



“Why should society feel responsible only for the education of children, and not for the education of all adults of every age?”

- Erich Fromm -



Lord Selkirk Learning Centre

Creating Opportunities

By: Jared Laberge – April 2007



Lord Selkirk Learning Centre

“Need some high school credits?”

“Want a grade 12 diploma?”



The Lord Selkirk Learning Centre is a program dedicated to helping individuals create more opportunities for themselves.



First Steps

- Initiated in 1993
- A collaboration of the Lord Selkirk School Division and Canada Manpower (Canada Employment Centre)



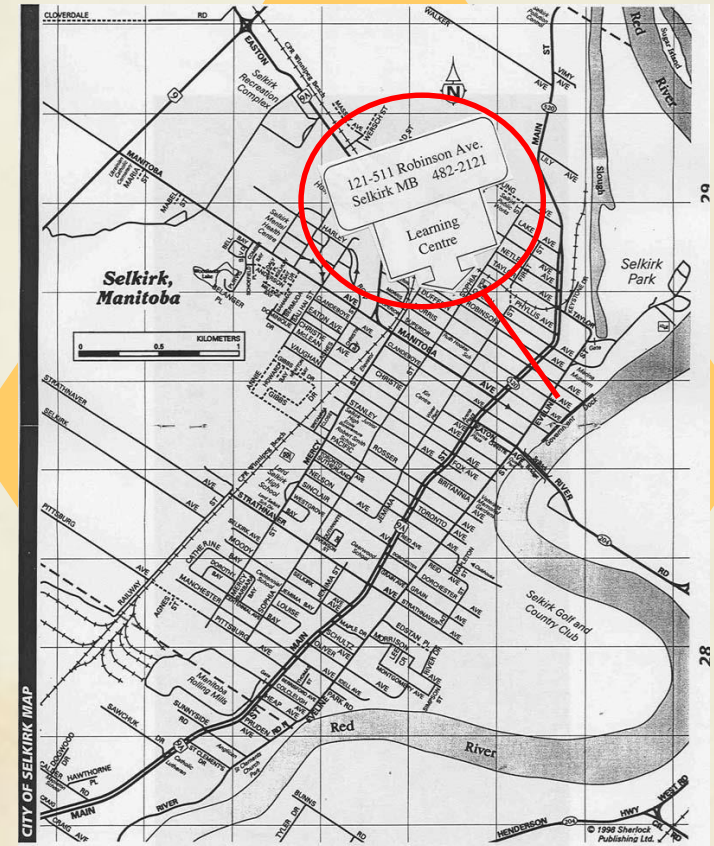
Purpose

- To assist individuals who had run out of EI, or unemployment insurance.
- The Learning Centre provided education needed to qualify for Red River Community College training.
- In society today, “specialized training is becoming a must and specific high school courses are required” (Lord Selkirk Learning Centre).



Where Is It?

- At first, the program was on Eveline Street in Selkirk, Manitoba.
- In 1998, more space was needed.
- The program was moved to its current location at 121-511 Robinson Avenue in Selkirk.
- The first instructors of this project included Mrs. Sandra Pawluk, and Mr. Sandy Truthwaite.



- After a couple of years, funding became limited
- High school students were included to increase the head count



- However, in 2001-02, the high school students were removed when government funding was reorganized and funding was based on a submitted proposal.

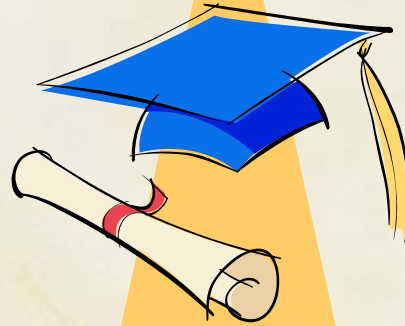
Recently...

- Many improvements have been made to the program.
- Approximately five years ago, classroom instructed courses became dominant to independent study.
- These classes currently take place once per week/per course for approximately two and a half hours each.
- This flexible schedule allows students to continue to work, while furthering their studies.



Today...

- Current enrollment totals 150 students per year.
- The program focuses on obtaining a Mature Student diploma.
- These free courses are offered to all who wish to attend.
- “We’re continuing to see more people not get through to high school. About half of our students are under the age of 25. It takes, sometimes, a couple of years working at an entry level job, to find out you would like to get a higher education” (Truthwaite).



**As time continues, “our social safety
nets are vanishing.**

**Unemployment will bring even
greater hardships. [However,
education builds your self-
esteem, which in itself makes you
more employable” (Lord Selkirk
Learning Centre).**

