

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Verna Gallén, Research Coordinator

### **McDowell Foundation research projects demonstrate great variety**

During nearly two decades of existence the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching has never experienced such diversity in both geography and topics in announcing its nine successful applicants for research grants in 2008-09.

Foundation coordinator Verna Gallén expressed her pleasure at the breadth of this year's successful projects, labeling them a good crop including all levels and types of projects.

Gallén said the number of projects focusing on Aboriginal education was particularly encouraging for the project review committee as it awarded approximately \$82,500 in research grants. She noted that the sort of projects being undertaken indicate some very effective bridge-building going on via various partnerships that have been established. She added that the projects including elders in the research indicate a welcome trend in developing Aboriginal content for the classroom.

Funding is being provided for the following new projects:

- 1) *I Said, "Sit Still!" – Boys, Learning and the Elementary Classroom.* Mary Ann Closen, Brian Hargreaves, Ramona Stillar and Amanda Wasilewski. Battleford. Grant: \$7,792.
- 2) *Exploring Comprehension in Physics.* Greg Bardal, Rory Bergermann, Dean Broughton, Mark Corrigan, Kevin Cummings, Lana Elias, Terry Johanson, Paul Mactavish, Shannon McHanson, and Maxy Ojukwu. Prairie Spirit School Division. Grant: \$18,257.
- 3) *Toward Successful Teacher Induction through Communities of Practice.* Janine Baier, Chris Makahonuk, Michael Pesenti, Michelle Prytula and Nicole Syrota. Saskatoon. Grant: \$7,590.
- 4) *Weaving a Quilt: Adapting a Classroom Teacher's Teaching Practices for ESL Students.* Margaret Symon-Lungal. Saskatoon. Grant: \$3,250.
- 5) *Asokan (The Bridge): Teachers' Work with Elders.* Linda Goulet, Sarah Longman, Joanne Pelletier, Shauneen Pete and Calvin Racette. Regina. Grant: \$11,061.
- 6) *Youth Yoga: Starting Off on the Right Foot – Engaging the Active and Under Focused Student.* Chantelle Kinakin and Michelle Lockinger. Martensville. Grant: \$4,580.
- 7) *Walking in Two Worlds: The Role of Drama in Creating Cross-Cultural Understanding and Student Engagement in High Schools.* Melissa Marley and Carol Fulton. Fort Qu'Appelle. Grant: \$6,000.
- 8) *Elders and Teachers are Cree-ative Collaborators!* Lily McKay-Carriere. Cumberland House. Grant: \$7,000.
- 9) *Involving Community Members to Develop Culturally Relevant Word List for First Nations and Métis Students.* Minnie McKenzie, Leda Corrigan and Otto Fietz. La Ronge. Grant: \$17,000.