

# Career Development Info

Issue 11 | May, 2012

Personal Orientation Project | Exploration of Vocational Training | Entrepreneurship | Work Oriented Training Path

**It's May! It's springtime**—a time for renewal. There is still time to bring new life to your classes and keep your students interested and on their toes. This edition of the newsletter introduces a new section of the MELS Career Development Web site, new resources (particularly on the POP Index Web site), a teacher's experience and news from the field.

## Podcasts | The New Section on the Career Development Web Site .....

The MELS Career Development site has a new section that might be of interest to students during their career explorations. The Podcasts section has been divided into 2 sections: Career Explorations and Other Topics. The Career Exploration section has podcast interviews with individuals who practice interesting or unusual careers. Perhaps students are interested in listening to a forensic engineer or a crown attorney! There might be career opportunities that your students have not even considered. Let your students know about this new exploration tool.

In the Other Topics sections, we are adding podcasts that touch on a variety of topics, such as a description of the Heading for Success Web site. You might be interested in listening to a description of how this Web site could be used by students in your classroom.

Visit the Career Development page, click on Podcasts and choose a podcast; then sit back and listen.

[http://learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career\\_dev/index.html](http://learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career_dev/index.html)

## Career Development and WOTP Surveys: Your opinions count!.....

If you're reading this newsletter, you're probably a CD or WOTP teacher. And if you are, we'd love to hear from you! Until May 22, 2012, there will be two surveys available (one each for CD and the WOTP) where you can describe your experiences and make recommendations about the kinds of resources and training opportunities that would best address your needs as a CD or WOTP teacher. The surveys are short, simple, and straightforward and are open to all CD and WOTP teachers in the Anglophone sector across the province, regardless of years of experience. We want to hear from everyone! The information gathered will help us identify and plan future activities, projects, and professional development opportunities. You will find links to the two surveys on the Career Development page of the LEARN Web site at:

[http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career\\_dev/index.html](http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career_dev/index.html)

Thanks for helping out!

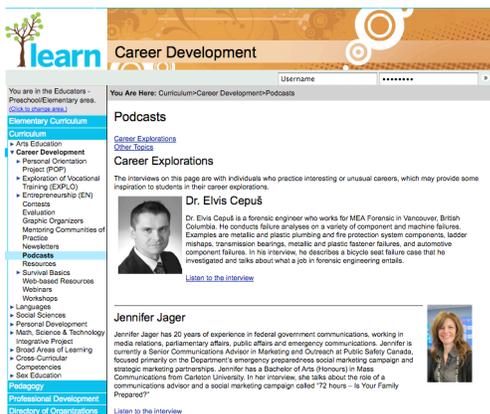
## Recent Additions to the POP Index.....

Springtime, time for new beginnings and time to revisit the POP Index! The new additions to the online catalogue are sure to engage your students and invigorate the career exploration process!

Visit some of the following Web sites that were added:

## My Pop Studio

<http://www.mypopstudio.com/>



Teenagers' lives are greatly impacted by technology and the media. Pop Studio lets them go behind the scenes and experience being a reality show producer, a pop star creator, a magazine editor or a cartoon commentator about digital life.



### Street to Studio

<http://www.brooklynmuseum.org/exhibitions/basquiat/street-to-studio/english/home.php>

For all the artists out there, discover Jean-Michel Basquiat. Possessing an exceptional creative talent, he was active as an artist in his teens and became world-renowned artist by the age of twenty-three.



Mazemaster

<http://www.mazemaster.on.ca/>

Young future entrepreneurs will appreciate learning about the different types of businesses and the pros and cons of each. Also, in the Success Spotlights section, young entrepreneurs give answers and help students understand what it is like to be self-employed.

### BioWorks U

<http://www.bioworksU.com/>

A lot of innovation and technology goes on at BioWorks University! Students can join a research team, meet professionals, visit work facilities, try equipment (such as a scanner and a treadmill), and play games to

discover the various jobs and career paths that are available in the biotechnology and health fields.



The POP Index now has over 400 Web sites that guide students towards trying out actual work tasks by using Experiential Tools. Virtually visit work sites or educational institutions or listen to and view workers in action by using the Virtual Visits and Key People tools.”

Frequent visits may result in heightened motivation!

### Career Development Mentorship: One Teacher's Journey..... By Tya Collins | POP Teacher, EMSB

The mentorship program was an extremely positive professional development experience. I went in having a very muddled idea as to what I was supposed to be teaching in my POP class, but I was able to get a very clear understanding in very short period of time. It was such a positive learning environment, one that I wish I could provide for my own students daily. Everyone in the program was so welcoming and helpful; there is always someone on call if you ever feel lost. All the mentors, even the ones you are not paired up with, are always eager to help. Everyone has his/her own style and you have the opportunity to select what works for you. I had the opportunity to visit two different POP classrooms in very different settings. Seeing the students in action was equally inspiring in both settings. Whenever I needed anything, someone always went out of his/her way to help. Many tools were put at my disposal. The program is so well organized I often found myself thinking, “If only it could be this simple for all the other subject areas.” This program was a huge benefit, and the one-on-one interaction is what I appreciated the most. I look forward to sharing my own experiences with those who come after me!

## EMSB-LBPSB Explo Activity..... By Marsha Gouett | Career Development Consultant, EMSB

In late March 2012, students enrolled in the Exploration of Vocational Training program in Québec's two largest English school boards participated in a very special event. In fact, it was the second year in a row that the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) and the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) offered a day of hands-on activities showcasing some of the programs offered in the respective boards' vocational training centres. The event was organized collaboratively with representatives from the Educational Services and Vocational Training departments of the two boards and administrators from the participating centres. The students were treated to a slate of fun and engaging activities created by vocational training teachers, and the entire event was a great example of the "E" for "Experiential" activity from the "ORIE" model found in the Explo curriculum.

Students from LBPSB who visited the EMSB's Rosemount Technology Centre were able to get a taste of the Furniture Finishing program by applying a faux stone finish to a block of wood that they were able to take home. Others left with a piece they created on a lathe as an introduction to the Machining Techniques program, a product they set up and printed in Digital Layout and Printing, or pipes they had cut and soldered themselves in the Welding program.

At Lester B. Pearson's vocational training centres, EMSB students participated in equally fun and interesting activities. At Pearson Electrotechnology Centre, they had the chance to write HTML code for an actual video game in the Computing Support program, cut and attach connectors to coaxial cable in Telecommunications Equipment, and design and decorate a living room layout in Interior Decorating and Display. Students at PACC Vocational Centre saw a chicken literally turned inside out and deboned without a single knife stroke in the Butchery lab, learned how to fold beautiful napkins in Food and Beverage Service, and even left with their own delicious homemade truffles from the Pastry program!

This type of event goes well beyond the traditional tour. Vocational training centres throughout the province

offer a wide variety of programs in a large number of vocational training sectors, and they are eager to welcome students interested in a future with the trades. If you are an Explo teacher, contact your board's Career Development consultant to find out what can be arranged for the students in your board. Your activity may be "E" for "Experiential," but your students are sure to give it an A+!

## Web Based Resources.....

Are you wishing for inspiration? Looking for new resources to motivate your students? Why not consult the Web Based Resources section of the MELS Career Development Web site. Whether you are teaching a Personal Orientation Project, Exploration of Vocational Training or an Entrepreneurship class, the Web Based Resources section provides you with classroom resources that support the implementation of the Career Development Programs.



The section includes links to Web sites that offer quizzes, magazines, mind-mapping tools, a digital catalogue of virtual tools, a virtual career library, a Web based electronic portfolio, ementoring, ethical guidelines for Business-Education partnerships, information on jobs, trades and self-employment, social entrepreneurship news and so much more.

Visit:

[http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career\\_dev/CD\\_website\\_resources.html](http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career_dev/CD_website_resources.html)

It's worth the trip!

**Previous issues available on-line**

[http://learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career\\_dev/](http://learnquebec.ca/en/content/curriculum/career_dev/)