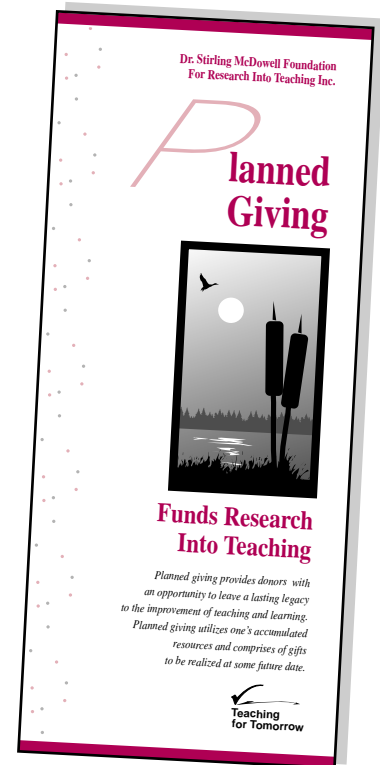
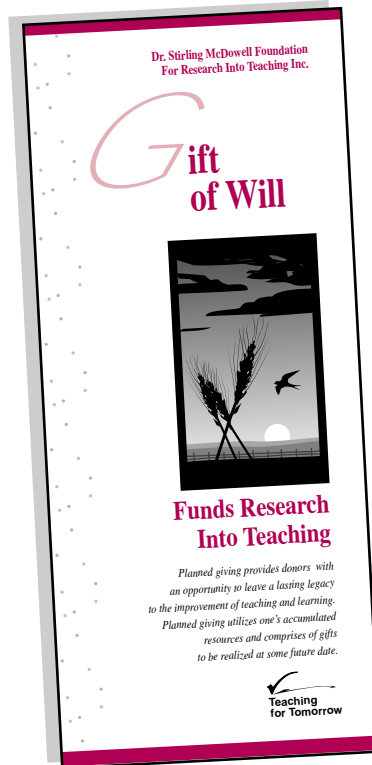




UPDATE

Volume 4, Number 1
July 1995

Planned Giving



Brochures that outline “planned giving” were presented to the Superannuated Teachers’ of Saskatchewan Annual Conference on May 25-26. Interested persons can request copies from the McDowell office.

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Administration and Organization

The committee and board structures that have been established provide important support and direction for the McDowell Foundation.

The Advisory Board met on February 4, 1995 and discussed a wide range of topics. They provided valuable input and ideas regarding: dissemination of research projects; approaches to Foundation fundraising; support for a fall conference on teacher research; and generating greater participation by teachers in active research. The board membership includes:

- Dr. David Bale
- Dale Botting
- Glynn Currie
- Dr. Robert Devrome
- Dr. Ralph Fram
- Don Hoium
- Marilyn Keerak
- Dr. Margaret Lipp
- Larry Lozinski
- Dr. Murray McLaughlin
- Dr. Brian Noonan
- Eileen Reimche
- Alice Risling
- Ruth Robillard
- Maxine Wiebe
- Meryl Wood

- Verna Gallén
- Susan Bates
- Harold Schultz

The Foundation Board of Directors will meet on September 16, 1995. They will be reviewing annual reports and approving the program of activities for next year. The Directors are:

- Fred Herron (Chairperson)
- Alice Andreas
- Rex Beaton
- Don Black
- Dwain Drew
- Jim Hudson
- Doreen Lloyd
- Earle Robertson
- Joan G. Smith
- Brenda Tenold-Phillips
- Kathryn Whitby
- Rita Priestley
- Verna Gallén

Certificates of Appreciation have been sent to all members of the Campaign Executive Committee. It had been established to provide support for the Teaching for Tomorrow Campaign which has been concluded. They have remained a committed group of advocates for the

Foundation and their membership includes:

- Tony Allen
- Bert Gordon
- Don Hoium
- Barry Hollick
- Jim Jeske
- Doreen Lloyd
- Eileen Reimche
- Joan Smith
- Boyd Taylor
- Del Wagner
- Doreen Wawryk
- Doug Willard
- Elaine Yaychuk
- Verna Gallén
- Fred Herron

One of the important aspects of administering the McDowell Foundation is its computer program base. It is a very unique computer program that contains an accurate and up to date data base regarding the fund and its donors. Under the watchful eye of Carmen Leonard, information is received, entered and reports are available when necessary. Additional administrative support is ably provided by Joan Herron and Shirley Court. □

Special Events

A number of special events have been held in connection with the McDowell Foundation and more are planned for the future. The Foundation hosted an evening in March that brought together some of the nearby McDowell researchers and interested teachers. It provided the researchers with a preliminary opportunity to share some of their project experiences and results. The research projects hold out real potential for producing practical results for today's classrooms. Some

of the researchers reported "this is the best professional development experience I have been involved in" and their enthusiasm is contagious.

Recently a noon meeting was held with a group of interested teachers in North Battleford. Issues regarding participation in teacher research were discussed. It was pointed out that there is a strong need for the nature of support that the McDowell Foundation is providing to teachers who wish to conduct research into teaching and learning

at the classroom level.

Excitement is mounting for a planned fall conference to be held in Saskatoon (see attachment). The conference will feature a teacher exchange on new developments in teaching and learning and will provide McDowell researchers with an opportunity to share the results of their research projects. It will also profile the work of the Foundation. The STF will sponsor the attendance of one teacher per local association to this special event. □

Public Relations and Fundraising

Support for the McDowell Foundation is growing. The numerous meetings with teacher groups, superannuates, Directors of Education, and education partners have been very positive. As people begin to see the real purposes of the Foundation come to fruition, that is the results of teacher research projects, they can better appreciate its potential for improving teaching and learning.

The fund itself is showing steady growth. It recently passed the \$800,000 level in gifts and pledges. The short-term goal of achieving \$1.5 million and the long-term goal of \$5 million is still valid in order to become a self-sustaining endowment fund. That level of funds is necessary in order that the research efforts can make a lasting impact on educational improvement. Fund-raising is underway at various levels and

it is certainly a time when competition for charitable dollars is very keen. In order to achieve success, the fundraising effort will require a long-term view. Fortunately, the Foundation is here for the long-term. The trend toward special donations is developing. Gifts in lieu of honoraria, gifts in honour, and gifts in memory are some examples. The STF has developed a policy whereby to recognize official school openings or similar events, the Federation will contribute a \$50 gift to the Foundation with the understanding that the Federation will provide the school with a certificate of appreciation.

A planned giving program was initiated by Harold Schultz, Coordinator of Public Relations/Fund-raising at the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Annual Meeting in May. Information bro-

chures are available that outline the opportunity to provide gifts of insurance or gifts through wills and estates. Planned giving is mutually beneficial to donors and the Foundation. It can provide tax relief and also contribute long-term support for teacher research.

A payroll deduction plan is available for all teachers through school division central offices. It provides a convenient option which is being taken by more teachers each month and has the potential to become a significant source of revenue for the fund.

The McDowell Foundation appreciates the support it has received from all of its donors. We respect the wishes of those donors who have requested anonymity, but wish to acknowledge the following list of contributors since January, 1994.

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(continued on page 4)

List of Donors (continued)

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New Research Projects

Seven new projects have been selected by the Foundation to receive a total of \$28,000 in 1995-96. The projects mark the second year of the Foundation's unique program to develop grassroots research into the improvement of teaching and learning.

This year, in memory of Prince Albert teacher Dorothy Christie, a major project involving middle-years students has been designated the Dorothy Christie Memorial Award. It grants \$7,000 for a two-year study into the effectiveness of the "learning strategies" approach to teaching the new provincial language arts and math curricula at the middle-years level — by Connie Tenaski, Kevin Luchyshyn, Greg Seipp, Peter Boyko, Randy Randhawa and Ron Muench, of Saskatoon.

The other six projects to receive funding for 1995-96 are:

- \$5,623 for a study on how to involve young women in working with their physical education teachers to analyze and plan a curriculum that will encourage them to be more physically active — by Patti Avery, Tammy Goddard and Louise Humbert, of Saskatoon.
- \$8,830 for a study on the impact on students of using an experiential, active-learning approach in high school — by Janice Hendry and Beth Warkentin, of Semans.
- \$3,000 for a study into how the province's gender equity policy can be put into practice in the classroom — by Lorraine Cathro, Gillian Francis and Joanne Bergma, of Saskatoon.
- \$2,700 for a study into the dramatic change that teachers must adapt to as they implement the province's new kindergarten-to-grade 6 math curriculum — by

Lois Duffee and William Duffee, of Melfort.

- \$481 for development and field-testing of a research-based handbook for teachers to use with young people with mental disabilities who have been sexually abused or are at high risk of being abused — by Bobbi Shinske, of Prince Albert.
- \$1,100 for a study on the fostering of more appreciation of the environment in middle years students through year-round visits to the Brightwater Science and Environmental Centre, rather than just one visit per year — by Lorraine Stephanson and Louise Jones, of Saskatoon.

The Project Review Committee, which selected the successful projects from 19 applications asking for more than \$116,000, has pointed to the need to keep encouraging teachers to identify educational areas of real interest to them and then develop research that helps them to explore and reflect on these areas.

Chairperson of the committee, Lynda McLean-Woodward, says, "The Foundation is working to make the prospect of doing research less intimidating to teachers and will be promoting contacts between researchers and teachers in the coming year."

As the first McDowell Foundation research projects are nearing completion, attention is being focussed on the best means of sharing the results with teachers across the province.

According to Research Coordinator Verna Gallén, the Foundation recognises the challenge of bridging the gap between research and practice and making the results of research projects accessible, usable, and oriented towards the needs of classroom teachers.

Among the many ideas that have surfaced are an annual research bulletin containing summarized versions of the projects, placement of the final project reports in the Stewart Resources Centre of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, presentations at teachers' conventions, and the exchange of teacher research being planned under Foundation sponsorship for November 24-25.

LEARNING FROM PRACTICE:

An Exchange of Teacher Knowledge and Research

Friday, November 24 and
Saturday, November 25, 1995

Travelodge Hotel
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

THE PARTICIPANTS

Classroom teachers, administrators and researchers

THE PURPOSE

To build an educational research community among practicing teachers, administrators and researchers.

THE FOCUS

Sharing and extension of teachers' current work, inquiries and research.

A venue to publicize current projects of the McDowell Foundation and stimulate further interest in the Foundation.

THE FORMAT

A three-tiered structure including:

TIER ONE: A keynote address on teacher research models and practices.

TIER TWO: Small group sessions that provide opportunity for McDowell Foundation recipients and other classroom teachers to share information about their own practice and classroom research.

TIER THREE: Practical opportunities for participants to expand understanding of proposal development, research protocols and action research.

For more information about registration or to indicate interest in presenting information about your own research and classroom practice, contact:

The Saskatchewan
Professional Development Unit
Box 1108, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3N3
Telephone: 1-800-667-7762 or 373-1660



The Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation was formed by the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation in 1991. It is a registered charity governed by a Board of Directors that oversees the direction of the organization. An advisory board with representatives from the educational and the business communities assists in the development of policies and procedures. For further information write to:

Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation
for Research into Teaching Inc.
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