

- N.W.T.
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Wednesday May 3, 2000

où sont les francophones?



video made simple

Youth delegates had their first introduction to simple digital video editing on the Digital Video (DV) iMacs donated by Apple. A few quick lessons was all it took to have them creating very impressive looking videos.

Using digital video cameras, students were able to roam the conference interviewing adult delegates and themselves, capturing the experience on the fly and coming back to the Youth Communication Centre to connect the camera to the computer through a firewire cable. With a click and a second click of the mouse, youth were able to select a series of video clips and import them into a video file on the computer. They then could edit, add sound and music too. The video captures both the process of youth involvement in the conference as well as youth perspectives on school to work transitions.

Vous avez sans doute remarqué que les meilleures pratiques et programmes de certaines provinces et certains territoires canadiens n'étaient pas présentés à la conférence «School To Work 2000» «De l'école au marché du travail 2000» et que le volet francophone était inexistant. Nous croyons que des événements de la sorte devraient rassembler des gens de toutes les provinces et de tous les territoires du pays, dans les deux langues officielles.

Nous devons prendre en considération que cette conférence est la première et que certaines provinces, pour différentes raisons, n'ont pas pu y participer. Nous croyons que même si les programmes du Québec ne sont pas représentés ici, il devrait quand même y avoir un volet francophone car des délégués de plusieurs provinces parlent français. Greg Hagen vient de l'Ontario et trouve dommage le fait qu'il n'y avait pas d'orateurs français.

Nous avons rencontré Maria De Cicco, conseillère en orientation au Centre Paul Gratton de Montréal. Madame De Cicco participe à la conférence pour des raisons professionnelles. Elle désire se tenir au courant des différents programmes de co-op qui s'offrent à travers le Canada.

Elle est aussi consciente que le Québec, comme d'autres provinces, est absent. Cependant, une fois de retour à Montréal, elle partagera de façon enthousiaste les résultats de cette conférence avec ses collègues. Elle les invitera à prendre part à l'initiative. Elle écrira un article pour le bulletin de L'ordre professionnel des conseillers et conseillères d'orientation du Québec ainsi qu'un article pour L'association canadienne de counselling.

Comme jeunes québécois, nous sommes déçus que les meilleures pratiques et programmes du Québec n'étaient pas présentés à cette conférence, par les délégués, et par les conférenciers. Cet absence veut dire qu'il y avait un manque d'un point de vue important. Nous étions aussi déçus que les programmes des francophones d'ailleurs au Canada n'étaient pas présentés non plus, mais nous comprenons pourquoi – il n'y avait pas de demandes de traduction.

Nous allons traduire et circuler, au Québec, une copie du rapport des recommandations des jeunes et nous encourageons les délégués des autres provinces et territoires à faire de même pour les programmes francophones dans leurs provinces et territoires respectifs.

La réussite pour l'avenir de nos jeunes Canadiens et Canadiennes demandera la collaboration et la participation des jeunes et des professionnels de toutes les provinces et territoires.

Nous croyons qu'à travers les difficultés, il est possible de faire des apprentissages ! Nous recommandons que les organisateurs des conférences nationales et internationales au Canada s'assurent que la voix de tous les Canadiens et Canadiennes soit entendue, dans les deux langues officielles.

Par Simon Laflèche et Steven Leconte
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working ...



Veronica works with a teammate on one of the colourful iBooks to revise their group's recommendations. The youth held their own discussions to arrive at their own solutions to school to work transitions and share ideas.



Leslie speaks with one of the Students Commission staff via one of the donated Bell Mobility cell phones. (She's probably being told to get back to work.)



Greg is working hard photocopying the daily youth newsletter on the Xerox photocopier. The newsletter was written by the youth each day and distributed the next morning.



Stacey and Kevin work diligently on their iBooks. They were reporting on some of the "adult" sessions they'd visited. The students brought back the information to their "iTeams" so they could formulate their own thoughts.





Wearing our Apple iMac t-shirts...

...playing



Modeling their new Bell caps, the students try out for the School to Work cheerleading team.

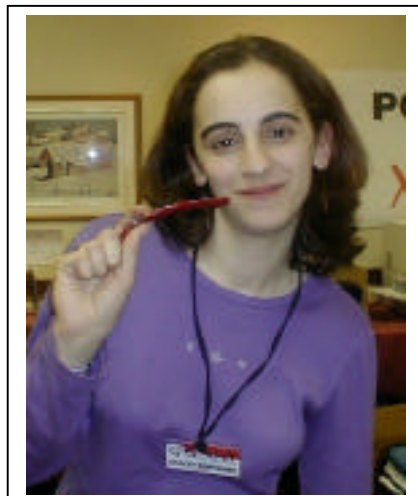
The students take on downtown Toronto and conquer the subway system.



Mmmmm...dinner



Testing the strength of the glass floor at the CN Tower.





Where are the francophones?

You may have noticed that exemplary practices from certain provinces and territories are not present at the School to Work Conference 2000 and that the French aspect is missing completely. We believe that such events should bring together people from all provinces and territories across the country, in Canada's two official languages.

We should take into account that this conference is a first, and that not all of the provinces were able to make it for different reasons. We believe that even though practices from Quebec are not represented at the conference, there still should have been a French aspect to the conference. Many French delegates from other provinces are attending this conference; one of them is Greg Hagen of the province of Ontario. He believes that a French component to the conference would have been nice.

We met Maria De Cicco, an orientation counsellor at The Paul Gratton Center in Montreal. Miss De Cicco is participating at the conference for professional purposes. She wants to develop her knowledge on the latest programs in co-op across Canada. She too is aware that Quebec and some other provinces are absent. Back in Montreal she plans to share enthusiastically the results of this conference with her colleagues. She will invite them to be part of the initiative. Furthermore, she will write an article describing and promoting the conference for the L'ordre professionnel des conseillers et conseilleres d'orientation du Quebec and an article for the Canadian Counselling Association.

As young people from Quebec, we are disappointed that programs and exemplary practices from Quebec were not presented at the conference. Their absence among the delegates, and also as session leaders, means that the conference is missing out on a very important point of view. We were also disappointed that francophone programs from other parts of Canada were not presented in French, although we understand why — when there were no requests for translation.

We are going to translate and circulate in Quebec a copy of the youth recommendations and report, and we encourage people from other provinces to do the same for the francophone programs in their provinces. We believe that the future success of Canadian youth lies in the capacity to collaborate between youth and professionals across all provinces and territories. We recommend that organizers of international and national events in Canada make sure that all Canadians are represented and heard, in both of our official languages.

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Be a Tiny Giant Partner

Tiny Giant is an on-line Canadian magazine made by youth, for youth as a sister program to The Students Commission. Tiny Giant will be available in print in schools, libraries and through subscriptions in Autumn 2000 and we're already on the Internet at www.tgmag.ca/magazine/. All of our writers are youth between the ages of 14 and 25, and we always need submissions. This is where our high school partnerships come in.

Where do you fit in?

- You (as a high school first or second language teacher, an art teacher, teacher-librarian, co-op teacher...) assign your students to write for Tiny Giant as a class assignment, part of a pre co-op placement training, a co-op project or a half-credit co-op placement.
- Then, students take Tiny Giant Magazine's online journalism training free!
- The students learn how to come up with story ideas, how to conduct interviews, do research, create a story angle and write clearly.
- After the students go through the writing, editing and revision process, their work will be published in our online and/or print magazine.

For more information, contact Sarah Hartley, sarah@tgmag.ca,
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(416) 597 8297 fax: 416 597 0661

Spotlight on Northwest Territories

By: Andrea Mulrooney & Rania Ywakim

We went to see youth delegates Tara Hurley and Anne MacKenzie present on the Bridges Program in the North West Territories. The presentation was very interesting. Using Powerpoint and a video, the presentation brought the Bridges Program to life for the audience. The teacher, as well as the girls, were very well spoken and answered the questions that we presented to them with much enthusiasm and knowledge. We found that some of the aspects of the program are similar to ours (Career Pathways Co-op Program) but it was very different in many ways. It was cool to learn about other programs. It was a wonderful presentation: interesting and informative.

Alberta's Tech Prep program well received

By: Bretan Baumgardt

This morning the Alberta team delivered an excellent overview of the Technology Preparation program, which is based in central Alberta. The team consists of seven members who presented the program in perspectives ranging from teachers, government, business, and from my own point of view as a student who went through the program.

Chef's table

May 2nd 2000:
Breakfast & Lunch and Collegium Dinner
By: Sean Vodden

The students at the Chef's Table have come to the conclusion that if a sausage is not cooked all the way through, it doesn't taste very good.

Lunch was just one of the most enjoyable meals we've had here because of the variety of foods such as:

Pasta Salad: Inside sources have informed me that this may have been some of the same penne from last night's diner, but the textures of the pasta were different from last night. Everyone who tried the pasta including myself thoroughly enjoyed the appetizer. "Like it a lot," Greg Hagen. "Better than breakfast," Bretan Baumgardt Red Deer Alberta.

Cheeses: The pepper noire cheese has a somewhat strong, but enjoyable smell. The cheese was a medium strong taste of the cream, etc. Even though the other students didn't enjoy this cheese, I truly enjoyed it. The other cheeses were great, accompanying the crackers, like brother and sister, but unlike real life, they like each other.

This afternoon cakes were "soulful and delightful," said Richard Roschuk, a resident dessert lover. The chocolate cherry cake was so tasty that everyone at the table requested that the hotel deliver a cake just to us, even though it was more cherry than chocolate, even though we asked for seconds.

The Collegium dinner was the dinner of all dinners. From start to finish it was an action packed meal. From the crudités and canapes that were delicacies all in themselves, even though the Chef didn't have the chance to sample all the dishes, the salmon with crème fresh and caviar was a melt in your mouth party that lasted all night long. Even though the students and delegates had a similar meal the night before, this was a dish that was somewhat more enjoyable than our previous night's meal. Not only was the chicken crunchy, it was moist and tender inside. The fall vegetables were succulent and tender from start to finish. The rolls and creamery butter accompanied the entire meal, as well as peanut butter and jam, or cheese whiz in some parts of the country.

"The dessert was really good, I couldn't wait for the next mouth-watering bite," as quoted by Leslie Dungog. "It was a sweet taste of the South Sea's, but without the sea sickness," says Richard Roschuk. Everyone sitting at the Chef's Table ate the Mango Mousse so fast I was afraid of losing a limb. "It smelt like my sweet perfume, but this dessert tastes a lot better than my perfume," Alicen Lymburner. "Le gateau était délicieux," proclaims Simon Lafèche, which means, "It was delicious!!" As you can tell everyone completely hated it, NOT!!!!

As a quick side note for all attending the School to Work Transition, the Red Delicious apples were red, delicious and extremely fresh and crunchy the entire duration of the conference.

Labour's reservations about co-op

By: Jeanine Martin

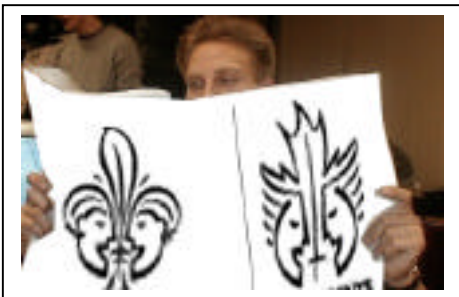
Tuesday's lunch keynote speaker, Kevin Hayes, senior economist and a member of the Canadian Labour Congress, presented interesting insight into what is going on and what needs to be changed in the present co-op situation. He commented that too many of the co-op placements are not beneficial to the students involved because employers relegate them to menial tasks and the students do not get a real feel for what that particular job entails.

He thinks that a contract should be made between the employers and the students taking these placements. This contract should include, according to Hayes, "an obligation to teach the student and mentor them."

These placements will allow the student to see first hand what the job is like. Also, each and every co-op should be re-evaluated through consulting the student involved. I agree with the recommendations of Mr. Hayes.

Waiting for the Bus
 Waiting, waiting, waiting.
 When will the bus come?
 Can't go to bed 'cause we might miss
 the bus.
 All packed, ready to go.
 Where we end up, does anybody
 know?
 Where have we been for the past few
 days?
 At the Colony Hotel is where we
 stayed.
 And what have we learned?
 How do you speak to a great big crowd
 Of 800 friends? Just speak loud.
 How do you share what you know?
 Just open your mouth and let the
 words flow.
 Random chaotic thoughts, waiting for
 the bus.

By: The Nunavet pizza bandits



We were meant to gather
 To gather as one
 To have our **voices heard**
 To get things done
 We **learn** from each other
 From the skills we've acquired
 But we never forgot to have **fun**
 The future is ours
 So take hold if you dare
We are ambitious individuals
 And our knowledge we shall share

Leslie Dungog

Deliverables...

The Youth Communication Team has created many ideas and results, and The Students Commission is committed to ensuring that these products have an impact and life beyond these first days of May, says Denise Campbell, program director for The Students Commission.

The newsletters will be available for download at www.tgmag.ca, as will the youth delegates' final recommendations and report. French versions will also be available at the same address. A discussion forum will provide opportunity for ongoing comment and conversation among interested supporters of the youth's ideas.

Copies of the report will also be provided to the network of Canada Career Information Partnership and Human Resources Development Canada.

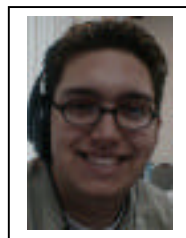
The youth delegates have exchanged e-mails and are exploring on-going electronic networking through the development of electronic conference and list serve formats.

A draft video report, and some individualized versions of it, have been produced by the youth delegates right at the conference, and these will be finalized and duplicated for circulation to the delegates. Some youth delegates have already lined up workshop and presentation opportunities, using their video productions. Information on how to order the video will also be available on the website in a month's time.

For more information, contact The Students Commission, 70 University Ave., Suite 1060, Toronto, ON, M5J 2M4 (416) 597 8297 fax: 416 597 0661, tgmag@tgmag.ca

Chef Sean at work

By: Leslie Dungog and Greg Hagen



Sean Vodden's (a.k.a "Chef") presentation was a complete success. His overall performance kept the crowd on their feet. Sean entered into the Bridges to Tourism Careers program at Lester B. Pearson Collegiate Institute. He developed his interpersonal skills, life skills, soft skills and how to work in large teams, as well as working individually on set tasks.

His bridges program allows him to receive four credits towards his high school diploma and one towards Humber College. He is a student chef at North 44 in Toronto. His experience has helped him in planning his future career. He works three days a week from Tuesday to Thursday, working anywhere from 8 to 18 hours; Mondays he is in school and Fridays at Humber College.

Sean's charm in explaining his experience proved to the audience that school to work programs are beneficial to anyone with the ambition to be successful.