



How have people benefited from the program?

“Enjoyed this very much because I was able to seek assistance on very specific topics and to ask questions of my peer who is experiencing the same opportunities ... and trials as myself.”

“Opportunity to talk about similar problems and/or experiences. Provides much needed rejuvenation.”

“The museum will mount a community-based temporary exhibit this summer using the information and tools created through the peer exchange.”

“I was pleased that all of my objectives were met. In fact my expectations were exceeded.”

“Visiting in-house with little formal structure allows for excellent discussion.”

“My peer and I have always been close, but never really taken the opportunity to gain practical knowledge from each other relating to a specific area. We’ve shared ideas over coffee but no in-depth work; so this has strengthened the relationship.”

“This works very well because it is specific to our museum’s needs at the present time.”

Additional Information

Eligibility:

Individuals registering in the program must work (paid staff or volunteer) for an institutional member of the Museums Association of Saskatchewan.

Fees and Travel:

The registration fee for the program is \$53.50. Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and expenses. MAS will pay a contract fee to the participant’s institution for hosting the visiting colleague.

Cancellations:

Cancellations received after the learning objectives and the dates for the exchange are confirmed, will not be eligible for a refund.

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**COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERING**

**A
SELF-DIRECTED
LEARNING
PROGRAM**

**PRESENTED
BY THE
SPECIAL INTEREST
PROGRAM**



**MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION OF
SASKATCHEWAN**

This is a peer exchange program designed to build on the knowledge and experience of museum staff thereby increasing expertise across Saskatchewan museums.

What is Collaborative Partnering?

This program provides museum staff with an alternative choice to workshops. Individuals are invited to partner with a colleague for the purpose of exchanging knowledge, skills, ideas, perspectives, approaches, etc. The program is intended to support staff working in different institutions **who believe they can learn from one another.**

The program's objectives:

- ◆ Better use of the expertise that already exists among Saskatchewan museum personnel;
- ◆ Enhance performance through exchanges with peers;
- ◆ Strengthen the link between the board/supervisor and staff in planning professional development;
- ◆ Strengthen productive relationships among Saskatchewan museums; and
- ◆ Provide opportunities for self-directed learning.

Why choose a self-directed learning program instead of a workshop?

Self-directed learning means that you are in charge of your own learning. You set your own goals and then decide how to achieve those goals. This program will facilitate that process.

Specifically, you decide what you want to learn; with whom and on what dates; plan your own learning objectives; and with the help of your colleague, the strategy to achieve those objectives. As a result you learn what is most worthwhile to you, and you gain a mutually beneficial working relationship with a colleague from another museum.

How does the program work?

This is a peer exchange program organized to allow you and a colleague to each spend a full day or more with the other at their institution. Each exchange will focus on the visiting colleague's learning objectives. When you get together with your colleague, there are a variety of strategies you may choose to use to achieve the learning objectives, such as discussions, demonstrations, experiments, skill practice, observation, working on a project together, etc. Both the learning objectives and the strategies will be determined in advance of the exchange. The emphasis is on the exchange of learning; both people must benefit.

Examples for a peer exchange:

- ◆ Observing a digitization project in a colleague's institution.
- ◆ Learning how a partnership between your colleague's museum and a local business worked.
- ◆ Getting a colleague's perspective and critique of the plan for an exhibition.
- ◆ Exchanging policy ideas with a museum that experiences a similar problem.
- ◆ Developing a visitor survey using the example of another museum's audience research study.
- ◆ Etc.

The process ...

1. Identify a subject/idea to focus on, or a colleague with whom you would like to partner. Use **one** of the following criteria in choosing your subject or partner:
Will the experience help your current job performance?
Will the experience help prepare you for a new challenge or change in your institution? Will the experience help to achieve a goal/objective of your institution?
2. Discuss your plan with your supervisor/governing authority.
3. If you have identified a partner, contact that individual and discuss the idea of partnering.
4. Send in the attached registration form. If you are having difficulty finding a partner, the MAS Education Manager will help you find one.
5. Once you have both registered, the Education Manager will help you and your peer to finalize your learning objectives and the plan for the time you will spend together at each other's institutions. (**Keep in mind that both partners do not have to focus on the same topic.**) The dates for the exchange must be confirmed at this time.
6. The two hosting institutions will then be contracted to provide the services of their staff person for a fee of \$300.00 per peer partner.
7. Once the peer exchange is complete, each individual will be expected to fill out an evaluation form and make a brief presentation at the next appropriate Special Interest discussion group.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name

Address

City

Postal Code

Telephone

Fax

E-mail

- Fee Enclosed: \$53.50 (50.00 + 3.50 GST)
GST No. R119140242

Name of Peer Partner

- Have contacted
 Have not contacted yet
 Need help in finding a partner

The registration form must be accompanied by:

- ◆ The registration fee.
- ◆ The subject/idea you wish to focus on.
- ◆ A brief outline of what you think you can learn from your peer.
- ◆ A brief explanation of how your planned learning will meet one of the three criteria listed in #1.

To register or for more information:

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