

Chalk Talk

Greetings | Feature | News | Financial Basics

PLEASE SHARE *CHALK TALK* WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES !!!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Educators,

According to a recent [online poll, conducted by Ipsos Reid](#) on behalf of ABC Life Literacy Canada, 79% of Canadians lacked confidence about their ability to teach another person about money, saving and budgeting. Six in 10 Canadians admitted to needing help with their financial management skills, including 73 per cent of those aged 18 to 34. The survey also found that 38 per cent of respondents weren't putting any money into long-term savings on a monthly basis, while 36 per cent are putting away \$200 or less a month.

While those with less education were much less likely to be confident that they had the math and money skills needed to plan a solid financial future, the survey results also indicated that even Canadians with a university degree were experiencing challenges handling money matters and did not feel financially prepared for a rainy day.

If there is one thing that we all learned from the economic crisis of 2008, it is essential to have a plan and to have saved enough money to be able to weather the storm. While Canada withstood the crisis better than most countries, it has taken much longer for average families to recoup their losses and many are still working their way back to financial health.

It is critical that young people learn financial basics. This week's issue of **Chalk Talk** features an excellent financial literacy resource provided by Visa Canada for high school designed to help teachers provide students with a solid financial grounding. As well, educators are invited to participate in a survey by the Canadian Olympic Committee, asking for feedback on the Olympic School Program as they gear up for the 2012 London Games.

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.

[Let us know what you think!](#)

Mary Kovack

Visa's *Choices & Decisions* - 2nd printing!



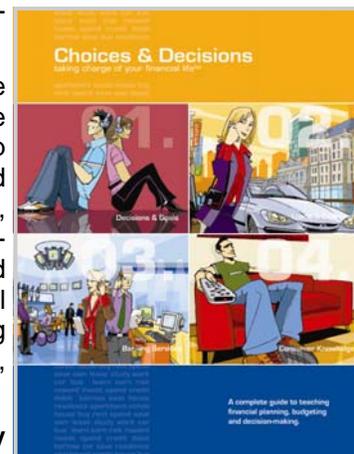
Now in its 2nd printing, Visa Canada's **Choices & Decisions: Taking Charge of Your Financial Life**, is an in-class financial literacy resource used by educators across the country to help high school students set financial goals, develop budgets, identify how and when to use credit and the basics of the banking system.



The **Choices & Decisions Educators' Kit** includes practical, ready-to-use, lesson plans designed by classroom teachers for use in today's schools. Each lesson contains goals, lesson objectives, timelines, teacher notes, teaching instructions and evaluation suggestions. There are supplemental activities and additional Web resources to help engage all high school grade levels and the lesson plans include overheads, quizzes and student activity worksheets.

Each of the 15 lessons are designed to give teachers the information they need to help their students understand financial planning, budgeting, develop better money management skills, set goals and start planning for financial milestones such as attending post-secondary institution, moving out or buying a car.

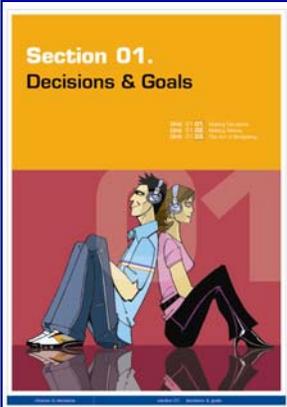
Over **4,200** financial literacy educators have ordered the 2009 revised and up-dated edition. To order your Teacher's Kit, go to www.4edu.ca/tors/visa/. Available in English and in French. Order your kit today! Quantities are limited. [For detailed information see 'Website of the Week', *below*]





**Choices & Decisions:
Taking Charge of Your Financial Future™**

Financial Basics for the Real World — Budgeting, Investing, Saving and Spending.



Section 01 — Decisions & Goals

Making Decisions

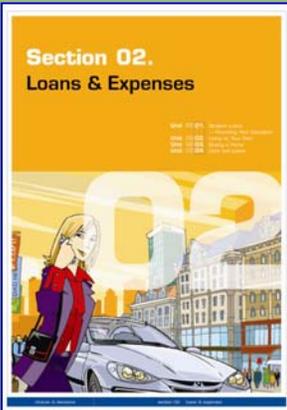
Provide an understanding and an awareness of the factors that can influence decisions; Introduce basic decision-making methodologies — analyzing a problem, identifying options.

Making Money

Introduce students to the career planning process; Evaluate current employment market; Preparing a resume; Understanding the Interview process.

The Art of Budgeting

Assist in identifying and prioritizing personal and financial goals; Financial planning; Personal Budgeting.



Section 02 — Loans & Expenses

Student Loans — Financing Your Education

Investigate the costs of post-secondary education; Outline available financial options.

Living on Your Own

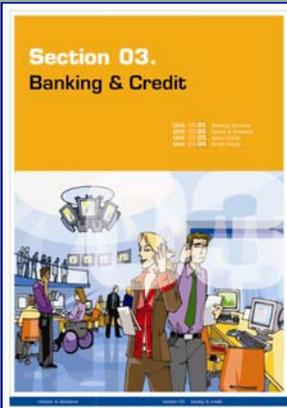
Understand the costs and provide practice in setting up budgets; Understand lease/rental agreements.

Buying a Home

Develop a basic understanding of the process and costs.

Cars and Loans

Investigate the financial responsibilities of buying, leasing, maintaining, insuring and operating a car; Evaluate impact on budgeting.



Section 03 — Banking & Credit

Banking

Provide practice in comparing and evaluating banking services, including chequing and savings accounts, ATM, debit cards and online banking.

Saving and Investing

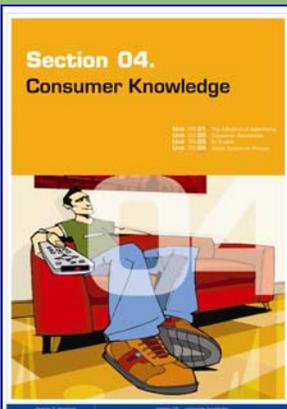
Introduce the advantages and disadvantages of common savings and investment vehicles

About Credit

Analyse the role and importance of the wise use of credit.

Credit Cards

Analyse the role and importance of the wise use of credit cards.



Section 04 — Consumer Knowledge

The Influence of Advertising

Examine the influence of advertising and the techniques used to influence consumer behaviour.

Consumer Awareness

Combine decision-making methods with comparative shopping techniques; Recognizing common consumer scams; Developing skills to handle consumer complaints.

In Trouble

Analyse the behaviours and circumstances that can lead to financial trouble; Identify options and steps that can rectify situation.

About Consumer Privacy

Stress importance of protecting personal information.



Make an Olympic-sized difference!

Complete the 2010-2011 Canadian Olympic School Program [Survey Now](#)

Last year the Canadian Olympic School Program kept the legacy of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games alive with the addition of the Challenge, Movement Skills and Case Study resources. Now it's time to pack your wellies and head across the pond for the London 2012 Olympic Games!

To create the best resources for teachers and students, we welcome your feedback. We encourage you to share your thoughts on the Canadian Olympic School Program and give us ideas of what you would like to see for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. Your feedback is invaluable and will help us in continuing to be a global leader in Olympic Education.

Complete the online survey [here](#) and make a difference!

Thank you for sharing in another memorable year with us. Plan to join us at www.olympicschool.ca for the 2011-2012 school year as we inspire your school with the Canadian Olympic Team and the London 2012 Olympic Games!

Please note: Survey closes June 8, 2011



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