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Learning Reps News

Edinburgh Local Association

Career-Long Professional Learning and you.

Welcome back to another learning reps bulletin. After strike days, picket lines and another successful pay campaign I come to talk to you about professional learning. As we near the time for PRD's and professional sign off I think there are important points we need to continue to address.

Dom has spoken at length about making your CPD meaningful to you and I think this point cannot be understated. Numerous times I have found myself signing up for courses to simply fill gaps in my own profile. Doing this does not have any true value on improving ones: '*professional values*', '*professional knowledge and understanding*' or '*professional skills and abilities*' in any meaningful way. In essence your professional learning needs to be more than just ticking a box. Remember your professional learning is for you, you are the driver in the process.

Over the course of the last year myself and Dom have tried to highlight professional learning opportunities that may be of interest to members and bring you some learning events of our own. At the end of January, the wonderful Claire Young delivered the inaugural '*Knowing your no*' health and wellbeing workshop to members within the local association and the reception has been extremely positive. Moving forward we hope to work with Claire again and offer more of these sessions.

Furthermore, we are looking at delivering a session led by Dom this May, focussing on professional update and PRD process. Dom has worked extensively with the GTC and Rosie McColl (QIO at CEC) to make this session relevant and meaningful. We would like to invite as many members as possible to come along and join the conversation once we have locked down a date.

Breaking news!

It is with great excitement that I can bring you another date for your diary. On Thursday 27th April, 4.30-6pm, Business Gateway Edinburgh will bring a Teams learning event. Please contact Heather Stirling if you would like to attend - email: edinburghla@eis.org.uk.

An Introduction to Self-Employment and Starting Your Own Business

This session from Business Gateway Edinburgh will provide an introduction to what steps to take if you are considering starting to work for yourself. From market research to registering as self employed to marketing and bookkeeping.

There will be time at the end for Q and A, and also information about accessing further support, and how to arrange a 1 to 1 meeting with a Business Gateway Adviser.

So, if you are nearing retirement and wondering what your next adventure might be, or simply looking at increasing your revenue streams this is the workshop for you. This is an event specifically tailored for those living in and around the Edinburgh area. I would urge as many of you as possible to sign up and support this event.

What else can we do for you?

It occurred to me that you may be reading this latest bulletin, and perhaps be none the wiser as to what a learning rep does. Well, the main role of the learning rep is to support and advise our members in all aspects of their professional learning, including supporting members with advice on their PRD's and professional update.

Within Edinburgh over the last year myself and Dominic have been working closely with our colleagues at the City of Edinburgh Council looking at the '*Teachers Charter*' and how that sits within the learning agenda. We have also managed to maintain previously established links within the GTC, this helps us as reps better understand the professional update process and give the best advice and support possible to our members.

We are always happy to support members and offer advice where we can. Please do not hesitate to get in touch we will always try to get back to you as soon as possible. Hopefully we get the chance to meet and engage with some of you soon.

Best wishes
Martyn

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