

Why Career Development?

According to *Your Future, Your Way!*, Manitoba's online career development gateway (see <www.manitobacareerdevelopment.ca>), career development is a process that

helps individuals make education, training and work related choices to manage learning, work and personal life and the transitions between them over a lifespan. It is the lifelong process of gaining knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours to become self-reliant and an intentional manager of work and personal life.

It is crucial for students to learn how to navigate today's constantly changing world of learning and work. Education, the workforce, and the labour market must respond to societal changes like globalization, the rapid growth in information and communication technology, and an aging population.

Dynamic forms of work such as entrepreneurship, short-term positions, and consulting are gaining prominence over the traditional "job for life"

model. Citizens in our democratic, self-determined nation are becoming increasingly conscious of the need to take more individual responsibility for their learning and working lives.

School-based career development programming provides Manitoba students with opportunities to develop individual initiative and self-responsibility. Self-discovery, goal setting, critical thinking, and problem solving are an integral part of the career development process, which begins at the earliest grades. As students mature and reach school completion, their understanding of their own skills, strengths, and interests deepens, and so does their understanding of the connections among themselves, their unique learning process, and the world around them.



"Having parents speak to primary students about their occupation is valuable."

- Manitoba Principal

