



THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Champions of Public Education Across Canada

P R E S E N T S

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

TAKE OUR

*Kids*  
TO WORK™



*See what it's like on their side.*

**PARENT GUIDE**

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# The Learning Partnership

The Learning Partnership is a national charitable organization dedicated to championing a strong public education system in Canada. It does this with its partners through innovative programs, credible research, executive leadership, policy initiatives and public engagement of Canadians. In partnership with government, the private sector, labour, education and community groups, The Learning Partnership delivers 13 programs to students and educators across Canada each year.

Take Our Kids to Work™ is The Learning Partnership's first and most well-known program.

## 17<sup>th</sup> annual *Take Our Kids to Work* program

On Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011, over 200,000 grade nine, Senior 1 (Manitoba) and Secondary III (Quebec) students across Canada will spend the day at work, job shadowing a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host.

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## What will students get out of the program?

- Develop an appreciation for the importance of staying in school and getting a high school diploma and pursuing post-secondary studies.
  - Gain exposure to the skills required in today's workplaces.
  - Develop an appreciation for their parents' roles in making a living and supporting their families.
  - Begin career discussions with adults about the work they do.
  - Gain a better understanding of the complexity of career choices and the benefits of early exploration.
  - Explore career options in practical ways.
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## What will parents get out of the program?

- Participate in a shared experience with your child.
  - Begin career discussions and dialogue based on actual experiences.
  - Enrich the experience for your child by providing opportunities to talk before, during and after the visit.
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## Where can students go for the day?

Where possible, parents invite their own child to spend a day on the job. If you are unable to host your own child, there are still ways for your child to participate. Here are some suggestions:

- Ask a relative, neighbour or family friend to host your child at his/her workplace.
  - Contact the school, speak with the principal, career studies or co-op teacher and ask if they can assist you with finding a suitable placement.
  - Ask the parent of another grade nine student who is participating if your child could join him/her for the day.
  - Contact local businesses. Ask if they are hosting students for *Take Our Kids to Work*. Inquire if someone within their organization would be willing to host your child providing you make the necessary transportation arrangements.
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## Safety first

Workplace health and safety is a vital aspect of the program. It is important that young people receive information about health and safety prior to their workplace visit. They also need to know their rights and responsibilities for jobs they may hold now and in the future. Parents of working students need this same information.

Parents need to be aware of the work that their children engage in and ask questions about the health and safety provisions. Links to other organizations with workplace health and safety expertise and materials can be accessed through The Learning Partnership website at [www.thelearningpartnership.ca](http://www.thelearningpartnership.ca).

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## The Ultimate Dream Job Contest

On August 29, The Learning Partnership, in partnership with Scotiabank® is launching the third annual *Ultimate Dream Job Contest*. This national online contest runs six weeks until October 24. It is for Canadian students starting grade nine, Senior 1 (Manitoba) and Secondary III (Quebec) in a publicly funded school in the fall. Students will be asked to submit digital photos of themselves in their “dream job” along with a short description (25 words or less) about why this would be their dream job.

There are individual prizes for weekly winners. Schools are also eligible for prizes – the top five schools with the most eligible *Ultimate Dream Job Contest* entries will each receive a cheque for \$1,000. Cheques will be payable to the school.

All weekly winners are eligible to win the Grand Prize return trip from their home town to Ottawa, with their parent/guardian, to meet the Honourable Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons on *Take Our Kids to Work* day. While in Ottawa they will tour national attractions such as Parliament Hill, The National Gallery of Canada, The Royal Canadian Mint and the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

The winner of the 2010 *Ultimate Dream job Contest* is well on her way to realizing her dream of becoming an archeologist. As the 2010 Grand Prize winner, she travelled to Ottawa on *Take Our Kids to Work* day last year – trip highlights included meeting the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Stephen Harper and then-speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Peter Milliken.

For more information on this year’s *Ultimate Dream Job Contest*, visit our website at [www.dreamjobcontest.ca](http://www.dreamjobcontest.ca).



The winner of the 2010 *Ultimate Dream Job Contest*, from Nova Scotia is well on her way to fulfilling her dream of becoming an archeologist.

The Royal Canadian Mint and the Canadian

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## The Learning Partnership’s Canada’s Outstanding Employer Awards

The participation of employers across Canada is critical to the success of The Learning Partnership’s *Take Our Kids to Work* program. We applaud the contribution of organizations across Canada for their commitment to their employees and the future work force of Canada. We invite organizations to apply for The Learning Partnership’s *Canada’s Outstanding Employer Awards*.

The Learning Partnership thanks the following supporters who make *Take Our Kids to Work* a great success across Canada.

**In partnership with:**



**Program sponsor:**



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DW+ Partners Inc. for donating their expertise in developing the *Take Our Kids to Work* marketing campaign.

All the provincial and territorial co-ordinators who help The Learning Partnership deliver *Take Our Kids to Work* to participating students, teachers, parents, school boards and workplaces across Canada.

To learn more about any of the initiatives mentioned in this guide, or to download *Take Our Kids to Work* resources, visit our website, [www.thelearningpartnership.ca](http://www.thelearningpartnership.ca).



## We need your consent

### To be filled out and signed by the parent or guardian and student, then returned to the school.

To the Parent/Guardian: Your child has the right and responsibility to have a safe and educational workplace visit. Health and Safety education is an important element of this program. Review this form with your child and sign below. If you have additional questions about safety, contact the school or the workplace.

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_

- My child has my permission to participate in this program.
- My child may be photographed, interviewed or videotaped on this day.
- My workplace is aware that I am bringing my child to work on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011 between the hours of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. We have discussed lunch arrangements and appropriate clothing/safety attire.

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Workplace name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### OR

My child will accompany a: (check one)

- relative**     **friend**     **community host**

to their workplace on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011 between the hours of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. We have discussed lunch arrangements and appropriate clothing/safety attire for this particular workplace.

Contact's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Workplace name: \_\_\_\_\_

- A colleague at my workplace would be willing to host another student in need of a placement.

Colleague's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Elements of risk

All experiential learning programs, such as field trips, cooperative education, job shadowing and *Take Our Kids to Work* participation, involve certain elements of risk. Injuries may occur while participating in this activity without any fault of the student, the school board, or the host employer. By allowing your child to take part in this activity, you are accepting the risk that your child may be injured.

For more information see the recommendations for Workplace Health & Safety at [www.thelearningpartnership.ca](http://www.thelearningpartnership.ca).

- I understand that there are risks associated with my child visiting a workplace and I have reviewed the *Elements of risk* section above with my child.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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