each year to showcase recently completed McDowell projects. The results of all research projects funded by the Foundation are published and may be accessed through the Foundation's website at www.mcdowellfoundation.ca.

The foundational research function of the McDowell Foundation is complemented by three organizational functions: fundraising, organizational communications and administration and governance. McDowell research is funded through donations from individuals and corporations. The Foundation's fundraising goal is to establish an endowment fund of \$5 million to provide on-going support for substantive educational research. A

significant step towards meeting this financial goal has been taken through the generous contributions of several corporate contributors. These foundational donors have included the Government of Saskatchewan, Greystone Managed Investments, McDougall Gauley and the TCU Financial Group.

Since organizational communications are vital in building financial and other support for the McDowell Foundation, on-going efforts are made to communicate with donors, researchers, educational partners and the public about the work of the Foundation and the opportunities it offers for the improvement of education. Key partners in developing an appreciation of teacher-led research have been local teachers' associations, the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan and its member chapters, colleges of education, special subject councils and educational administrators.

The offices of the McDowell Foundation are located in the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation building in Saskatoon. Staff and administrative services for the Foundation are provided by the STF. The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the continuing support of the Saskatchewan teaching profession.

The McDowell Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Provincial Executive of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. The Board of Directors oversees the finances, policies and operations of the Foundation, and is assisted in its role by an Advisory Committee of representatives from the educational and business communities. The selection and evaluation of projects funded by the Foundation is carried out by a Project Review Committee appointed by the Board of Directors. Supporting the work of these three governing bodies are a coordinator, part-time consultant, Federation coordinator and administrative assistant.

1. Board of Directors for 2005-06

- Lyle Vinish, STF General Secretary and President of the McDowell Foundation (Chair)
- Dianne Woloschuk, STF Executive
- Gwen Dueck, STF Assistant General Secretary (replaced during sabbatical by George Georget, STF Executive Assistant effective March 2006)
- Teacher Representatives:
 - Kim Archibald
 - Ingrid Gabert
 - Kevin Mugford
 - Stephanie Olson
 - Donna Schindel
- Doreen Lloyd, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (replaced temporarily by Ernie Epp during the illness that led to her death in January 2006; replaced in June 2006 by Maxine Stinka)
- Foundational Donors:
 - Rex Beaton, McDougall Gauley
 - Fred Herron, Greystone Managed Investments
 - Boyd Taylor, TCU Financial Group

2. Advisory Committee for 2005-06

- Tim Yee, STF Executive Assistant (Chair)
- Steven Allen, STF Executive
- Teacher Representatives:
 - Rod Brooks-Augstin
 - Darryl Elaschuk
 - Rachel Florence
 - Phyllis Fowler
 - Nicole Smigiel
- Organizational Representatives:
 - Barry Bashutski, Saskatchewan School Boards Association
 - Bob Kowalchuk, League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents
 - Dr. Janet McVittie, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan
 - Dr. David Friesen, Faculty of Education, University of Regina
 - Jean Duperreault, Department of Learning

Bert Gordon, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Sarah Sun, Saskatchewan Association of School Councils

3. Project Review Committee for 2005-06

- Shirley Humphries, STF Executive Assistant
- Ingrid Gabert, Board of Directors
- Cheryl Erlandson, Acting Director, Saskatchewan Professional Development Unit
- Teacher Representatives:
 - Jennifer Dyck (Chair)
 - Ted Green
 - Linda Greyeyes
 - Melanie MacLean
 - Sonja Susut
- University Representatives:
 - Dr. Linda Wason-Ellam, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan
 - Dr. Warren Wessel, Faculty of Education, University of Regina
- Researcher Outside Education
 - Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan

4. McDowell Foundation Office

- Verna Gallén, Coordinator of Research and Governance
- Earle Robertson, Local Associations, Communications and Fundraising (Replaced in January 2006 by Susan Bates)
- Karen Williams, Administrative Assistant



Liam and Jaden, grade 3 students at Silverspring School, give guided tours of the Saskatoon Grasslands as part of the McDowell project on "Fostering Environmental Stewardship."

McDOWELL FOUNDATION FUNCTION AREAS

1. RESEARCH

The McDowell Foundation's Strategic Plan for 2005-06 set the following directions for its foundational function, which is research:

1. To promote teacher-led research;
2. To build an educational research community;
3. To monitor the impact of teacher-led research; and
4. To promote educational leadership through research.

The major focus of the Foundation's research program continues to be the recruitment, selection, funding, support and dissemination of teacher-led research projects. Approximately 30-40 McDowell projects are in progress at any one time, each one initiated by teachers and other researchers in response to the Foundation's annual call for research proposals. In addition to the funding provided directly to these projects, the Foundation also provides opportunities for new researchers to learn about conducting research, publishes the results of McDowell research projects, and provides financial and other assistance to McDowell researchers in sharing their findings with the educational community.

As shown in Table 1, the cost to the Foundation of maintaining this research focus has been increasing gradually over the past six years. The Foundation has now spent approximately \$700,000 in support of teacher-led educational research.

**TABLE 1: McDOWELL FOUNDATION
ANNUAL EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH PROJECTS**

1994-95	\$39,411
1995-96	\$24,974
1996-97	\$29,850
1997-98	\$25,605
1998-99	\$42,849
1999-00	\$61,200
2000-01	\$73,303
2001-02	\$78,884
2002-03	\$77,728
2003-04	\$74,530
2004-05	\$88,093
2005-06	\$82,106
TOTAL	\$696,881

RESEARCH GRANTS

In honour of the Foundation's 15th anniversary, the Board of Directors approved the awarding of up to \$100,000 in research grants to applicants responding to the 2006 call for research proposals. Sixteen applications were received and at its project selection meeting on May 6, the Project Review Committee selected the following projects for funding:

- 1) *A Balanced French Immersion Literacy Classroom*. Elaine Oak and Eileen McKinnon. Moose Jaw. Grant: \$5,920.
- 2) *ACE It! The Impact of an Integrated Arts Education, Christian Ethics and English Class*. Barb Wotherspoon. E. D. Feehan High School, Saskatoon. Grant: \$6,805.
- 3) *A School-based Study on the Relationship Between Increased Reading Levels and School Attachment*. Fay Elke, Ian Krips, Lori Gonzalez and Shaun McEachern. Mount Royal Collegiate, Saskatoon. Grant: \$4,480.

- 4) *The Road to Finding Rewarding Careers for Youth with Cognitive Disabilities*. Vickie Reiman and Pat Walker. Campbell Collegiate, Regina. Grant: \$12,112.
- 5) *Cognitive Strategy Instruction, Schema-Based Instruction and Other Metacognitive Strategies for Students with Learning and Developmental Disabilities: a Multi-Site Action Research Project*. Kelly Howell Dalziel, Lara Ford and Scott Thompson. Milestone and Regina. Grant: \$5,063.
- 6) *Self-Assessment and the Student Learner: "I Must Know to Grow."* Darrell Baumgartner, Michele Braun, Bev Buchan, Leona Burkhart, Karen Istace and James Wahl. Regina. Grant: \$6,812.
- 7) *Student Success in Science Through Experiential Learning*. Marcia Klein, Beth Campbell and Susan Campbell. Saskatoon. Grant: \$4,540.
- 8) *Seeking Educational Opportunities for the Gifted: From Community Service to Service Learning*. Mark Wilderman, Jeff Park, Ruth Elliott, Dennis Flaherty, Kathrine Flaherty, Heather Reid, Lisa Kalesnikoff, Alicia Klopoushak, Steven Vincent and Susan Voitka-Seager. Saskatoon. Grant: \$10,028.
- 9) *Beyond Video Games: Challenging Saskatchewan Students to Be Competitive in a Technological World*. Daryl Guenther. Saskatoon. Grant: \$3,455.
- 10) *Building Educational Success at BES (Balgonie Elementary School)*. Carrie-Anne Dutkiwch. Balgonie. Grant: \$4,538.
- 11) *Guided Reading Strategies to Improve Students' Critical Thinking Skills in Grades Three, Four and Five*. Jocelyn Olson, Lori Larsen, Lorrie Bolton and Sherrill Verhelst. Radville. Grant: \$6,074.
- 12) *The Effect of Small Space Physical Activity on School Performance*. Brenda Kalyn, Teresa Paslawski, Terry Kikcio, Cole Wilson and Dorothy McPhedran. Saskatoon. Grant: \$7,380.

In addition a development grant was awarded to the following project to redevelop its proposal for funding for further consideration in 2007.

Creating a Climate for Learning. Yvonne Kristoff, Maria Furgiuele, Isabelle Haberman and Lynda Muzyka. Saskatoon. Grant: \$500.



Yvonne Kristoff of Saskatoon gathers information and ideas for developing a McDowell research proposal.

An overview of the Foundation's research awards over the past five years is provided in Table 2. There were fewer requests for funding in 2006 but in general, applicants were requesting larger amounts of money than in the previous year.

Once again the majority of applications for McDowell Foundation research grants came from teachers in the province's large cities. However in 2005-06, much of the imbalance in the distribution of research funding may be attributed, at least in part, to the intense effort that school division restructuring has required of teachers in rural areas. It is possible that once new divisions and new local teachers' associations are fully established, the increased number of larger school divisions may facilitate more teacher-led research in areas outside the large cities.

TABLE 2: RESEARCH APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS*

	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	TOTAL 1994-2006
Amount Available	\$100,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$925,000
No. of Applications	16	31	17	34	20	276
Amount Requested	\$ 174,095	\$290,303	\$155,225	\$253,946	\$290,329	\$2,401,547
No. of Awards	13	20	11	21	12	172
Total Awarded	\$ 86,282	\$84,912	\$ 84,693	\$ 79,317	\$ 82,294	\$778,394

* Applications include late applications and applications for major extensions to projects already in progress. Awards include project extensions and development grants as well as project grants.

TABLE 3: DISTRIBUTION OF McDOWELL FOUNDATION PROJECTS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS, 1994-2006*

	2006		2005		2004		2003		2002		1994-2006	
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)***	#	(%)***
Saskatoon/Regina	8	(67)	9	(47)	8	(73)	10	(53)	7	(58)	80	(58)
Small Cities	1	(8)	6	(32)	2	(18)	3	(16)	1	(8)	25	(18)
Northern Areas**	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	7	(5)
Rural Areas	3	(25)	4	(21)	1	(9)	6	(31)	4	(33)	26	(19)
Outside Sask.	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	1	(1)
TOTAL	12		19		11		19		12		139	

* Does not include project development activities but does include project extensions.

** Does not include Prince Albert, which is included in Small Cities.

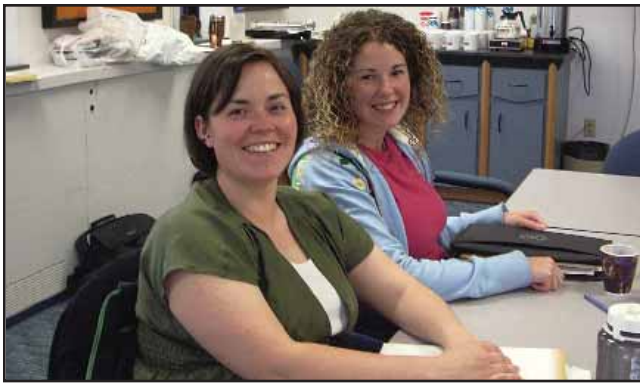
*** Does not total 100% due to rounding.

EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR RESEARCHERS

The McDowell Foundation requires every project that it funds to submit a final research report for publication. Over the years McDowell researchers have consistently identified the writing of the final report as one of the most difficult and least satisfying parts of their research experience. To facilitate the report-writing process, the Foundation has developed reporting guidelines, a standard report format and a style guide for use in writing McDowell Foundation reports. This year a new support was developed in the form of a Report Writing Workshop for McDowell researchers. Based on the needs identified through a survey of current McDowell researchers, the workshop focussed on four key challenges in writing research

reports: research ethics, the literature review and references, research methodologies and the organization and analysis of research data. Sixteen researchers from ten projects attended the first workshop on January 28, which was facilitated by Research Coordinator, Verna Gallén and STF Research and Policy Analyst, Isobel Tamney.

On June 3 the Foundation held its annual orientation session for researchers who will receive funding in 2006-07. Nineteen researchers from eleven new projects attended to network, become more familiar with the McDowell Foundation and discuss issues related to ethics and communications in teacher research.



Kelly Howell Dalziel from Milestone and Laura Ford from Regina attend the 2006 orientation for new McDowell researchers in Saskatoon.

DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITE

As McDowell projects came to completion in 2005-06, the Foundation edited and published the following research reports:

- 1) *Below the Radar: Teachers, Boys and Schools*. Jeff Park, Anne Browne, Barry Gay, Sam Robinson, Vicki Summerfeldt and Mark Wilderman. Saskatoon, 2005. Project #99.
- 2) *Building Bridges in a Community: Teaching Literacy through a Community Newsletter Project*. Keith Jorgenson. Saskatoon, 2005. Project #126.
- 3) *Creating a Culturally Affirming Learning Community*. Ted Amendt and Yves Bousquet. Saskatoon, 2006. Project #76.
- 4) *Do Gender Specific Classrooms Increase the Success of Students?* Dave DePape. Moose Jaw, 2006. Project #109.
- 5) *The Efficacy of Using Vision Therapy in the Kindergarten Setting*. Louise McCulloch, Judy Richards and Dr. Barbara Patterson. Saskatoon, 2006. Project #123.
- 6) *Enhancing Learning in Grade 9 Mathematics*. Heather Corbin and Leah Constable. Regina, 2006. Project #108.
- 7) *Evan Hardy Collegiate Literacy Initiative*. Evan Hardy Literacy Committee. Saskatoon, 2006. Project #131.
- 8) *Learning to Learn in an Information Age*. Linda Nosbush. Prince Albert, 2006. Project #73.
- 9) *Listen to the Future: Acknowledging the Voices of Students As They Focus on Their Health*. Joyce Polowski. Prince Albert, 2005. Project #127.
- 10) *Parent Engagement and Leadership*. Debbie Pushor and Claudia Ruitenbergh with co-researchers at Princess Alexandra Community School. Saskatoon, 2005. Project #134.
- 11) *Que(e)rying Inclusive Practice: Exploring and Challenging Homophobia in Curricula and Schools*. James McNinch, Marilyn Totten and Scott Thompson. Regina, 2005. Project #125.
- 12) *Restorative Action in the Elementary School: A Community-Based Approach to Peace-Building and Conflict Resolution*. Michaela Keet, Krista Memory and Cindy Keet. Vanscoy, 2006. Project #128.
- 13) *Voices of the Dropout: A Study of Early School Leavers at One First Nations School*. Joseph Belhumeur, Rick Closs and Mario Kaun. Little Red River Educational Authority, 2005. Project #106.

Table 4, which outlines the cost and duration of McDowell projects, indicates that, in general, the projects that came to completion this year lasted longer and cost more than in earlier years. These increases reflect the completion this year of one long-term and two overdue projects, as well as the completion of three projects that were supported with larger grants of \$10,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000.

Hard copies of all McDowell Foundation reports are printed and provided to project teams, their directors of education, and major educational libraries in Saskatchewan. In 2005-06, the Foundation was happy to receive and comply with a request to file copies of all reports with the National Library of Canada. The Library provides a valuable service in making McDowell research available nation-wide and ensuring research reports are properly archived.

McDowell researchers also continue to submit their work for publication in other educational books and forums. For example, the Foundation granted permission this year for researchers Florence Glanfield, Darlene Baczuk and Ann Oviatt to include their McDowell research in a

TABLE 4: DURATION AND COST OF COMPLETED McDOWELL FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROJECTS*

	Completed Projects	Average Expected Duration**	Average Actual Duration	Total \$ Granted	Total \$ Spent	% Grant Spent	Average Cost Per Project
To 1999	24	12 mos.	16 mos.	\$ 91,121	\$79,129	87	\$3,297
1999-00	13	12 mos.	25 mos.	\$ 55,112	\$48,598	88	\$3,738
2000-01	15	17 mos.	19 mos.	\$100,131	\$83,164	83	\$5,544
2001-02	9	12 mos.	25 mos.	\$ 63,078	\$47,220	75	\$5,247
2002-03	15	13 mos.	16 mos.	\$ 87,082	\$62,690	72	\$4,179
2003-04	12	14 mos.	17 mos.	\$ 58,181	\$45,980	79	\$3,832
2004-2005	13	12 mos.	20 mos.	\$69,774	\$51,326	74	\$3,948
2005-2006	13	17 mos.	31 mos.	\$100,966	\$78,243	77	\$6,018

* Development projects and project extensions are not included in this table.

** Duration is calculated from the start date in the project record to the date that a final report on the project is received.

book entitled *Teachers Engaged in Research: Inquiry into Mathematics Practice, Grades 9-12* to be published in 2006 by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

LEARNING FROM PRACTICE EXCHANGE OF TEACHER KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH

Attendance was down slightly at the 11th annual Learning from Practice Exchange of Teacher Knowledge and Research, which focused on the theme “Celebrating Our Success: Fostering Collaboration and Community Through Research.” The keynote speaker was Dave Derksen, a consultant with Saskatoon Public Schools, who has been involved in two collaborative, community-oriented McDowell projects in physical education. Feedback from participants on the content and format of the Exchange continued to be positive.



Cindy Keet, Krista Memory and Michaela Keet present their research on “Restorative Justice in the Elementary School” at Learning from Practice 2005.

PRESENTATIONS OF McDOWELL RESEARCH

In 2005-06 McDowell researchers applied for a total of \$4,226 in funding from the Foundation to present their research at national conferences. The following forums included presentations on the indicated McDowell research projects:

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) Literacy and Numeracy Forum, Toronto, November 24-26, 2005 – *Learning Together: Intergenerational Literature Circles as Sites for Multi-layered Learning*. Lynn Lemisko and Margaret Epp.

Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE) Congress, York University, Toronto, May 27-30, 2006 – *Parent Engagement and Leadership*. Debbie Pushor and Martina Cain.

Saskatchewan Physical Education Association (SPEA)/Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD) Conference, Regina, May 6, 2005. *Listen to the Future: Acknowledging the Voices of Students As They Focus on Their Health*. Joyce Polowski and Dr. Carol Henry.

Numerous other McDowell researchers presented their research results at conferences and teachers' conventions in Saskatchewan.

Work began this year to establish a presence for McDowell researchers at Showcase 2008. Showcase is a professional development event for teachers being organized to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. Susan Bates, Showcase Coordinator, has, in her additional capacity as Foundation consultant, been working to ensure that McDowell researchers are encouraged to present at Showcase. The event promises to provide the Foundation with a valuable platform for sharing and promoting teacher-led research.

RECOGNITION FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHERS

McDOWELL FOUNDATION AWARD

The McDowell Foundation Award was created to honour individuals who have made outstanding contributions to educational research in Saskatchewan. The recipient of the 2005 McDowell Foundation Award was Doreen Lloyd, a dear friend of the Foundation who worked tirelessly to foster support and understanding of its mandate among her colleagues in the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. Doreen was too ill to receive the award in person at the opening of the 2005 Learning from Practice Exchange, but she expressed her appreciation of the honour through her son, Greg. Doreen passed away in January 2006.



Doreen Lloyd, 2005 recipient of the McDowell Foundation Award

2. FUNDRAISING

The McDowell Foundation's Strategic Plan for 2005-06 set the following directions for its operational function of fundraising:

1. To develop and implement fundraising programs and activities; and
2. To establish a positive relationship with donors to the McDowell Foundation.

DONATIONS TO THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation did not develop any new fundraising initiatives in 2005-06. It continues to receive donations from corporations and individuals in a variety of ways; for example, bequests, payroll deduction options supported by local teachers' associations, donations of honouraria for corporate and organizational services, donations of payments for tutoring students, memorial donations, donations to honour occasions or individuals, or donations of the proceeds from events held by teachers or superannuates. Table 5 indicates the money that the Foundation received in donations this year in comparison to previous years. Tables 6 and 7 break down these donations into broad donor categories.

In the past year the Foundation was the beneficiary of the following fundraising activities:

- The Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association donated 10% of the sales at a book fair called Books Are Fun.
- The staff of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation made the McDowell Foundation the target for donations made in the month of November through Dress Down Days.
- Local teachers' associations donated amounts collected in relationship to activities held to celebrate World Teachers' Day on October 5.

DONOR RECOGNITION

Certificates of appreciation were again presented to recognize financial contributions to the Foundation from local teachers' associations. Six certificates were presented in September as part of the STF Presidents' Day, with the Meadow Lake Teachers' Association receiving the award for the largest amount donated per member of the local.

The Foundation also recognizes donations received in honour of an occasion, organization or individual and expresses its gratitude for the gift to both the donor and the individual or organization being honoured. This year gifts "in honour" were received from the following donors:

- George Georget, in honour of the presentation to Doreen Lloyd of the 2005 McDowell Foundation Award for Outstanding Contributions to Educational Research;
- Shirley Humphries, in honour of the 90th birthday of Evelyn Mooney; and
- Greystone Managed Investments, Meadow Lake Tribal Council Program Services, and local teachers' associations in recognition of services provided by various members of the STF Administrative Staff.

In 2005-06, the Foundation received and recognized appropriately donations made in memory of the following individuals: Mike Badham, Ralph Coffey, Harry Costello, Elsie Cooper, Dr. John G. Egnatoff, Vida W. Frost, Vi Godfrey, Ruth Hanson, Jan Hone, Doreen Lloyd, Henry Osowsky, Kendra Pinno, Nestor Remanda, Carol Lynn Riviere, Barry Roberts and Margery Steinsvoll.

Donations "in honour" and "in memory" are acknowledged on the Foundation's website and in a book displayed in the Foundation's office.

**TABLE 5:
DONATIONS TO THE McDOWELL
FOUNDATION:
1990-91 TO 2005-06**

1990-91:	\$ 202,111
1991-92:	28,130
1992-93:	231,422
1993-94:	175,019
1994-95:	127,426
1995-96:	129,829
1996-97:	92,737
1997-98:	77,272
1998-99:	79,707
1999-00:	80,572
2000-01:	95,043
2001-02:	106,986
2002-03:	66,176
2003-04:	82,532
2004-05:	80,643
2005-06:	57,062
TOTAL	\$1,712,667

**TABLE 6: ALL GIFTS AND PLEDGES BY DONOR GROUP
FROM JULY 1, 1990 TO JUNE 30, 2006**

Donor Group	Total Gifts & Pledges	Number of Donations
Organizations		
Corporations/Government/ Foundations/Businesses	\$ 740,110	136
Educational Organizations (includes Local Associations and STS and its chapters)	\$ 185,284	278
Total	\$ 925,394	414
Individuals		
Educational Partners (includes STF employees)	\$ 327,339	373
Superannuates	\$ 167,180	1,109
Teachers	\$ 183,812	2,003
Total	\$ 678,331	3,485
No Information	\$ 7,363	177
TOTAL	\$1,611,088	4,076

TABLE 7: GIFTS AND PLEDGES BY DONOR GROUP FROM JULY 1, 2005 TO JUNE 30, 2006

Donor Group	Total Gifts & Pledges	Number of Donations	Average Donation
Organizations			
Corporations/Government/Foundations	\$ 31,950	16	\$ 1,997
Educational Organizations			
- Local Associations	\$ 3,508	12	\$ 292
- Others	\$ 2,190	4	\$ 548
Total	\$ 37,648	32	
Individuals			
Educational Partners			
- STF/MF Employees	\$ 2,783	15	\$ 186
- Others	\$ 2,872	3	\$ 957
Superannuates	\$ 3,099	34	\$ 91
Teachers			
- Seventh Day Adventists	\$ 1,488	27	\$ 55
- Other Teachers	\$ 8,894	130	\$ 68
No information	\$ 465	9	\$ 52
TOTAL	\$ 57,249	250	\$ 229

3. ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

The McDowell Foundation's Strategic Plan for 2005-06 set the following directions for its operational function of organizational communications:

1. To increase awareness of the Foundation and McDowell research;
2. To enhance relationships with educational and community partners; and
3. To increase the status of teacher research.

DISPLAYS AND PRESENTATIONS

Staffed, interactive displays about the McDowell Foundation were provided at the wide array of teachers' conventions and educational workshops, meetings and conferences listed below:

Teachers' Conventions

Prairie Spirit, Regina, South Central and the South East

Special Subject Council Conferences

Saskatchewan Middle Years Association

Organizational Conventions

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Annual Meeting of Council, Saskatchewan Association of School Councils Annual Convention, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Annual Meeting

Educational Conferences

Rural Education Congress

Opportunities were found for a representative of the McDowell Foundation to speak about its work on the following occasions: Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Presidents' Day, Special Subject Council Day, the Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Convention, a meeting of the Chinook Teachers' Association Executive, a meeting of the Special Subject Council Coordinating Committee and the research presentation day for College of Education students at the University of Saskatchewan.

4. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The McDowell Foundation's Strategic Plan for 2005-06 set the following directions for its operational functions of governance and administration:

1. To build an endowment fund through the investment of donated money;
2. To put in place adequate staffing, facilities, equipment and supplies to support the operations of the Foundation; and
3. To develop, maintain and improve effective governance and administrative processes.

INVESTMENTS

The investments of the McDowell Foundation continue to be managed by Greystone Managed Investments and overseen by the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. As indicated in the 2005-06 audited financial statements for the Foundation, the McDowell Foundation fund is nearing the two million dollar mark.

STAFFING, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

An unexpected development took place when the Foundation's offices in the STF building in Saskatoon were flooded due to a broken radiator pipe. A quick response by office staff prevented much damage to files and equipment, but working conditions were challenging for a few weeks during the clean-up.

Earle Robertson ended his contract as Foundation Consultant at the end of December, and his work was taken up on a temporary basis by Susan Bates, a former STF Executive Assistant who is currently the provincial coordinator for Showcase 2008. As part of her orientation to her new role, Susan joined and attended meetings of the Professional Fund Raisers Association and also attended a two and a half day workshop sponsored by Leave a Legacy, North Saskatchewan Chapter and the Canadian Association of Gift Planners. The topics covered by the workshop were: Planned Giving – "What Goes into Making It Happen" and Gifting 101 – "Building Your Business."



The Foundation said good-bye at the end of December to Earle Robertson in his capacity as a consultant for outreach, public relations and fundraising. This graphic of Earle hard at work was developed for his farewell.

Research Coordinator Verna Gallén attended the 2006 American Educational Research Association Conference in San Francisco on “Research in the Public Interest.” Valuable sessions included networking and sharing opportunities among educational foundations, discussions of how to use research to influence policymakers and the public, and ideas for communicating research effectively to non-academic audiences. It was noted that all foundations, regardless of size, face the same three key challenges in funding educational research: the selection of projects that will have an impact in improving education, the sustainability of educational improvements once project funding is not available and the need to ensure that research projects have an impact on the directions set for public education.

After an exploration of possible alternatives, it was decided to go ahead with the development of new computer software for the Foundation to replace its outdated and unreliable Prospect-Donor System. ES Technologies Inc. has been contracted to develop the software in consultation with a steering committee of STF

and McDowell Foundation staff. The cost of the new system, which is to be in place by the end of 2006, will be covered initially by the STF and paid off by the Foundation over the next five years.

PLANNING AND EVALUATION

In its 15th year the McDowell Foundation took the time to discuss in depth the need to initiate an organizational review. It was acknowledged that changes in the educational environment, as well as a growing body of experience in funding and promoting teacher research, may warrant changes in the way the organization is structured and operates. The Board of Directors is considering feasible and appropriate ways of gathering information and perspectives that will assist in the renewal of the Foundation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Verna Gallén
Coordinator of Research and Governance



Madison, Jori and Marissa display feathers, a bird's nest and other natural objects collected during the McDowell project to foster stewardship of the Saskatoon Grasslands.



Deloitte & Touche LLP
122 1st Ave. S.
Suite 400, PCS Tower
Saskatoon SK S7K 7E5
Canada

Tel: (306) 343-4400
Fax: (306) 343-4480
www.deloitte.ca

AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE DR. STIRLING McDOWELL FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH INTO TEACHING INC.

We have audited the statement of financial position of Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research Into Teaching Inc. (the "Foundation") as at June 30, 2006 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and of cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Foundation derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Foundation and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations revenue, net revenue, assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as at June 30, 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Chartered Accountants

August 30, 2006

Member of
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT JUNE 30, 2006

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 72,248	\$ 80,112
Accounts receivable	1,686	1,823
Investment funds (Note 3)	1,884,875	1,803,719
	<u>1,958,809</u>	<u>1,885,654</u>
LIABILITIES		
Due to Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (Note 7)	\$ 428	\$ 249
Accounts Payable	4	978
	<u>432</u>	<u>1,227</u>
NET ASSETS (Note 4)	<u>1,958,377</u>	<u>1,884,427</u>
	<u>\$ 1,958,809</u>	<u>\$ 1,885,654</u>

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
REVENUE		
Donations (Note 4)	\$ 57,062	\$ 80,643
Investment income	188,156	134,466
	<u>245,218</u>	<u>215,109</u>
EXPENSES		
Fundraising campaign	21,559	29,831
Other	10,688	14,592
Research grants	82,106	88,093
	<u>114,353</u>	<u>132,516</u>
	130,865	82,593
CURRENT PERIOD CHANGE IN MARKET VALUE OF INVESTMENT FUNDS	<u>(56,915)</u>	<u>137,074</u>
NET REVENUE	73,950	219,667
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,884,427	1,664,760
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 1,958,377</u>	<u>\$ 1,884,427</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net revenue	\$ 73,950	\$ 219,667
Non-cash item		
Current period change in market value of investment funds	<u>56,915</u>	<u>(137,074)</u>
	<u>130,865</u>	<u>82,593</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	137	(139)
Due to Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation	179	(123)
Accounts payable	<u>(974)</u>	<u>974</u>
	<u>130,207</u>	<u>83,305</u>
CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Investment funds	<u>(138,071)</u>	<u>(59,406)</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(7,864)	23,899
CASH POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>80,112</u>	<u>56,213</u>
CASH POSITION, END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 72,248</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 80,112</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

1. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching Inc. (the "Foundation") is incorporated under the Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan and is registered as a charity with Canada Revenue Agency.

The Foundation is established to support research and dissemination to the public of information focusing on instruction (both teaching and learning) in the context of the public elementary and secondary education system.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Foundation have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and reflect the following policies:

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Donations are recorded in the year they are received.

INVESTMENT FUNDS

Investment funds are stated at market value.

3. INVESTMENT FUNDS

Pooled Investment Funds	2006	2005
Fixed income	\$ 990,847	\$ 989,449
Canadian equities	783,421	736,808
Short-term	110,592	77,447
	<u>1,884,860</u>	<u>1,803,704</u>
Other	15	15
	<u>\$ 1,884,875</u>	<u>\$ 1,803,719</u>

4. RESTRICTED DONATIONS

In some instances the donor has specified the gift to the Foundation be held for ten years. The aggregate amount of donations received under these directions will be available for use in general operations as follows:

June 30, 2007	55,800
June 30, 2008	59,400
June 30, 2009	59,400
June 30, 2010	49,700
June 30, 2011	57,700
June 30, 2012	66,800
June 30, 2013	49,500
June 30, 2014	61,400
June 30, 2015	20,900
June 30, 2016	22,500
	<u>\$ 503,100</u>

5. GRANT COMMITMENTS

The aggregate maximum grant payments under the terms of the research awards are as follows:

2007	\$ 43,989
2008	4,383
2009	1,260

In some instances the payments to the grant recipients will be less than the amounts stated in the research awards, and as a result the above amounts may decrease.

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying values of the Foundation's cash, accounts receivable, due to Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, and accounts payable approximate fair values because of their short-term maturities. Investment funds are carried at market value.

INTEREST RATE RISK

Interest rate risk refers to the adverse consequences of interest rate changes on the Foundation's cash flows, net assets and income. This risk arises from differences in the timing and amount of cash flows related to the Foundation's assets and liabilities.

To manage the interest rate risk, the Executive has adopted an approach whereby investments are strategically distributed, on a long-term basis, among several classes of assets to reduce exposure to investment volatility.

CREDIT RISK

Credit risk is the risk that the interest and/or principal, of a fixed income investment, will be defaulted upon and a loss incurred.

The Foundation limits credit risk by dealing with investees that are considered to be of high quality.

Credit risk concentration exists where a significant portion of the portfolio is invested in securities which have similar characteristics or obey similar variations relating to economic or political conditions.

This risk is managed by strategically diversifying investments, on a long-term basis, among several classes of assets.

7. RELATED PARTY INFORMATION

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation is the sole member of the Foundation and elects individuals to serve as Directors of the Foundation. The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation also provides administrative support to the Foundation. During the year, the Foundation incurred administration costs of \$12,151 (2005 - \$12,022) from the Federation.

At the end of the year, the amount due to Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation is \$428 (2005 - \$249).

