

4†-Mile Home Ed.

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Welcome to the home of 40-Mile Home Education, a part of [Cherry Coulee Christian Academy \(CCCA\)](#). CCCA is a small Christian school operating under 40-Mile Christian Education Society, 35 minutes west of Medicine Hat on Highway 3. The home education division of CCCA has been going for a couple of decades, with Craig and Gwynne assuming the leadership in the fall of 2002.

40-Mile has three definite distinctive aspects: 1) One, we believe that the parents are the teachers, and the supervisors are coaches and counselors. Thus, the education of their children is primarily the parents' jurisdiction, and 40-Mile will do everything in its power to support that process.

2) Two, 40-Mile recognizes clearly that there is more to education than mere book learning. In addition to the necessary *core academics*, there are also *character qualities* and *life skills*. These three components create a very necessary balance in the individual—and will stand him or her in good stead for life.

3) Three, Craig and Gwynne Funston make all the visits together (ie. as a couple). They each have their respective strengths in curriculum, administration, and life skills. It is always best to “avoid all appearances of evil,” so with that in mind, we believe it prudent to come together.

Our supervisors:

- are a husband and wife team
- are both university trained teachers
- have 25+ years of homeschooling experience
- are committed to traditional homeschooling
- offer curriculum and resource counsel

What We Offer

The Ministry of Education expects the parents to take their home education option seriously, and this is carried out by semi-annual visits to the homes of those registered with the respective boards. Craig and

Gwynne make *every* visit together, as a husband and wife, with only the very rare time when it's not possible. And when a personal visit is not possible, then the home visit is done over the phone.

40-Mile is very keenly interested in the big picture (as well as the small one), and thus operates along two tracks, asking two basic questions: Is education taking place? And 2. How can we help you (the parent)?

Anecdotal notes are made at each visit and are subsequently filed away in the individual student files at Cherry Coulee Christian Academy. Throughout the year, we sends out four newsletters, plus offers the Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT) free of charge.

40-Mile has provided a toll-free number, available for educational support—which may come in the form of tutoring, curriculum or schedule counselling, or even something as seemingly mundane as conversation.

Our Supervisors



Craig & Gwynne Funston

Craig and Gwynne Funston have been involved extensively in the home education community for almost thirty years, both in British Columbia and Alberta. This involvement was initially the home education of their own nine (9) children, two of whom they are still teaching. Over the years they have co-founded, led, and been active members of home school support groups in various parts of these two provinces.

They have also been active in teaching workshops at the annual AHEA Convention over the years, running two booths for the organization; plus, Craig and their eldest daughter, Kendra, were the editors of *HOME Matters* (the magazine for AHEA members) for a number of years.

At this point in time, they are the only supervisors.

