

Tapping employment opportunities

Getting any job, whether it be short-term, summer, or permanent can be a harrowing experience in today's tight job market. However, it need not be quite as traumatic as that, says David Dickie, Manager of the Canada Employment Centre on Campus here, if one uses an organized approach.

Mr. Dickie noted that "Right now students are concerned about getting a job," whether that be a full-time position or a summer employment opportunity. It is necessary to register with the office in the Main Building to be considered for those jobs which may come along. "Jobs don't get filled unless you are there at the right time with the right qualifications."

Many graduating students registered with the CEC(OC) office in the fall and had interviews with local, regional, and national recruiters as a result. Not all companies have yet finalized their hiring for this year, and there may yet be a few companies to come.

However, it would be a good idea if you are graduating to consider working on your Plan B. This means preparing a resume, developing your contacts, organizing yourself, writing letters, completing application forms, and "being ready" for a job opportunity.

There are numerous books and booklets on all the aspects of the job hunt. **What Colour is your Parachute?** offers a number alternative ideas worth considering. Booklets on Resumes, Finding the Right Job, and Interviews are available. Besides individual assistance, Mr. Dickie will be holding group sessions for interested students. Further information can be obtained at the office.

Inssofar as summer employment opportunities go, Mr. Dickie advises "not to put all your eggs in one basket." Your willingness to consider a number of job possibilities certainly increases your chances of getting one of them. Students are now starting to

enquire about the prospects for summer employment.

Some deadlines have already passed. One example is the Travel Information Counsellor with the Provincial Government which closed January 6th. However, other positions with provincial government departments (e.g. Agriculture, Highways, etc.) are still open. The deadline for most Federal Government jobs is the end of January. These jobs include RCMP Supernumerary Constable, Parks Canada positions, Agricultural Research Station, Transport Canada, and the Department of National Defence.

A number of summer programs have recently been announced by various Federal ministers to create jobs for students and youth

through Challenge '86, this year's main summer employment program.

Flora MacDonald, Minister of Employment and Immigration, stated, "Clearly,

the best summer jobs are the ones that relate directly to a student's career goals — and these are the kinds of jobs Challenge '86 will encourage." It is anticipated that Statistics Canada will be hiring a number of students/youth to assist in carrying out the Census in June.

Perhaps the most important requisite for getting hired is your attitude. Once you realize that it is ultimately your responsibility, you will have taken a big step forward.

A positive attitude will set you apart from others who are too lazy or seemingly overwhelmed to do anything about their circumstances. Your attitude will carry

over to your resume, the interview, doing practice or "mock" interviews — showing the willingness to take risks to improve.

Looking for a job takes courage and initiative and the willingness to take a risk. Your willingness to

do so shows others you care about what happens to you. Rather than saying, "I'm unemployed or

there's nothing out there anyway," you admit that you're looking for a job. You have a Plan B in case you don't reach your main

job target. You realize that a "NO" is not a rejection of you as a person, but only a rejection of your particular skills at this particular time.

As one employer said, "There are lots of people looking for a job, but not very many who are

willing to WORK." There will be peaks and valleys in your job search. It requires effort on your part, but having the right attitude will go a long way to smoothing out the valleys as you go about your job hunt.



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