

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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McDowell Foundation Announces Latest Research Project Recipients

In terms of funds being allocated, a partnership project between the Saskatoon Public School Board and Prairie Spirit School Division was the single largest benefactor in the naming of this year's successful applicants for the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching.

The project, which is looking at the relationship between the assessment program and children's and teachers' knowledge and identity in mathematics, was awarded \$14,760 for the nine individuals involved in this collaborative action research initiative.

In total, the Project Review Committee awarded approximately \$68,000 in research grants for nine new projects for 2007-2008—that compares to \$86,500 being distributed among 12 projects a year ago.

The list is headed by Saskatoon educators, who are either solely, or partly, involved in five of the selected projects. The remainder is divided among Prairie Spirit, Prince Albert, Regina and Humboldt with a wide variety of topics to be studied.

This latest round of projects means the McDowell Foundation is now edging ever closer to the magic one million dollar mark in terms of projects funded during its 16-year existence. In all likelihood that barrier will be eclipsed next year.

Following is a complete list of the successful applicants:

1) *The Role of the Laptop on Teaching in a High School Setting*, Rob Kraft, Saskatoon. Grant: \$2,680.

2) *The Relationship between the Assessment Process and Children's and Teachers' Knowledge and Identity in Mathematics*, Karen Campbell, Cindy Clarke, Cory Cox, Florence Glanfield, Shaun Murphy, Kristi Nelson, Trish Reeve and Karen Storey, Saskatoon Public and Prairie Spirit School Divisions.

Grant: \$14,760.

3) *The Implementation of Eight Neurodevelopmental Constructs in Saskatchewan Schools: The Uncovering of Strength-Based Learning and Affinities to Enhance Learning and Inform Practice*, Shelley Hosaluk, Saskatoon. Grant: \$8,420.

4) *Opportunities to Learn: Engaging Students in Conversations about Literacy*, Angela Ward, Margaret Epp, Susan Bayne, Elaine Bella, Kim Beaulieu, Debbie Bidulka, Joan Falk, Don George, Cindy Krueger, Edla Landry; Terry Johanson, Deanna Koroluk, David Little, Andrea Marshall, Mike Pavloff, Cary Pepper-Martens and Jonathon Pedersen, Prairie Spirit School Division. Grant: \$5,350.

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5) *Transitioning At-Risk Students to High School*, Melissa Smith, Karla Gardiner and Suzanne Zwarych, Humboldt. Grant: \$8,631.

6) *Councils and Dialogue Circles: Seeking Wisdom for Transformation*, Louise Bitz, Saskatoon. Grant: \$5,290.

7) *Moving for a Change*, Tammy Girolami, Rick Bowes, Jesse Reis, Darla Lee Walde and Louise Humbert, Saskatoon. Grant: \$5,416.

8) *Facilitating Inclusion at Monseigneur de Laval: Towards a Pedagogy of Cultural Reciprocity*, Rosalie Lizée, Nathalie Gareau Gélinas, Laurie Carlson Berg and Hélène Grimard, Regina. Grant: \$8,336.

9) *Factors Affecting Student Participation in School Band Programs—Student Identified Factors Affecting Membership Retention*, Perry Acorn, Prince Albert. Grant: \$8,535.

The committee also provided a small grant to assist the further development of a proposal for the following project to be resubmitted in 2008:

1) *Youth Yoga Starting Off on the Right Foot—Engaging the Active and Under Focused Student*, Chantelle Kinakin, Martensville. Grant: \$500.

Awards were made by a Project Review Committee composed of teachers and educational researchers.