



## DOLLARS WITH SENSE

## GRADE 7

Dollars with Sense - is a fun and interactive, hands-on program that uses trained volunteer business professionals to help students develop financial literacy skills so they can make informed decisions about their finances today and set goals for their financial future. Through program content students learn about budgeting, money management, credit management, saving and investing and financial goal-setting.

The one day curriculum enhancing program allows students to:

- acquire knowledge and understanding of broad range of financial concepts and practices
- use critical thinking skills to make sound financial decisions
- communicate understanding of a range of financial and money management concepts
- apply and express acquired financial knowledge in oral and written forms

### Program Content

**LET'S TALK MONEY:** Students develop a money management self-profile and explore how their values and goals for the future factor into spending and saving their money. They will also examine the advantages and disadvantages of barter and money exchange systems and explore the most appropriate forms of exchange for making purchases and payments.

**BE A SMART SHOPPER:** Students examine their spending habits and reflect on the factors that influence their spending. They will also calculate the real cost of interest and demonstrate how to make smart financial decisions. Issues about consumer rights and responsibilities will also be introduced.

**LOOK AFTER YOUR MONEY:** Students differentiate between needs and wants and learn how to prepare a budget. Students also reflect on the importance of budgeting as a means of looking after their money and helping them meet their financial goals.

**MAKE YOUR MONEY WORK:** Students learn about a variety of investments, including savings accounts, Canada Savings Bonds, GICs, mutual funds and stocks and reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of each investment type.

### Student Benefits

- supports critical thinking and problem solving skills
- engages students to reflect about the real costs of living
- connects students to real world issues
- helps students understand their rights and responsibilities as consumers
- business volunteers provide positive role models and opportunities to discuss future career paths

### Teachers Role

- teachers **must** remain in the classroom for the entire day
- support student and class behaviour management
- support students completing program evaluation
- completion of teacher evaluation