

Chalk Talk

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PLEASE SHARE CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES!!!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Educators,

Last October, just as the seriousness of the economic crisis was coming into sharp focus around the world, representatives of the World Economic Forum were meeting in Canberra, Australia. Amid all of the bad news about sub-prime mortgage fore-



closures in the U.S., talks were taking place in the U.S., Britain, Canada, Europe, China, to name only a few, to grapple with how best to stop the panic selling in the stock market. On

October 9, 2008, the Forum released its Global Competitiveness Report, featuring a rating of the soundness of banks around the world and to our delight, Canada topped the list, followed closely by Sweden, Luxembourg and Australia.

U.S. economist, [Dr. Mark Skousen](#), who wrote that Canadians are “well-known for their modesty and self-restraint”, offered the following reasons for Canada’s ranking:

What’s Canada’s secret? With the exception of oil-rich Alberta, Canada did not have a strong construction surge as the United States did during the boom years. And mortgage interest is not tax deductible in Canada. Canadian banks are national in scope; the top five banks have branches in all 10 Canadian provinces, making them less susceptible to downturns. They have large numbers of loyal depositors and a more solid base of capital. They are more tightly regulated than their U.S. counterparts, more liquid and less leveraged.

Scoring a 6.8 out of a possible 7, Canada seemed poised to weather the economic storm better than most. Much has happened since then — interest rate cuts, government spending on ‘shovel ready’ projects, and possible government intervention to help save industries, such as the auto sector, and the associated jobs that entire regions depend on, have dominated the headlines.

Still, the stock market, the housing market, and the job market have suffered heavy losses. There is so much we don’t understand about saving, credit, banking and interest rates which form the foundation of our economy. This week’s **Chalk Talk** features information on the Bank of Canada’s own museum dedicated to the history of money which offers classroom resources for all grade levels.

CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing resources on a range of topics for the classroom. We invite you to visit our website at www.4edu.ca to view the many free teachers’ resources on offer.

[As always, your feedback is important to us.](#)

Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada



If recent events surrounding the economic crisis have taught us anything, it is that we need to understand money — what it is, how it works and how it began.

The [Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada](#) offers teaching tools to help students connect to “real world” economic issues. Whether you are trying to teach elementary students about money as a concept of exchange, second language students about the impact of counterfeiting on public confidence in currency, or high school students about how inflation influences what they can buy, the Museum offers products and services that teach students of all ages about money, the central bank, and the economy in English or in French...while having fun too!

With advice from teachers and bank note experts, and with today’s curricula and interactive learning methods in mind, the Currency Museum offers a variety of **FREE** teaching tools for use in the classroom.



Off-Site Products and Services:

- **Counterfeit Detectors** school curriculum module for teaching about good citizenship, as well as how to tell a real bank note from a fake.
- **Inflation Busters** interactive DVD for learning about the Bank of Canada, monetary policy and inflation.
- **What is Money?** teacher’s kit for teaching students about money as a concept.
- **The Currency Museum website**, online access at www.bankofcanada.ca/currencymuseum, offers on-line selections from the National Currency Collection, virtual Museum tour and other interactive programs.

See the **Website of the Week** below to find out more about the Museum’s **on-site** programs available free

Mary Kovack

Mary Kovack

for school groups. [Click here to learn more](#) about all that the Currency Museum has to offer. Educators who wish to order classroom resources may contact museum-musee@bankofcanada.ca by email, or if you prefer, call 613-782-8914.



Website of the week

FREE Audio Tour Programs Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada



The History of Counterfeiting FREE Audio Tour

The Bank of Canada designs bank notes that are difficult to copy in order to protect Canadian money from counterfeiters. The counterfeiting of money is not a new problem. In fact, examples of counterfeiting can be found throughout history—from the clipping of silver coins in Ancient Rome, to the forgery of Continental Dollars by the British during the American Revolution. The [History of Counterfeiting audio tour](#) explores the continuing struggle between the authorities who issue money and the criminals who try to counterfeit it.

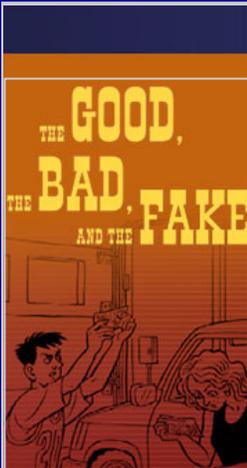
Penalties of Counterfeiting FREE Audio Tour

Counterfeiting is as old as money itself. And for each creative way to counterfeit money, there has been an equally creative way to punish the counterfeiter.

Join our virtual guide extraordinaire, Isaac Cragshaw, and explore the cruel and gruesome punishments that kings, emperors, and defenders of the law have imposed on these treasonous villains! [More ...](#)



NOTE: Both tours are presented on iPods which are loaned to visitors of the Museum free of charge.



Now on Exhibit at the Currency Museum!

The Good, the Bad, and the Fake

6 January to 5 July 2009

When Zoë and Dave find a bag full of money, they think they've got it made. Little do they know it's just a bag of trouble!

Counterfeiting is a crime that affects all of us. Not only does it mean that people who accept a fake bill are out-of-pocket for the value of that bill, but it can also lead to a loss of confidence in Canada's money.

[The Good, the Bad, and the Fake](#) is an exciting interactive exhibit that will show you, the visitor, how to avoid getting stuck with a counterfeit note by teaching you how to tell the difference between the good, and the bad. Why not plan a visit to the museum with your class?

In the meantime, for more about [counterfeiting detection](#), and, classroom activities for ages 10-14, [click here](#).

EXHIBIT | COMING SOON | Broken Coins and Paper Promises | 24 July to 13 December 2009

Share in the discovery! On Monday, 21 September 1696, French troops invade Ferryland, a colony on Newfoundland's English coast. As the Colonists flee, they leave behind their homes, businesses, and many personal belongings. Many of these lost objects are now being discovered by an archaeological team that has been working this site since 1992. Among the artifacts being found in the ruins are coins. These coins help tell the fascinating story of the first money used in Canada. Find out how in the Currency Museum's latest exhibit **Broken Coins and Paper Promises**.

MORE on-site Museum Programs — for K-12



- **Currency Museum Education Tours:** Counterfeiting, Economics, the Bank of Canada and more.
- **Inflation Busters simulation game sessions:** Learn about the Bank of Canada, Monetary Policy and inflation.
- **Pre-school and School Programs:** Help students of all ages learn about money. *Curious Currency Chests* for children aged three to six; *Dig It!* for the eight to 14 age group; *Money Matters* for students aged 10 to 14; and *Second Language Programs* for students of all ages.



Bank of Canada Headquarters, from Wellington Street.

Contact Educational Program Reservations to book your **FREE school visit today!**

• Phone: (613) 782-8852 • Fax: (613) 782-7761

• E-mail: museum-musee@bankofcanada.ca

[Minimum 12 students required]

[The Museum is located in the Bank of Canada building, 245 Sparks Street in downtown Ottawa.]



O.A.G.E.E.
Ontario Association for Geographic and Environmental Education

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Fall Conference Spring Conference Summer Institute

OAGEE runs two conferences each year, the spring and fall versions, and a sometimes a Summer Institute. Each conference offers Geographers the opportunity to share knowledge and resources, learn about the latest developments, and review the latest from the publishing community.

OAGEE 2009 Lake Temiskaming SPRING CONFERENCE

May 1 and 2

Registration Form: [MS Word format](#) [WordPerfect format](#)

Statistics Canada ... Business Studies and Economics High School Lesson Plans

The labour market — The changing nature of work, employment, and education in Canada ([view](#))

In this lesson, students reflect critically on employment and education trends in different provinces, as evidenced in 2006 Census results. They create headlines that summarize the challenges and opportunities associated with changing labour market conditions and education levels. Then they assess actual plans created by provincial and territorial governments to address these opportunities and challenges. To conclude, they develop recommendations based on statistical data and designed to improve the government plans they have examined.

Earning and incomes — Earnings and incomes of Canadians over the past quarter century ([view](#))

This lesson has students think critically about the changes in earnings and incomes of Canadians that are illustrated in census data. They assess the consequences of these income trends on various stakeholder groups, then rank these consequences in terms of the economic, social and political well-being of each group.

Marketing — Identifying potential target markets ([view](#))

With this lesson, students explore potential target markets for a bookstore. What community in their region would be the best location for this bookstore? Using *Community Profiles* on Statistics Canada's *Learning Resources* website, students research the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of two communities and compare their target markets.

These lessons and many more are available from the Statistics Canada Learning Resources website, in its [resources by school subjects](#) section. Click on [Business Studies and Economics](#), and then click on the "Lessons" tab.

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