



UPDATE

February 1999

McBeath Honoured



Pioneering educator and researcher Art McBeath is the first person presented with what is to become an annual McDowell Foundation Award, intended to celebrate and publicize a variety of outstanding contributions to the field of teacher-centred educational research.

McBeath was called an eagle in his field for the inspiration he offered and instilled in others by Dr. Michael Tymchak, Dean of Education at the University of Regina.

“His was not the sort of research you will find in an ivory tower, and it was never a matter of him going away to hide somewhere to be by

himself,” Tymchak said. Dr. Stirling McDowell, a former colleague of McBeath, said the educator and researcher could only be described as a human dynamo, who was never prepared to accept things as they were, but rather was constantly challenging and presenting new ideas.

McBeath began his career as an educator in 1949 as a teacher on a remote Indian reserve in northern Manitoba. In the following years he expanded his experience by serving as vice-principal and principal in Quill Lake and as school superintendent in the Blaine Lake School Unit.

He became an Executive Assistant with the Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation in 1962, working primarily in the area of professional development. Nine years later, he became a Professor of Education and coordinator of professional development. McBeath holds an honorary life membership in the STF and field experiences at the University of Regina.

The award, selected by the McDowell Foundation Board of Directors, is to be given to individuals who have made contributions as a builder, a researcher or a supporter. Due to failing health, McBeath was not able to attend the function, but his wife Beatrice accepted the award on his behalf.

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\$51,915 awarded to six new education projects

Delving into the complex problems associated with trying to teach students at Dene schools utilizing the mainstream system will be the focus of a four-person research team based in the northern Saskatchewan Dene community of Black Lake. The four teachers will be provided with a \$9,090 grant from the McDowell Foundation.

The Foundation provided \$51,915 for six new education projects for educators throughout the province in 1998-99. Once again, the length and breadth of the province is well represented, ranging from Black Lake and Birch Hills as smaller centres in the northern half of the province, to the urban centres of Saskatoon, Regina and Moose Jaw.

These awards mark the McDowell Foundation's fifth year of grants for research into practical improvement in classroom instruction. Since its inception, 45 projects in all areas of Saskatchewan have been funded for a total of more than \$250,000.

The Foundation's focus is on collaborative "action-research" which often teams classroom teachers with education professors and others in an effort to identify what teaching strategies work most effectively.

That's precisely what the group at Black Lake is trying to do, because as Sheena Koops said, there has traditionally been a problem for teachers coming from the southern areas of the province trying to teach the Dene students by utilizing examples they are often unfamiliar with.

"Often they use images that don't come quickly to these students and so they don't understand, they are usually gone. I know for me, this is my third year, and I'm just starting to teach in a different style that the kids can relate better to."

Koops said she's hopeful the research will ultimately provide a more concrete example of learning strategies which new teachers can

then adapt. "When you have examples it can be a great help in visual learning, and I think it will also help validate the education of the Dene people themselves. It's not like they didn't have education until the last few years when we have been coming. Their education has been going on a long time, and it's been a very hands-on approach.

The research team will develop recommendations which will utilize the traditional methods, content and values of the Dene teaching methods, curriculum content, and educational values. Other members of the team are Ann Alphonse, Vicky Alphonse, and Joyce Mercredi.

Projects that received grants for 1998-99 are:

- \$10,268 for study of the Adaptive Dimension by Cathy Mills of Birch Hills School.
- \$10,905 for a study by Loretta Tetreault, James Bresciani and staff at Sacred Heart Community School in Regina, focusing primarily on children in poverty, and more specifically Aboriginal children and youth.
- \$11,940 for a study entitled Building Bridges: Alternate Schooling for At-Risk Students, which will be undertaken by the Moose Jaw Catholic School

Division, with research to be done by superintendent Dr. Helen Horsman and Catherine Hamblin.

- \$5,612 for staff of Confederation Park Community School in Saskatoon to conduct a study to explore how a collaborative network of teacher-researchers negotiate literary practices in one urban intercultural school. The teachers will be aided by U of S professors Linda Wason-Ellam and Angela Ward.
- \$4,100 for Gail Neurauter Sajtos and Mary Anne Izatt Gambell of Westmount Community School in Swift Current to explore how an individualized computer-assisted language experience in remedial reading can assist inner-city middle years students who are at a high risk for academic failure.

This year there were 11 applications for funding requesting a total of nearly \$80,000. The awards were made by a Project Review Committee, consisting of teachers and researchers.

One of the Foundation's biggest boosters was former Education Minister Pat Atkinson, who had said "there is academic research, and there is grass roots research - it is important we have both."



Edwin Worm (left) and Harold Schultz, Coordinator for the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching share their views during the autumn Learning from Practice two-day seminar held in Saskatoon.

Coordinator's Message

One of the key messages that I want to share with you is that the McDowell Foundation is producing results. I am impressed with the work of the McDowell researchers and it was a delight to share their enthusiasm at the fourth annual Learning from Practice Conference. The research projects cover a broad range of educational issues that are having a positive impact on teaching and learning for today's students.

Fund-raising continues to take place in a very competitive environment so we are pleased that the McDowell Foundation researchers are gaining public recognition. We are still in pursuit of achieving our short term goal of \$1.5 million and as the information regarding our financial picture illustrates, we have some way to go before the Foundation can become self-sustaining. In my contact with other Foundations, I am advised that gifts of Planned Giving (i.e. wills, estates, insurance, etc.) form a significant portion of fund-raising. Work has begun to communicate this option to potential donors.

Best wishes to all of you and thanks for your continuing moral and financial support.

Sincerely,



Harold Schulz
Fund-raising Coordinator

Foundation has positive impact on researchers and their schools

I am finding this experience a valuable opportunity for professional and personal development. We are having fun too!

- **Sheena Koops, Black Lake**

The teachers at Alex Wright School are working towards implementing productive talk experiences for children in their primary classrooms. The McDowell research project has prompted our teachers to "talk" about this new challenge at our project reflection meetings, during breaks in the school day and sometimes at social gatherings. We continue to seek out new literature and resource personnel to help us understand the relevance of talk to our children's language development. Through current research and our own classroom experience we believe that children learn by talking and learn to talk by talking. Most importantly, we realize that as teachers we need to "walk the talk". Now, we face the bridge that connects theory to practice.

[We are] fortunate that through the McDowell research project we have gained support from our administration, our school board and the parents of our students. Sometimes we are "energized" and feel we have taken great steps towards achieving our goals, other times we feel we are not getting anywhere. But with a willingness to work together our teachers believe we can make a difference in the lives of our children in a world so dependant on communication.

- **Patricia Byers, Nipawin**

[The] chance to work again with high school teachers was invaluable to me. I often worry that I am forgetting how challenging teaching high school can be and how many things there are to deal with. This project gave me an opportunity to return to a world I had left behind, but a world that I must understand if I am to continue to grow as a teacher educator.

- **Louise Humbert, Saskatoon**

We are so proud!

- **Majella Gareau, St. Louis**

The Financial Picture

Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching Inc. BALANCE SHEET as at June 30, 1998

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 9,293	\$ 40,759
Interest receivable	6	-
Accounts receivable	1,618	1,576
Due from Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation	6,508	-
Pooled investment funds	<u>1,128,196</u>	<u>965,994</u>
	<u>\$1,145,621</u>	<u>\$1,008,329</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 253	\$ 5
SURPLUS		
	<u>1,145,368</u>	<u>1,008,324</u>
	<u>\$1,145,621</u>	<u>\$1,008,329</u>
APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD		

Pledges and Donations by Donor Group to June 30, 1998

Donor Group	One-Time Gifts	Pledges	Total Gifts & Pledges	No. of Pledges
Corporations/Foundations	\$ 51,220.00	\$340,000.00	\$391,220.00	26
Educational Organizations	\$ 59,589.54	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 61,089.34	36
Small Businesses/Organizations	\$ 310.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 310.00	5
Educational Partners	\$ 79,830.02	\$168,375.41	\$248,205.43	152
Superannuates	\$104,511.93	\$ 79,879.00	\$184,390.93	719
Teachers	\$ 24,099.41	\$ 69,336.00	\$ 93,435.41	591
No Information	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,092.00	36
TOTAL	\$321,640.90	\$659,102.41	\$980,743.31	1,565

Donor Recognition – 1998

- Adam, Shirley
 Adams, M. Irene
 Adrian, Lietta J
 Agema, Deborah Lee
 Allbright, Dorothy R
 Anderson, Chandra L
 Anderson, Iva
 Andreas, Alice D
 Archibald, Kim
 Arcola S.D.T.A.
 Armstrong, Shannon R
 Arsenaault, Rose
 Avery, Wayne
 Baby, Sharon Elizabeth
 Bacon, Jean Ellen
 Baldo, Elisabeth Helene
 Bandet-Prebushewski, Marie-Ange L
 Barker, Wendy Judith Anne
 Barrett, Susan E
 Basingthwaite, Carmen C
 Bates, Susan
 Beaver, M. Ellen
 Bell, Thomas
 Bender, Sylvia Marie Ann
 Benson, Judith Ann
 Bertson, Ronald N
 Best, Debra Gaye
 Bezanson, Maureen F
 Blake, Hazel
 Bouvier, Rita
 Bowers, Kelly W
 Brander, Anne Frances
 Brent, John A
 Brooks, Susan A
 Broste, Suzanne M
 Brown, Albert Arthur
 Brown, Peter E
 Browne, Anne Marie
 Bruce, Joy
 Bryski, Alma J
 Bunnell, Phoebe M
 Caldwell, Margaret M.
 Campbell, Barbara Jane
 Campbell, Karen D
 Capes, Trudy Louise
 Carle, Lynn Irene
 Catterson, Jane H.
 Chisholm, Dorothy
 Ciona, Gail Jeanette
 Clements, Ada
 Coffey, Ralph D.
 Cole, Myrtle
 Colleaux, Marc L
 Compton, Sharon Marie
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 Cook, Lesley M L
 Cross, David C
 Crozier-Smith, Derwyn
 Dahlem, Harry
 Daniels, Brenda M
 Davidson, Leonard E
 Degelman, Monique Maria
 Delorme, Annabeth
 Devitt, Janet E
- Deyell, Jean E
 Dice, Tom
 Dickin, Herb
 Dunlap, Demi
 Dyck, Wayne Francis
 Dyer, John A.
 Eamer, Arlene
 Edworthy, Betty
 Edworthy, Reginald C
 Elliott, Joan
 English, Beryl Esther
 Epp, Margaret Helen
 Fahlman, Irene S
 Ferguson, David B
 Ferguson, Gary Allen
 Ferguson, Kathleen M.
 Fletcher, Mariam
 Foley, Laura J
 Forbes, David G
 Fowler, Phyllis J J
 Francis, Gillian R
 Freed, Elizabeth Ann
 Frey, Richard W
 Funk, Jack
 Gabert, Ingrid D
 Gallays, Marcel L
 Gallén, Verna
 Gauley and Co.
 Gauthier, Alain Leo
 Gauthier, Liliane S
 Georget, George J
 Gilmour, Douglas Lloyd
 Ginther, Nora A.
 Glauser, Stacey
 Gordon, Bert (Albert L)
 Government of Saskatchewan
 Graham, Florence M
 Graves, Linda M
 Grevna, Brenda
 Grimsen, Marie E
 Haines, Charlotte F
 Hall, Wendy Roberta Ann
 Halyk, Velmarie Chaney
 Hansen, Evelyn
 Hansen, Max Arthur
 Haughian, Tim M P
 Haukeness, Constance R
 Hawrylak, Annie
 Heffron, Kathleen E
 Herron, Frederick William
 Hesketh-Boles, Iris
 Hjertaas, Elinor E
 Hoium, Donald W
 Hudson, Jayne L
 Hughton, Basil W
 Humenick, Diana Lynn
 Iversen, Lorraine
 James, Lynn Dawn
 Jamison, Patricia Maureen
 Jayson, Belinda M
 Jeffrey, Noreen A
 Jeske, James B (Jim)
 Jeske, Valerie E
 Johnson, Arnold Sirvoy
- Kennett, Kim
 Kent, Bernadette Edwina
 Kevill, Elizabeth Ellen
 Kimery, Madge Noreen
 Kindersley Branch STF
 Klassen, Renata E
 Krause, Carl A
 Langstaff, Albert
 Lloyd, Doreen A V
 Lockhart, Isabelle M
 Loeffler, Shelly
 Loewen, Irene S
 Loewen, Kathleen Dawn
 Loewen, Kenneth D
 Lohela, Terri N
 Longstaff, James Alexander
 Louko, Margaret R
 Loy, Gary D
 MacDougall, Barry Donald
 MacLean, Effie M.
 Macleod, Jane Catherine
 Manley, Terence D
 May-Melin, Ethel Gail
 McCormick, Patricia A
 McDowell, Donna K
 McDowell, Stirling C.
 McGinnis, Kimberly Ann
 McLean-Woodward, Lynda
 McNab, Sharon Irene
 Meehan, L Joseph
 Meyers, Gilbert B
 Mitchell, Robin Alexander
 Moen, Carol A
 Molina, Luisa Esther
 Moose Jaw Branch STF
 Mugford, Kevin Charles
 Nainaar, Sundrasen S (Sundras)
 Newlove, Kim Elaine
 Newton, Earle
 Nicholson, Michelle Marie
 Ogilvy, Linda
 Olson, Stephanie
 Panko, Anna Marlene
 Partridge, John Albert
 Penrose, Kathryn H
 Perry, Alice
 Petrie, Carol Ann M
 Popick, Peter P.
 Porteous, Douglas H
 Pott, Blanche E.
 Priestley, Rita M
 Prowse, Patricia
 Quayle, Kathleen Audrey
 R.P.S.T.A.
 Randall, Catherine J
 Rawlake, Gordon Lester
 Read, Joan
 Reimche, Eileen A
- Reineke, Mark
 Ritter, Doris K
 Robinson, Beryl D
 Romankewicz, Loretta
 Rongve, Donald G
 Ronning, Pearl E
 Ruo, Leslie Ling-Chin
 Rushbrooke, Ron
 Rydzik, Audrey Ann
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 Saskatoon Teachers' Assoc.
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 Scharf, Murray P.
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 Schultz, Liane Kendra
 Scott, Edith M.
 Scott, G Patricia
 Scott, Jana L
 Shepherd, Lauree E
 Shiplett, Arlene Dawn
 Sikorski, Chrisa D
 Simon, Joann Elizabeth
 Sloman, Lorraine R
 Smith, Joan G
- Sorestad, Sonia D
 Speers, Phyllis A.
 Stephanson, Lorraine M
 Stone, Sara J
 Sukovieff, Helen M
 Sullivan, Marilyn
 Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter
 Swab, William
 Swityk, Michael J
 Sykes, Mary R.
 Tamblyn, Gordon S
 Teachers College Reunion 57-58
 Teachers Credit Union
 Tenaski, Connie M
 Tenold-Phillips, Brenda L
 Tracey, Ann
 Tweddell, Linda Gail
 Tysowski, Lynda Jean
 U of R Employees' Charitable F
 Ulrich, Maureen Leslie
- Unverricht, Brian L
 Ursuline Sisters of Bruno
 Vereshagin, Edith E.
 Vinish, Lyle
 Voitka-Seager, Susan L
 Wakeman, Lois Carol
 Wall, Shelley
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 Welwood, Muriel
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 Whitby, Kathryn E
 Whittles, Avon J
 Wickenberg, Jill
 Widdifield-Konkin, Leslie
 Wihak, Reginald Ernest
 Wilke, Anne-Marie
 Willard, Douglas E
 Wilson, Phyllis A
 Wooff, Brian J
 Yeomans, Elaine J
 Yorkton Teachers Association
 Zuk, Ruth E
 van der Wal, K Ann



Harold Schultz, Coordinator of the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching, was on hand to accept these two cheques from members of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. Doreen Lloyd (left), the STS representative to the Board of Directors of the McDowell Foundation, presented a cheque of \$5,000 while Irene Adams, president of the STS, presented a \$500 cheque on behalf of the Maple Creek-Medicine Hat chapter of the organization.

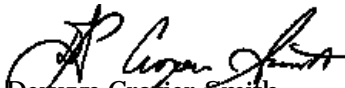
President's Message

It is very gratifying to see the concrete impact which the Foundation is having on so many fronts. The projects funded to date have already left their legacy through increased knowledge about teaching and learning and this has been accomplished through classroom teachers reflecting and acting on their own experiences. They have been supported in this by university faculty, school divisions and administrators and this collaborative approach to the research activities has been a major source of strength. As I attended the Foundation's Learning from Practice Exchange I was struck by the enthusiasm and outright excitement of those who were participating in research projects. This kindling of excitement as professional educators work together and learn from each other is in itself a valuable outcome of the Foundation's work.

Through its fundraising efforts, the Foundation has generated an

interest in, and commitment to, educational research in a wider community. In addition to the donations of teachers and retired teachers, we have attracted the generous support of partners in the corporate world and from the provincial government. This support of our work is critical and very much appreciated. The concrete results of the Foundation should only strengthen our efforts to provide a solid financial base from which we can sustain high quality educational research.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I thank our researchers, contributors and those who support the Foundation in other ways. You are playing an important part in improving the conditions for teaching and learning and our children are the ultimate beneficiaries.


Derwyn Crozier-Smith
President



Derwyn Crozier-Smith (left), General Secretary of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, presents the McDowell Foundation Award to Beatrice McBeath, who accepted on behalf of her husband, Art McBeath. The award is intended to celebrate and publicize a variety of outstanding contributions to the field of teacher-education research. McBeath was a former Executive Assistant with the STF and later a Professor of Education at the University of Regina.

Memorial and Honourary Gifts

The McDowell Foundation provides the opportunity to make memorial and honorary gifts in recognition of a colleague or friend. The Foundation office maintains a special book which records the names of people that are recognized.

Planned Giving?

Planned Giving is simply a deferred gift - a way of personally expressing now, how you wish your resources to be used later.

Your gift can be in the form of a bequest, a life insurance policy, real estate possessions, or any other financial instrument which suits your needs.

Most important, a planned gift is your commitment to enhance the teaching profession and provide for research into teaching and learning. It is your opportunity to benefit teachers and students for generations to come.

For more information please contact:

Harold Schultz, Coordinator
2317 Arlington Avenue
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8
(306) 373-1660

Organizational Structure

The McDowell Foundation is an independent organization with its own Board of Directors appointed by the provincial Executive of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF). 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 teacher-led Project Review Committee appointed by the Board of Directors. Working with these three governing bodies are two part-time coordinators.

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 - **Harold Schultz**, Public Relations and Fund-raising
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INTERNET