



Compiled by AMM Staff

"D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives."

At last year's AMM Convention, Resolution 29/07 was passed calling on the AMM to lobby the Province of Manitoba to include drug awareness education in schools. Two specific programs were mentioned – the D.A.R.E. program and the Lions Quest program. Here is an overview of each, as well as contact information for the programs.

D.A.R.E.

Each year millions of school children across the world benefit from D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the highly acclaimed program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence. Originally an American program founded in 1983 in Los Angeles though cooperation between communities and local law enforcement, its success has seen it expand exponentially and is now in more than 43 countries around the world,

including Canada. D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. Additionally, it establishes positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other community leaders.¹

In Manitoba, the RCMP Drug Awareness Service is leading the charge for the D.A.R.E. program. "D" Division had its first officer training session in November 2000 and now has 63 officers trained to teach the D.A.R.E. program in Manitoba's elementary schools. Since 2001 "D" Division has visited and educated over 7700 elementary students in St. Adolphe, Beau-sejour, The Pas, Thompson, Steinbach, Selkirk, Killarney, Gillam, Moose Lake, Shamattawa and Oxford House, just to name a few.²



"LionsQuest involves school-based, comprehensive, positive youth development and prevention programs that unite the home, school and community, to cultivate capable and healthy young people of strong character."

If you are looking for more information on the D.A.R.E. program, please contact: **Sgt. Stu Evans**, RCMP, NCO i/c "D" Division DOCAS, Winnipeg Drug Section, 1091 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3K2, Office: 204-984-8411, Cel: 204-770-6571, Fax: 204-983-2976; E-mail: stuart.evans@rcmp-grc.gc.ca; your local detachment; or www.dare.com

Lions Quest

Lions Quest is another drug prevention program. Its programs are school-based, comprehensive, positive youth develop-

ment and prevention programs that unite the home, school and community, to cultivate capable and healthy young people of strong character, through life skills, character education, SEL, civic values, drug prevention, and service-learning education.


Lions Quest programs include:

Skills for Growing is the elementary school component of Lions Quest programs which reinforces character education, life skills, prevention, and service learning for personal school success. The Skills for Growing program was developed for class-

room and/or school-wide implementation, with active participation of students, educators, families, and community members.

Skills for Adolescence is the middle school component of Lions Quest programs designed specifically for the developmental needs of young adolescents, and provides comprehensive life skills and drug prevention curriculum, reinforcing communication skills, problem solving, goal setting, and resisting the use of alcohol and other drugs. The Skills for Adolescence program was developed for classroom and/or school-wide implementation, with active participation of students, educators, families, and community members.

Skills for Action is the high school component of Lions Quest programs and integrates character and life skills education, positive prevention, and service-learning into a unique learning experience in citizenship, civic responsibility, and career preparation for high school youth. Skills for Action can be taught as a separate class or integrated into an existing course. The Skills for Action program was developed for classroom and/or school-wide implementation, with active participation of students, educators, families, and community members.

Lions Quest programs have reached more than 11 million young people in more than two-dozen countries worldwide, primarily through school-based programs. To date, more than 33,000 educators and other adults have been trained to implement the programs in school and community settings, and program materials have been published in 20 languages.³ 



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References

- 1 www.dare.com
- 2 http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/mb/webpages/ddiv_programs_e.htm
- 3 www.lions-quest.org

What is your municipality doing to promote drug awareness education in schools?



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