Considering the Pragmatic Mind

Moving Knowledge into Action Through Engagement

The Issue

- ✓ Theory often fails to "make the jump" to real and lasting change. Why?

- ✓ How do we move the Scientific Mind into large-scale reality?

The Pragmatic Mind

- ✓ That part of the "Mind" that is concerned with the "how to" of mind development.

- ✓ What are the barriers/strategies to seeing the Scientific Mind concept (among others) adopted on a system-wide basis?

Manitoba: The Issues

- ✓ Poor educational outcomes
- ✓ High rates of teen pregnancy and child poverty
- ✓ Large (10% and growing) Aboriginal community with many social problems
- ✓ Skilled Labour shortage (opportunity)

Why?

- ✓ Outmoded Education system (not even efficient at turning out drones)
- ✓ Ignorance (and Racism)
- ✓ Jurisdictions
- ✓ Professionalism/Specialization
- ✓ Lack of creativity and imagination
- ✓ Fragmented sense of community

Utilizing the Pragmatic Mind

- ✓ Had to be effective and sustainable
- ✓ Had to speak to people (be relevant)
- ✓ Language (positive and understandable)
- ✓ Solution-focused
- ✓ Win-Win relationships
- ✓ Systems responsibility/change (micro/macro/mega)

Purpose

- ✓ "To fight poverty through educational attainment"
- ✓ To assist young people in understanding the relevancy that gaining a formal education has to their lives

Program Elements

- ✓ Experiential
- ✓ Long-term
- ✓ Holistic
- ✓ Performance-Based
- ✓ Accessible
- ✓ Early Intervention
- ✓ Career-Focused
- ✓ Empower (self-determination)
- ✓ Develop Social Consciousness

Change Through Engagement

- ✓ 250 families (per year)
- ✓ 60 middle years schools
- ✓ 6 school divisions
- ✓ 3 post-secondary institutions
- ✓ 17 post-secondary departments
- ✓ Many sector partnerships

Phases 1-3

- ✓ 80 careers in 17 different fields
- ✓ Career-focused projects
- ✓ Leadership

Mind and Soul (Citizenship) Development

- ✓ Critical thinking
- ✓ Teamwork
- ✓ Hard Work
- ✓ Commitment
- ✓ Reshaping Self
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Belonging
- ✓ Caring
- ✓ Adaptability

Program Supports

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Family Days
- ✓ Information Days
- ✓ R.E.S.P. Scholarships

Staff (Phase 4)

- ✓ All post-secondary students
- ✓ 50% are graduates of the program
- ✓ Seeds for social change

System Changing

- ✓ Teaching sector representatives
- ✓ Transdisciplinary Gatherings
- ✓ Research
- ✓ Providing experiences

Apinochek Pasaquok ("Children Rising")

✓ Principle of "Second Contact"

✓ Involves an entire Indigenous/First Nation community

Considering the Pragmatic Mind

- ✓ Reflections on the Pragmatic Mind
- ✓ Suggestions for incorporating the Scientific Mind into Career Trek
- ✓ Applying the Pragmatic Mind: Discussion of fellow projects