

Newsletter

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Bulletin

CCSBE-CCPME Current Newsletter - **Winter 2004**

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2004 CCSBE-CCPME Lifetime Achievement Award Winners

By Annette St. Onge, President CCSBE

Three outstanding members of the organization were recently recognized and honored for their contribution to small and medium-size business and entrepreneurship, during the CCSBE-CCPME annual conference in Regina.

Louis-Jacques Filion has played a leadership role in entrepreneurship research, teaching, and SME/entrepreneurship organizations. He has written many books on SME/entrepreneurship, and too many articles to even mention. His books and papers have dealt with pedagogical issues, research methodologies, entrepreneurial vision, ethnic entrepreneurship, solo-entrepreneurs and SME management strategies. He is widely respected for his work and frequently cited in the works of others. He has made significant contributions to the advancement and support for entrepreneurship in Quebec, and in other parts of the world.

Louis-Jacques has been very involved in CCSBE-CCPME. For many years he served on the Board of Directors, taking on various VP roles and was President in 1991. He also served on the ICSB.

Gar Pynn, one of the founding fathers of CCSBE-CCPME, was a pioneer in Canada in the field of Entrepreneurship. In early years he was well recognized as one of a half-dozen experts in the field, in Canada. He was founder of the P.J. Gardner Institute at Memorial University in Newfoundland, founder of the Atlantic Entrepreneurial Institute, which later led to the establishment of the university enterprise centers in Atlantic Canada. CCSBE-CCPME also had the privilege of having Gar in the leadership role of president in past years.

Lois Stevenson - As soon as Lois recognized what a career was, she devoted it to Entrepreneurship. She is widely recognized throughout the world for her many contributions in this area. She took on the leadership role in CCSBE as president in 1995 and then went on to take on the leadership role in ICSB as president in 1997. In 2001, she received the highest recognition given by ICSB – Wilfred White Fellow. In both organizations she

was the first women president and only the second women to become a Wilfred White Fellow.

Throughout her career, she has authored books, produced videos, has published approximately 50 articles on women entrepreneurs, young entrepreneurs, the role of entrepreneurship in development and entrepreneurship policy. She has been a professor, researcher, entrepreneur and policymaker.

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A SPECIAL INVITATION to the members of CCSBE

At the next annual conference of Fondation del'Entrepreneurship, we will have two special guests:

Paul Reynolds, Director of the Research Institute on Global Entrepreneurship (Florida International University);
and

Paula Fitzsimmons, National Coordinator for the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM in Ireland).

A limited group of (50) decision makers, economic development agents and entrepreneurship researchers will have the opportunity to participate at the conference completely facilitated by these prestigious guests. It's not only an unparalleled occasion to discuss and exchange information with leaders in the sector of entrepreneurship, but also an opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with other key players in entrepreneurship.

Length: 3 hours

Cost: \$350.00

Date: Wednesday, February 16th, 2005 (in the afternoon)

Location: Hilton Bonaventure Hotel, Montreal

To reserve a seat, please contact **Nathaly Riverin**, Director of the Centre de Vigie sur la culture entrepreneuriale (CVCE) and Director of Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) for Canada.

Email: nriverin@entrepreneurship.gc.ca

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A LETTER FROM THE HOST OF THE 2005 CONFERENCE

By Benson Honig, CCSBE 2005 Conference Chair

As convener for the 2005 annual CCSBE/CCPME conference, I want to take a moment to offer you a warm invitation and welcome to Wilfrid Laurier and Waterloo Ontario, Canada's technology triangle.

Our annual conference will take place October 27,28,29, 2005, at the Waterloo Inn & Conference Centre (Telephone: (519) 884-0220 Toll-Free: 1-800-361-4708). The theme this year is "Fostering and Incubating Canadian Entrepreneurship: Best Practices. This is a very appropriate call, one that we hope will be of interest to our wide range of membership interests. We're all looking forward to an exciting conference, and welcome your active participation in all aspects of the planning and execution. The Executive Board has taken considerable time and effort to meet beforehand, laying the groundwork for what promises to be an exceptional professional experience for all our members. While we are still in the process of identifying

sponsors for our event, two have already been identified. The research centre NEXT (Centre for the Study of Nascent Entrepreneurship and the eXploitation of Technology) and the [Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship](#), both on the campus of Wilfrid Laurier, promise to provide us with some very exciting learning opportunities.

The board recognizes that considerable efforts continue to be undertaken to promote and support Canadian entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship at the local, regional, and national levels. Activities range from formal to non-formal education, with current best practices and tangible results in entrepreneurship education and development. During our annual conference, we will examine the provision of capital, marketing advice, logistical assistance, research parks, targeted technological development, and fostering and incubating Canadian entrepreneurs. We will address the myriad of intervention activities undertaken, with a focus on examining research that has identified best methods and practices, disseminating new innovations and programmatic elements, and discussing common problems and difficulties toward the identification of sustainable solutions.

I want to offer a special welcome to all contributors - academics, policy makers, business support professionals, economic development officers, and practitioners, as well as those concerned with issues relevant to ethnic, minority, and aboriginal groups. Appropriate tracks will be developed to accommodate interests that share a common theme.

Waterloo, located on the Western side of Toronto, is defined by an exceptional business base, diversity of industry, world-class educational institutions, history of technology innovations, and high quality of life. There are many attractions to keep you and your family busy. Just a few suggestions include St. Jacobs Farmers' Market & Flea Market and Factory Outlet Mall, Centre in the Square Live theatre and concerts, the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery, African Lion Safari, Area Golf Courses, Doon Heritage Crossroads Village, the Stratford Festival, Elora Cataract Trailway, Village of Elora, and Elora Gorge. As conference organizer, we'll be certain to provide interesting experiences for families and significant others while you attend this conference.

If you have any concerns, suggestions, proposals, ideas, contributions or would like to discuss the conference in any way, please feel free to drop me an email at bhonig@wlu.ca.

Have a productive year, and I am looking forward to seeing you all in Waterloo next Fall.

Benson Honig
2005 Conference Convener

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2004 CONFERENCE WIND-UP

By Robert Anderson, CCSBE 2004 Conference Chair

The 21st Annual Conference of the Canadian Council for Small Business & Entrepreneurship, CCSBE/CCPME, was held November 12 and 13 on the theme "Entrepreneurship and Economic Development: Innovation, Opportunity and Capacity". Over 120 registrants joined us to explore the relationship between entrepreneurship and economic development and the role that innovation, opportunity and capacity play in entrepreneurship.

The program consisted of 4 tracks with over forty papers and symposia. Thanks to all who submitted. Rolland LeBrasseur and Terence Zinger of Laurentian University received the best paper award for their submission "Management Capability and New Enterprise Survival".

There were two keynote speakers, Leo Paul Dana from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand and Kevin

Hindle from the Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship, Australia; as well as a distinguished guest to the Aboriginal track, Ella Henry from UNITEC, New Zealand. In addition, Joan Gillman attended and brought greetings from the International Council for Small Business and the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship. She extended an invitation to all to attend the 2005 50th World Conference of ICSB, June 15 to 18, in Washington DC (for details see <http://www.usasbe.org/conference/2005-ICSB/index.asp>).

CCSBE/CCPME owes special thanks to the conference organizer Jim Mason for assuming the responsibility and undertaking the task on short notice. He did a great job, but could not have done so without the help of Ann McGrath and Dwight Robar of the Acadia Centre for Small Business & Entrepreneurship, and Sheila Potts of the Faculty of Administration at the University of Regina.

Finally, we would like to thank our sponsors the University of Regina, Faculty of Administration; University of Regina, Office of the Academic Vice President; Western Economic Diversification, Industry Canada; Saskatchewan Industry and Resources; the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

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MEET BEN BARRY – WINNER OF THE 2004 CCUE AWARD

By: Tiiu Poder, CCSBE VP Youth

Volunteer work with the CCSBE definitely has its advantages. This past year, my first as VP Youth, I had the privilege of getting to know a true Canadian superstar- a 21 year old entrepreneur from Ottawa by the name of Ben Barry. The term "superstar" is not an overstatement. Heck! Oprah discovered him before I did – he was on her show in 2002 and she wants him back!

First of all, you need to know that the reason I met this remarkable young man is because he was the winner of the 2004 Canadian College and University Entrepreneur Award. My staff and I, at the XEDC, organized this competition as part of my duties as VP Youth. A panel of five judges voted Ben Barry the winner last May as per the deadline for the Global Student Entrepreneurship Awards (GSEA) competition that is managed by the Jefferson Smurfit Center for Entrepreneurial Studies in St. Louis, Missouri. This international competition took place in Chicago early last November. That's when I first met Ben Barry face-to-face.

Ben is the founder/owner/operator of the Ben Barry Agency – a modeling agency with offices in Ottawa and Toronto. He began his business when he was just fourteen years old. Today at age 21, Ben is a senior in the Business Program at the University of Toronto.

The Ben Barry Agency is no ordinary modelling agency. Ben's philosophy is to feature models that surpass barriers of ethnicity, weight, size, age and individuality. He is a pioneer in a movement in the fashion world that celebrates beauty beyond the supermodel standards that have contributed so much to the destruction of self esteem particularly among young women. Ben's unique and gutsy approach has attracted a lot of attention including from the producers of the Oprah Winfrey Show where he was a guest in 2001. He has been featured on CNN, FOX News, CTV National News, Fashion Television and the Vicki Gabereau Show. Ben has won numerous awards including the prestigious Gowlings Award for community commitment, the CIBC Young Entrepreneur of the Year award and the Queen's Golden Jubilee award for making an outstanding contribution to Canada. He was recognized as one of the twenty teens who will change the world by Teen People Magazine and one of 25 leaders of tomorrow by MacLean's Magazine.

Fast forward to November 2004, as I waited for my plane to Chicago I browsed the newsstand and decided on a brand new issue of Vogue magazine (I had fashion on my mind preparing to meet Ben). As I leafed through the eye candy, to my astonishment I came to a glorious six page insert by Dove Cosmetics that featured full

frame portraits of women who were beautiful, but in their own way – voluminous freckles, the beautiful lines of age, sleek gray hair, a small bosom and one young woman happily flaunting her very full figure. This was the launch of Dove's Real Beauty campaign. I couldn't wait to show this to Ben, thinking how interested he would be that his concept is spreading. Little did I know.

We met in the lobby of the hotel in Chicago that evening and soon into our discussion I mentioned the Vogue spread. This slight young man donning a Roots Canada jacket and slightly wacky hair began to leap about with enthusiasm shouting "That's mine! Those are our models!" The issue was hot off the press and Ben had not yet seen it so I quickly retrieved my copy from my room. I felt almost famous because I got to witness Ben's reaction as he feasted his eyes on it for the first time. By now, many of you readers may be familiar with this campaign as it's appearing in all the major women's magazines on the continent and the models are smiling down at you from billboards across urban centres.

This past year, the Ben Barry Agency grossed revenues of \$3.6 million and plans are to open an office in New York next year. While we were in Chicago, Ben had to bow out of one evening event because he had a private meeting with Oprah and afterwards decided it would be best to go to his room to study for his mid-terms.

Next stop – Regina in mid November for the CCSBE Conference. The organizers agreed that we would invite Ben to speak to the full audience on the opening morning of the Conference. Now I had never heard Ben speak publicly but I figured that with all the practice he's had he'll be good. Good?! In my ten years as an entrepreneurship practitioner, this had to be one of the most thrilling presentations I have witnessed. I may not have been alone in that thought because when he finished, the audience jumped to their feet in standing ovation! Our MC, Jim Mason, returned to the stage to thank Ben and in an emotional moment, he paused and then said to the audience, "This is why we all do what we do."

Later that morning Ben and I celebrated by calling his mother in Ottawa. She raised him single-handedly after Ben's father died when he was just 10 years old. There was no silver spoon in Ben's mouth – he built his company on his own, reinvesting the profits and growing the business wisely.

The other week Ben was preparing for his interview for the Rhodes Scholarship. I wrote to him later to how it went. He told me that he was successful but has also been offered the Commonwealth Scholarship at the London School of Economics. He's in the throes of deciding between Oxford and the LSE for the next level of his education and he may take a year off to open the New York office.

There's so much more to tell you about this remarkable young man that it would take a book. Not to worry – Ben is authoring his first book "Fashioning Reality" scheduled for release in the fall of 2005.

For the time being, I'll just echo Jim's comment, "This is why we do what we do."

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COMMENT FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR OF JSBE

By Robert B. Anderson, Managing Editor, JSBE

With the publication of the fall 2004 issue (Volume 17(4)), the Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship reached an important milestone.

When CCSBE/CCPME, acquired ownership of the Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (JSBE) and the Faculty of Administration of the University of Regina undertook responsibility for publishing the journal, both did so with the understanding that the journal would not be financially self-sufficient for some time, if ever. Recognizing the need for financial support, and the fact application for funding to the Social Sciences and

Humanities Research Council Aid to Research and Transfer Journals Program (SSHRC-ARTJ) could not be made for three years, the Faculty of Administration of the University of Regina agreed to provide substantial operating funds for fiscal years ending in 2003, 2004 & 2005.

With short term funding secured, plans were developed and implemented for 2003, 2004 & 2005. The objectives were largely operational including (i) the transfer of ownership and the development of administrative structures to handle subscription and publication issues, (ii) the securing of a copy-editor/printer, (iii) the redesign of the journal—size, cover, and format, (iv) the creation of a journal web page, (v) the revision of the guidelines to authors, (vi) the development of completely electronic paper submission, review, revision, and copy-editing process, (vii) the rebuilding of the editorial review board with renowned Canadian and international scholars, and (viii) most critically, the increase in the number and quality of paper submissions to support a return to publishing 4 issues per year. With the publication of Issue 17(4), all of these objectives have been met.

In particular, we have been successful in our objective of increasing the number and quality of submissions. Even with our current rejection rate that is in excess of 50%, we will have more than sufficient papers to publish 4 volumes per year. Therefore, beginning in 2005 with Volume 18 Issues 1-4, the JSBE will be published in January, April, July, and October. Further, because the response from authors has been so positive, rather than reject otherwise good papers because of lack of space, we have increased the number of full-length articles per issue from 4 to 5 beginning with issue 17(3).

Further, in an ongoing effort to be relevant to all the constituent members of CCSBE/CCPME and our other readers, beginning with this issue we have added a new section to the journal. This section will consist of an article directed to practitioners. It will attempt to render a particular academic and/or theoretical topic useful in an applied sense. One exciting aspect of this section is that it is being done in partnership with the Small Enterprise Research (SER). SER is the journal of CCSBE/CCPME's sister organization the Small Enterprise Association of Australia and New Zealand (SEANZ). A description of the new section (Anderson, Gibson and Hindle) and the first such article presenting a five-step approach to applying state of the art theoretical material on opportunity identification in the 'real world' (Hindle), appear in the next journal.

We have been successful in creating a highly qualified and effective Editorial Review Board. Among the members are the top entrepreneurship scholars in Canada and world-class international scholars. The members of the editorial review board are committed to producing a top quality journal; and the results show this. In early 2004, the JSBE was reviewed by the Journal of Economic Literature and found of to be of sufficiently high standard to be included in the EconLit index. The JSBE is also under review for inclusion in the equally prestigious Social Sciences Citation Index.

We are satisfied with the progress we have made since CCSBE/CCPME assumed ownership and the Faculty of Administration responsibility for publishing it. The attainment of our short-term operation objectives leaves us well positioned to set and achieve more challenging strategic objectives over the next three years. To pursue these we applied for funding for the JSBE from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Aid to Research and Transfer Journals Program. In November we received notice that our application was approved which will allow us to pursue the agenda below.

NOVEMBER 2004 TO OCTOBER 2007

We have four long-term strategic goals we would like to attain by the end of the upcoming three-year cycle of the Aid to Research and Transfer Journals Program. They are to:

1. Firmly establish the journal as one of the tier one journals in the entrepreneurship field;
 2. Increase institutional subscribers and non CCSBE/CCPME individual subscribers;
 3. Publish an electronic version of the journal in addition to the paper version as an additional service to CCSBE/CCPME members and institutional subscribers; and as a 'standalone product' to offer to non CCSBE/CCPME individual subscribers as a lower cost option to a paper copy subscription; and
 4. Move to a 'printing on demand' system.
- In addition, we will continue to work to increase the number of high quality submissions we receive from Canada and elsewhere. As the supply of quality articles increases we will consider a further increase in the number of articles per issue and/or the number of issues per year.

The first long term objective involves no specific expenditures beyond those anticipated with respect to the

review and publication process. The second objective will involve some minor additional costs for postage and printing and will require time and attention from the managing editor. The third objective will involve a one-time implementation cost in the fiscal year ending in April 2005, and ongoing new operating costs thereafter. We feel that having this on-line capacity will be a valuable support to our drive to attain the first two long term objectives.

Attainment of the fourth objective is imminent. We have examined the 'printing on demand' option currently available from several vendors. The quality is equal to what we achieve now with the traditional printing method. Without sacrificing quality, the cost per issue will decline and we will have increased flexibility. Under the print on demand system, we need only print the number of issues we require. If at a later date we require more units of a particular issue they can be printed as required for the same lower per issue cost and with no additional set-up or run charges. This issue has been published using 'printing on demand'.

THANK-YOUS

First to the Faculty of Administration of the University of Regina. Without the financial support from the Faculty the journal would not have been published. Officers, directors and members of the CCSBE/CCPME have also provided invaluable support, especially the Associate Editors who make up the Editorial Board. However, even with the financial resources provided by the Faculty of Administration and the support of the CCSBE/CCPME, nothing would have been accomplished without two other groups - authors and reviewers.

Twenty-four papers, the work of 57 authors, have appeared in the five issues of JSBE we have published since acquiring the journal. We also received work from many more that was not accepted for a variety of reasons. The work of triple this number of people is currently under review and/or revision. These authors are from all corners of the world and they address all manner of entrepreneurship and small business topics. Without the number and quality of their submissions there would be no journal. This is equally true of the reviewers, both those on the Editorial Review Board and ad hoc. The job they do is challenging and the time-consuming, and the reward they receive is nothing but satisfaction. We owe our authors and reviewers our thanks. Much accomplished; much more left to do.

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Call for Papers for CCSBE Annual Conference 2005

CCSBE/CCPME 2005 Annual Conference

Dates: Oct. 27,28,29, 2005 in Waterloo, Ontario, CANADA

Sponsored by: Wilfrid Laurier University School of Business and Economics and NEXT (centre for the study of nascent entrepreneurship and the exploitation of technology)

Theme:

Fostering and Incubating Canadian Entrepreneurship: Best Practices

Considerable efforts continue to be undertaken to promote and support Canadian entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship at the local, regional, and national levels. Activities range from formal to non-formal education, with current best practices and tangible results in entrepreneurship education and development. We will examine the provision of capital, marketing advice logistical assistance, research parks, targeted technological development, and fostering and incubating Canadian entrepreneurs.

This conference will address the myriad of intervention activities undertaken, with a focus on examining research that has identified best methods and practices, disseminating new innovations and programmatic elements, and discussing common problems and difficulties toward the identification of sustainable solutions.

The conference conveners welcome contributions from academics, policy makers, business support professionals, economic development officers, and practitioners, as well as those concerned with issues relevant to ethnic, minority, and aboriginal groups. Appropriate tracks will be developed to accommodate interests that share a common theme.

Extended abstracts for refereed papers due: **March 15, 2005**
Workshop proposal submissions due: **April 15, 2005**
Acceptance notification for all submissions: **May 15, 2005**
Formal papers due from those notified of acceptance: **June 15, 2005**

Only electronic submissions will be accepted and should be sent.

Send abstracts for papers to **Dr. Robert Anderson**: Robert.Anderson@uregina.ca

Send workshop proposals to **Dr. Benson Honig**: bhonig@wlu.ca

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From Atlantic Canada . . .

LINKING STUDENTS WITH ENTREPRENEURS

By Ron Robichaud, Regional Director, Atlantic Canada

Small Business Week event : Linking Students with Entrepreneurs

Host : University Business Development Centres of Nova Scotia

Date : October 2004

Event Summary

Letters of invitation were sent to businesses, organizations and faculty. Posters, word of mouth, residence meetings and faculty assured that all the students were aware of the event. Ads were placed in local papers inviting all business persons.

Registration began at 6:00 p.m. and kits containing information and instructions on the evening's activities were handed out to all participants. Throughout the evening, event partners and supporters were recognized by having their logos displayed on a large screen for all the attendees to view. The luncheon was then prepared and served by local eating establishments promoting their own businesses, who for their part were very grateful to have been invited to this event.

At 7:30 p.m., the evening's main event, "Linking Students with Entrepreneurs" was introduced by the master of ceremonies. The objectives of this activity were to increase communication between students, businesses and organizations from the region, but more importantly to stimulate the entrepreneurial spirit among students. Each student was asked to approach at least 5 entrepreneurs and ask them 5 pre-determined questions in order to qualify for prizes. Participation and cooperation by the students, businesses and organizations was truly impressive. Students not only initiated conversations and interacted with many entrepreneurs, they were genuinely interested by what the

entrepreneurs had to say. An exchange of information was evident and the participants appreciated that the atmosphere was both comfortable and relaxed. Many students learned valuable and important information about the participating businesses and organizations. Their enriched knowledge about the economy, resources and opportunities stimulated the students' interest on several occasions to ask their own questions. Students were impressed by the calibre of local businesses and to many, it opened their eyes to the potential and endless possibilities of opening their own business.

Immediately following the networking activity, a brief game of "Jeopardy" took place, where a team of students and a team of entrepreneurs were asked to compete against each other in answering several entrepreneurship-related trivia questions. The entrepreneurs' team won the game, which leads to the conclusion that students may not "know it all". The participants were very enthusiastic and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the fun and entertainment of this activity.

At 8:30 p.m., a draw for prizes took place. Prizes were donated by the participating businesses, including final draws for four bursaries in the amount of \$500.00, \$300.00, \$150.00 and \$50.00.

Positive evaluations relating to the question: "What did you like most about this event?" included:

- "Being able to meet the students and network with other professionals", "The opportunity to network with other entrepreneurs";
 - "Great to meet the students who are our future entrepreneurs";
 - " We picked up some great ideas on how to improve our business from other people";
 - " It was excellent! I'm very glad I participated, I will participate next year!"
- These comments speak for themselves

Following the event, letters of appreciation were sent to participants and sponsors. Moreover, we received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the students and businesses who participated to the event.

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From Quebec . . .

A NEW CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL CULTURE WATCH

By Josée Audet, Regional Director, Quebec

The CVCE (Centre de vigie sur la culture entrepreneuriale, or Centre for Entrepreneurial Culture Watch) was founded last July in close collaboration with Canada Economic Development. It is Canada's first-ever watch centre for entrepreneurial culture. The Centre intends to become the main reference and monitoring centre in the field of entrepreneurship, with a special focus on themes relating to the development and reinforcement of entrepreneurial culture.

The Centre's objectives are:

- Locate knowledge of various kinds (practical, scientific, current) and make it available to interested parties;
- Create links between the knowledge acquired by various agencies by circulating information about successful approaches, and the lessons learned from unsuccessful approaches;
- Highlight the progress made by partners and governments in the area of entrepreneurial culture;
- Examine current issues from the standpoint of developing and reinforcing entrepreneurial culture.

All these actions have pragmatic objectives: to make information available to decision-makers at all levels, to provide input for both theoretical and practical approaches to new entrepreneurship development projects, to increase the visibility of successful approaches, to provide materials for trainers, teachers and professionals in the field of entrepreneurship, and to provide access to theoretical content developed by researchers around the world.

If you would like to subscribe to the Centre's weekly bulletin, visit the Web site at:

www.entrepreneurship.qc.ca/fr/accueil/centrevigie.asp

To transmit one of your documents to the Center, send an email to: vigie@entrepreneurship.qc.ca

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From The Prairies . . .

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS ALIVE AND WELL IN THE PRAIRIES!

By Warren Weir, Regional Representative, Prairies

Happy New Year!

Entrepreneurship is alive and well in the Prairies. I see it everywhere -- from the boys and girls strategically fundraising to pay for extra hockey practice time, to business people creating entrepreneurial initiatives with Aboriginal leaders and communities to strengthen the economic condition of Aboriginal communities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Even our colleges, training institutions, and universities (including our Aboriginal institutions) are doing everything possible to enhance and support this entrepreneurial spirit.

I am a new Board Member of CCSBE, and am one of two representatives for the Prairie region. I am excited about participating on the Council, and sharing with others the entrepreneurial activities taking place in the Prairies, especially in Saskatchewan. As a faculty member of the University of Saskatchewan with interests in Aboriginal economic development, I also look forward to highlighting entrepreneurial educational activities at our university and small business activities taking place in local Aboriginal communities.

To begin, I would like to share some information about the initiation, by the Department of Management & Marketing (College of Commerce, U of S), of several new programs in entrepreneurship over the next two years. Dr. Rein Lepnurm, Department Head of Management and Marketing, shared with me some of the entrepreneurial educational activities currently taking place at our University.

" For years the Department has been home to a General Business undergraduate program intended for students who do not wish to specialize in any functional area. The new program focusses on providing a B.Comm in General Management to students who wish to take on positions as general managers in a variety of organizations such as sports teams, art galleries, performing arts companies, charities and small businesses, including family businesses. In addition to this B.Comm degree program, the Department will be developing joint degree programs with other Colleges, most notably the Colleges of Engineering and Kinesiology. In the College of Engineering the joint program could focus on the Management of Innovation & Technology and in the College of Kinesiology the joint program could focus on the Development and Management of Recreation and Fitness Programs. The driving concept supporting all of these initiatives is entrepreneurship, and with them comes entrepreneurial creativity."

As a former (and possibly future?) member of CCSBE, Rein says a big "hello" to his friends and colleagues at CCSBE.

All the best for the coming year!