

## **Do you walk the walk?**

*Staff*

Have you ever talked to anyone about Continuous Career Management? Have you ever said to any "You should still look for work, even when you're employed"? Have you ever suggested that someone takes a night course or two to keep their skills relevant? Are you doing any of these things yourself?

If you can honestly answer "Yes!" then you are a step ahead of me. As much as I know I should do these things, as much as I know they are not only good for me but essential to my career success and my ability to continue to service my clients effectively, the hours in my day seem to go by all too fast and then at the end of it all, I just want to go home and spend time with my family. Sound familiar?

It is hard knowing what is good for you to do but being so over whelmed by just getting through today's activities, that anything 'extra' is just not even remotely considerable.

I would like to suggest that the problem may not be just our busy days, but how we order what is important. I am guessing if you are in this industry you do it for the love of people, not the love of money. You probably enjoy what you do and enjoy helping others through difficult times.

For years we have heard that technology is supposed to make our lives easier. Well it is about time that became true and it may be part of the solution to our little dilemma (the dilemma I am referring to is the one where we talk the talk but don't walk the walk). How many people complain about not having enough time to 'get stuff done' but still have time to watch the latest 'Survivor', 'The Simple Life' or 'Everybody Loves Raymond'. I'm not suggesting this is bad. Everyone needs down time. But what if you took just 1 hour of that time, and did something else you enjoyed, like learn more about your profession, enhance your skills or increase your knowledge. Most people enjoy learning more about the things they like and as we said before you're probably not doing this job for the money.

So where does the technology come in. There are a host of places on the internet where you can take courses, at your own speed, to learn new skills or update old ones. You probably have referred some of your clients to them. Investigate them for yourself. See what they have to offer and find a course and enroll. With zero time required to get to and from a class, an hour is truly, just an hour.

Trust me, you won't miss the TV and it won't miss you.