

# Douglas Elliott

I am the sole proprietor of QED Information Systems Inc. I am a consultant, doing statistical research for a variety of clients.



After teaching a few classes, I started work with the provincial government disseminating labour market information in a variety of publications. In the 1984 downsizing, my position was abolished and I started work as an independent consultant, working with Saskatchewan First Nations, governments, and the private sector. That work continues, but I expanded in 1988 by publishing a newsletter called Sask Trends Monitor.

The kind of thinking that is necessary to work in mathematics - the breaking down of complex problems into smaller solvable pieces and then reconstructing the solution in a logical fashion - has proven invaluable.

Even the day I graduated from university, I didn't know what I wanted to do, and it didn't matter. That's something I have a hard time getting across to the generation that's in university right now. None of us were there to get a job. We were there to have a good time, and to enjoy learning for learning's sake. You took what you liked, or what you wanted to learn about.

Do you think that's possible today?

It's going to be possible. Part of the work I'm doing is demographic analysis and trends. Because of the Baby Boomers retiring, there will be a shortage of workers, and I think we're going to get back to the situation where all you need is an education. So students should study what they enjoy.

I proudly call myself a "number cruncher" at conferences and workshops at which I am asked to speak.

## Sask Trends Monitor

The monthly newsletter tracks economic, demographic, and social trends from a Saskatchewan perspective and is exclusively about Saskatchewan statistics.

[www.sasktrends.ca](http://www.sasktrends.ca)