

**People, Skills, Performance  
Industry Trainers Network Conference 2008  
Speaker Biographies**



**Denise Bissonnette**

Denise is a distinguished author, speaker, curriculum developer and trainer on issues of career development, diversity, and employment and training for people with employment barriers.

She holds a Masters Degree in Multicultural Education from the University of San Francisco. Her early literacy work with political refugees provided her with awareness to the difficulties they face in trying to establish themselves in the American workplace. In response, she became a Job Developer, working with employers to secure jobs for people from groups that were not traditionally part of the workforce.

**Diane Carriere**

Diane is a member of the Norway House First Nation and currently acts as the Diversity Coordinator for Manitoba Public Insurance. Diane holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Winnipeg, a Certificate in Human Resources, is a Certified Human Resource Professional, and has completed her Mediation Certificate from Mediation Services. In 2003, Diane received the Bill Hanson Award, for success in improving the employment of Aboriginal people and is one of the Co-Chairs for the new Aboriginal Committee for HRMAM.

**Maria Dielmann**

Maria is an interactive and practical presenter. She has successfully presented and facilitated workshops to private, public and non-profit organizations on topics such as Facilitation Skills, Career and Employment, and Life Skills. She holds a Bachelor of Behaviour Science degree, a Certificate in Human Resource Management, a Practical Workshop Facilitation Skills Certificate, and a Career and Employment Coach Certificate.

**Kim Embleton**

Kim holds a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Manitoba and teaches the grade 9 and 10 upgrading programs and the mature grade 12 program at Urban Circle Training Centre. She has begun a Masters of Education program, and is focused on working with the Aboriginal community of Winnipeg to improve the situation of Aboriginal people through education and independence.

**Carol Hawkins**

Carol has over 20 years experience in adult education. She is currently a project manager, researcher, and adult educator with the Centre for Education and Work. She has a Masters in Adult Education, is a certified Essential Skills profiler, and Chairs the Manitoba Prior Learning Assessment Network. Carol teaches at the University of Winnipeg in the Faculty of Education and is currently teaching in the Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education Program (CACE) at the University of Manitoba.

**Randy Herrmann, P. Eng.**

Randy is the Director of the Engineering Access Program (ENGAP) at the University of Manitoba. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geological Engineering. He is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba and the Professional Engineers of Ontario, as well as the Manitoba Métis Federation.

**Beth Lloyd, MEd**

Beth Lloyd is an internal Training and Development Consultant with Cangene Corp. Her work history includes teaching Psychology and Adult Learning, coordinating the implementation of Key Skills, working as a facilitator and curriculum developer, and working for the Manitoba Government designing Essential Skills Curriculum. Beth is currently enrolled in the University of Manitoba/QNET Certificate of Applied Management programme and has over ten years of adult learning and teaching experience.

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**Dr. Robin Millar**

Dr. Robin Millar is the Executive Director of the Centre for Education and Work. She has been the lead researcher on the development of the Workplace Informal Learning Matrix (WILM) designed to help workplaces assess and recognize on the job learning. Robin is an experienced adult educator and facilitator. Robin has taught in the Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education program (CACE) at the University of Manitoba. She has presented at conference and workshops in workplace education, adult literacy, adult education and learning disabilities and prior learning assessment (PLA). She received her doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, Minn.).

**Conrad Murphy**

Conrad is the originator of TOWES (Test of Workplace Essential Skills). Conrad helped to establish a joint venture with SkillPlan BC and secured the investment required to build a TOWES test bank. In 2003, Bow Valley College acquired sole ownership of TOWES and Conrad has been the Director since then. Conrad has worked with the rest of the TOWES team to develop a national distributorship system.

**Brendan Nagle**

Brendan Nagle is the CEO of Technologies for Learning Group where he focuses on increasing access to educational opportunities through the purposeful use of technology. He has been a college and university lecturer, co-authored a highly successful textbook, and is a regular contributor at conferences and in publications on the role learning systems play in workforce and community development. Brendan holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Manitoba and is a certified master facilitator.

**Yvonne Thompson**

Yvonne has been a business leader and human resource specialist for over 15 years. She has a keen interest and passion for leadership development and is presently completing her Masters Degree in Leadership at Royal Roads University. In 2002, Yvonne followed her entrepreneurial spirit and created a human resource management consulting firm, CHANGE Innovators Inc.