



Make yourself useful:  
Growing the profession of  
Writing Studies in Canada

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# My focus

The future of multiple professional sites in Canadian writing and discourse studies:

- journals/publications
- Graduate education
- Renaming of professional organizations

# Journals/publications

Goal: impact on the largest number of instructors Canada-wide

Hundreds and even thousands of college and university instructors will never attend CASDW, Inkshed, or CWCA meetings

Publications like the *CASDW Journal*, *Inkshed Newsletter* and the *CWCA Newsletter* give us a model for circulating research and instructional innovations

# Action

Coordinate opportunities for various levels of publications:

- Newsletters
- Proceedings
- Peer-reviewed journal articles
- Books (Inkshed series)

# Workshops

Together with Heather Graves, I've given workshops to three groups like this in the past month—Langara College (BC), UWO (London, ON), and Humber College

The one-day/ half-day workshop can be a vehicle for sharing knowledge, getting instructors together to talk with each other, and building links with the larger community of writing studies knowledge workers

# Action

Build a list of writing studies scholars ready, able, and willing to give workshops on various topics

Publicize and share this list with learning and teaching offices in post-secondary institutions across the country

# Graduate education

Summer institute with graduate credit courses for those desiring to add credentials in writing studies

Within Western Canada, transfer credit agreements already exist so that any course taken in one arts faculty counts for credit in another

Use blended models for delivery: some online, one week of face-to-face meetings

# Action

Propose these courses as additions to existing arts MA and PhD degree programs

Propose certificate programs in Writing Studies to gather these courses into meaningful units/groups

Seek grants to develop and sustain the delivery of these programs



# New names, new approaches

- CATTW becomes CASDW
- Inkshed becomes ?
- CWCA emerging into an important new group
- Community college instructors not organized (?)

# Action

How do we gather these groups together into a more well-known and forceful group?