

Sessions Schedule

Friday April 23

9:30 am - 11:30 am Pre-conference Sessions

Conference

12:00 pm	Opening, Partner Greetings
12:30 pm	Education Ministry Address
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Trade Show & Prize Draws
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Conversation Exchange

Saturday April 24

Conference

8:45 am	Welcome
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 am	Keynote Speaker
11:00 am	Trade Show & Prize Draws
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch Break
12:30 pm - 1:15 pm	Plenary Presentation
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Trade Show & Prize Draws
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
4:20 pm - 4:40 pm	Awards
4:45 pm - 5:30 pm	Closing Plenary

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Post-conference Sessions

Sunday April 25

Annual General Meeting

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Opening, Candidate Speeches
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Meeting, Board Elections



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Brenda Kell

Fundraising Association Financial Practices

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Fundraising associations are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider. Following sound financial management and proven business practices are critical for continued success in the school community. Topics include – identifying financial risks, managing risk, basic financial practices, and how to make spending decisions.

Brenda Kell has twelve years' experience with School Councils in a variety of positions. Six years as a Fundraising Coordinator, two years as a parent representative to the GATE Parents Association, one year as Vice Chair and three years as a School Council Chair permits her to understand a wide scope of school council issues.

Brenda has volunteered extensively in schools with a focus on classroom presentations demonstrating how Math and Science are integrated into other subjects. Brenda is a retired Electrical Engineer, and her professional background is in regulatory affairs, strategic planning, and best practices.

Known in her neighbourhood as the Lab Lady, Brenda breeds champion Labrador Retrievers and is always happy to "talk dogs".



Suzanne Lynch

Fundraising Association Bylaws

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

An incorporated fundraising association/society has the discretion to decide what bylaws work best for them, in keeping with the Societies Act, and within the context of their community. Topics include - model of governance, membership, decision making, terms of office, conflict resolution, bylaw changes, and dissolution.

Suzanne has been self-employed for 31 years as an aesthetician. She recently continued her passion for learning and personal growth, graduating with an Addictions and Community Service diploma. She has a great love for helping others reach their true potential.

Suzanne has been an active member of her daughter's school community and School Council. She has a great ability to develop interpersonal relationships with diverse groups. She is involved in her community, as well as a volunteer with Diabetes Canada.

Suzanne joined the ASCA team five years ago and is excited to be working with school communities. Seeing parents engaged in their child's success, while supporting their understanding of School Councils and Fundraising Societies, she finds very rewarding.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS LIST

Friday 2:30 - 3:30 pm

[Active Bodies, Thriving Brains: How Movement Fuels Mental Health](#)
[Our Legacy – Métis Culture & Perspective](#)
[Rural Youth: Pathways to Mental Health and Well-being](#)
[Complexities of Identity, Self-Identification and Systemic Racism](#)
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Saturday 9:00 - 10:00 am

[“Siha Tooskin Knows” ... Stories of a Young Nakota Boy for Reconciliation](#)
[The Influence of School Councils Through Comprehensive School Health](#)
[Validation – What it is and Why it Works](#)
[Introduction to SOGI 1 2 3](#)
[Give Students a Better Future - A Session to Advance Environmental Education 1/2](#)
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[Strategies to Support Adolescent Literacy at Home](#)
[7 Habits at Home \(Leader in Me School\)](#)
[Navigating on Virgin Snow: What can be Learned about Parent-Teacher Relations from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
[Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle](#)
[Achieving Student Success](#)

Saturday 1:30 - 2:30 pm

[Emotional De-escalation and Emotion Coaching: *Getting Them Back on Track for Learning*](#)
[Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Teacher Quality Standards](#)
[About the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia \(ARPDC\)](#)
[So - You Want to Be A Trustee](#)
[School Councils as Leaders](#)
[The Pandemic Pulse: Rapid Research Evidence on COVID-19 Impacts Across Alberta K-12 Schools](#)
[Give Students a Better Future - A Session to Advance Environmental Education 2/2](#)
[Fundraising Partnership Purpose](#)
[Understanding Your School’s Budget](#)
[I Am a Parent, Not an At Home Learning Teacher!](#)
[Leading with Purpose – What ASCA’s Board Should Do](#)

Saturday 3:15 - 4:15 pm

[Comprehensive School Health - 10 Stories of Wellness](#)
[ATA’s Code of Professional Conduct and Discipline Process](#)
[Myth Busting the Assurance Model](#)
[Treaty Education for Truth and Reconciliation: Allyship and Action](#)
[Homework: When Does Helping My Child Become a Hindrance?](#)
[Assessing What’s Hard to Measure: Our Children’s Learning](#)
[School Council-Trustee Relationship](#)
[Digital Citizenship and Online Safety for Parents](#)
[Healthy Movement in the Classroom](#)
[The Power of Play](#)
[Achieving Student Success](#)

Keynote Address Friday April 23 @ 12:30 pm



Education Minister Adriana LaGrange

Alberta Education

Join the Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education for her address to delegates on Ministry updates, education initiatives, and a brief question and answer session.

The Honourable Adriana LaGrange was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Red Deer-North on April 16, 2019. She was appointed Minister of Education on April 30, 2019.

Prior to serving with the Legislative Assembly, she was a trustee for the Red Deer Catholic Regional School Division for over 11 years, during which time she held every position, including board chair and provincial negotiator. She held the position of provincial president of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association from 2015 to 2018 and vice-president of the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association from 2017 to 2018.

Between 1981 and 2006 MLA LaGrange intermittently worked for the Michener Centre in Red Deer, where she filled various roles, including as a shift charge, behavioural specialist and social academic.

She has also been involved in managing the family farm and the trucking division of a hog farm partnership since 1984.

Over the years she has received numerous accolades for her community work, including having accepted the Friend of the Alberta School Councils' Association award in 2017 and the St. Thomas More award in 2018. She has also been recognized by the Michener Centre for her avid volunteerism.

She was born in Guelph, Ontario, and holds an honours diploma in rehabilitative studies from Humber College in Toronto, Ontario. She is a wife, mother of seven and proud grandmother of four.

She was the 924th Member to be sworn in to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Conversation Exchange Friday April 23 @ 3:45 pm

School Council: Leading with Purpose

How do school councils work to promote positive engagement in the school community to benefit student success?

The "conversation exchange" utilizes breakout group exercises to generate ideas and input for sharing.

School Councils can and do influence practices and actions promoting positive engagement in their school communities with the purpose of supporting and enhancing student success. During this online conversation exchange, come prepared to share your ideas, experiences, successes, and challenges as representatives from school councils across Alberta learn from each other discussing topics in the new reality of Covid-19 implications.

Keynote Speaker Saturday April 24 @ 10:15 am

Kelly Johnson, FranklinCovey Canada

Developing Life-Ready Leaders



Imagine what could change if you thought differently about education by focusing on a results-driven process for developing life and career-ready leaders. What if the leadership potential of every student was developed with the same fervor as reading, writing, and math? Envision what challenges could be resolved in a school-wide culture driven to:

- Inspire student accountability towards academic goals;
 - Release the passion, purpose, and potential of education staff;
 - Embrace the individual genius and talents of each student;
 - Empower teachers to create student-led learning environments;
- See and develop each student through the lens of a whole-person perspective.

Leader in Me Schools in over 55 countries worldwide are embracing this new paradigm and discovering answers to some of the most challenging issues educators face today.

Kelly Johnson, BA, BEd, MA is an Alberta educator, organizational development facilitator, experienced Professional Certified Coach, former school administrator, instructional coach and parent of two Alberta graduates. She supports schools, administrators, boards, school councils and central office leaders in school community transformation. To date, she has applied her coaching and educational expertise to partnering with senior and system leaders in the public and private sectors, government, public and post-secondary education, non-profit, health, communication/publishing and business entrepreneurial areas.

As a full-time leadership coach in government and now a full-time Alberta-based *Leader in Me* Coach with the Education Division of FranklinCovey, Kelly provides one-on-one team coaching and professional learning related to student empowerment, leadership and implementation of goals. Kelly brings inspiration, curiosity, strategy and a keen sense of passion to her personal mission to change the world alongside of other educators, system leaders, community members and families.



Plenary Presentation Saturday April 24 @ 12:30 pm

EcoVision Environment Club, Lacombe Composite High School

Student Panel - **Chelsea, Sneha, Jazmine, Harika, Hannah, Hailey, Harish, Eve**
Teacher **Mr. Steven Schultz**

EcoVision: A Story of Student Dreams Becoming Reality

Lacombe Composite High School's EcoVision is an environmental club where student's dreams become reality.

Students have become empowered to become ecological leaders through projects that benefit their environment, enhance their education and encourage community collaboration.

The EcoVision students at Lacombe Composite High School have organized projects over the past 15 years that have seen solar panels installed on the school roof, a geodesic energy efficient tropical greenhouse built, a two-acre garden developed and a unique urban beekeeping program incorporated into the curriculum.

A recent project is “Roofs 4 Kids” with an EPICC - Educational Pollinator Indigenous Carbon Capture - Garden, where students have built a baby goat or “KID” sanctuary with a rooftop garden, a rainwater catchment and solar power. Through this project, students would like to introduce an animal husbandry class, animal therapy program and reintroduce Indigenous herbs with medicinal, edible and pollination uses.

These projects — and many others — have led to the group winning the 2014 Emerald Award, the 2016 Ron Kruhlack Award and Canada’s Greenest School in 2018. Whether it’s feeding compost worms, raising tilapia fish, harvesting honey or building a goat sanctuary — listen and discover how EcoVision’s projects have left an impact on students, their school and the community.

Closing Plenary Saturday April 24 @ 4:45 pm

Dr. Debbie Pushor

Parent Engagement – A Conversation with Dr. Debbie Pushor

Join special guest, Dr. Debbie Pushor in our closing plenary, discussing parent engagement in conversation with ASCA President Brandi Rai.

Debbie Pushor, PhD, is a mother of three adult sons, Cohen, Quinn, and Teague, and a former public school teacher, consultant, principal and central services administrator. She currently works as a Professor in the Department of Curriculum Studies at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada.

In her program of research, Debbie has engaged in narrative inquiries into parent engagement and leadership, a curriculum of parents, and parent knowledge. She is currently engaged in research on systematic parent engagement in an elementary and a secondary school in Saskatchewan. In her undergraduate and graduate teaching, Debbie makes central an often absent or underrepresented conversation about the positioning of parents in relation to school landscapes.

Working with graduate students, Debbie has published two books, *Portals of Promise: Transforming Beliefs and Practices through a Curriculum of Parents* (Sense Publishers, 2013) and *Living as Mapmakers: Charting a Course with Children Guided by Parent Knowledge* (Sense Publishers, 2015). She has also published numerous articles and book chapters, and has co-edited a book on teacher education. More information can be found at www.debbiepushor.ca.

Debbie led the development of a 9-part video series on parent engagement in Early Childhood settings. The videos, *Care as a Bridge Between Us*, have been released as a free course through Debbie’s website.





Matt Mitschke



Melanie Vance

Active Bodies, Thriving Brains: How Movement Fuels Mental Health

Alberta Health Services (AHS)

Movement is essential for healthy physical and mental development in children and youth. A growing body of research highlights the vital role that physical activity has on cognition, brain function and mental health.

In this session you will learn how to use movement as a tool to promote emotional regulation, stress management, self-esteem, and problem-solving skills.

Come to gather and share ideas with others about the role that school councils can play in promoting mental health through movement.

You will have opportunity to try out some fun, practical movement activities to use in the classroom, school or virtual learning environment.

Matt and Melanie are Health Promotion Facilitators with Alberta Health Services, School Health & Wellness Promotion team. The School Health & Wellness Promotion team supports school authorities across Alberta to promote health and wellness in schools through a Comprehensive School Health (CSH) approach.

Our Legacy - Métis Culture & Perspective

Rupertsland Institute – Métis Centre of Excellence

Together we will explore Métis history and the importance of understanding this diverse and distinct culture. “If there is to be reconciliation, first there must be truth.” Timothy B. Tyson

Billie-Jo Grant is a proud citizen of the Métis Nation of Alberta with over 20 years of classroom experience teaching K-9 students in both the public and Catholic school divisions.

She was the recipient of a 2017 Inspire National Award in the role model category for Indigenous education and also received a 2018 International Women’s Award for her work in her local community and Indigenous education. In 2018, Billie-Jo completed her Masters degree and stepped out of the classroom into leadership to develop authentic, meaningful, and creative Métis resources with Rupertsland Institute - Métis Centre of Excellence.

She inspires others to be curious, have tough conversations, and learn more, to do better for ALL students. As the Associate Director of K-12 Education, Billie-Jo’s goal is to ensure that strong Métis education is commonplace in our education system and guarantee that Métis are no longer the “forgotten people”.



Billie-Jo Grant

Rural Youth: Pathways to Mental Health and Well-being

University of Lethbridge

Educators, service providers and health professionals are increasingly aware of the tidal wave of mental health concerns present in rural communities. For children and youth, anxiety is the most common mental health concern, yet depression and stress are also factors.

For rural youth, challenges of self-esteem, social displacement, challenges with time management and the stigma of needing help have all been identified as risk factors for mental health, and for Indigenous youth and LGBTQ2A+ youth, these factors are further amplified.

This presentation examines the functional challenges of youth mental health, and draws from the results of projects conducted by the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities to better understand the causal pathways to mental health, the prevalence of mental health issues in rural youth, and the opportunities or skills needed for developing and maintaining mental health resilience.

The presentation also examines the wealth of interventions available, with a particular emphasis upon school and art-based programming, literacy initiatives, lifestyle changes and strategies for youth as they transition to adulthood.

Lars K. Hallstrom is a Professor at the University of Lethbridge, and Director at Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy. He was a Former Director, Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities (2009-2020) – University of Alberta.



Dr. Lars K. Hallstrom,
PhD

Complexities of Identity, Self-Identification and Systemic Racism

Roots of Resilience Education Foundation

Roots of Resilience co-founders Seneca Dueck and Layla Dumont will share their experiences surrounding the complexities of identity, self-identification and systemic racism.

Layla Dumont is a Nehyiaiw iskwew (Cree Woman) from the Onion Lake Cree Nation in Treaty 6 territory. Layla holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and has experience in education, public safety through traditional healing and community-based rehabilitation including her work as a parole officer at a healing lodge for Indigenous women and in a community-based violence prevention program for Indigenous youth.

Layla works through an Indigenous cultural lens based on understanding of, and healing from, historic trauma through connection to spirit, culture, and community. Layla has also worked with the Alberta School Boards Association as the Indigenous Relations Coordinator, supporting education communities across Alberta in their journey towards reconciliation and is honoured to be back working directly with her people to address racism, discrimination and sexism through Roots of Resilience.

Seneca Dueck is a member of the Kahkewistahaw First Nation in Treaty 4 territory. Born Salteaux/Assiniboine Seneca was raised in the ways of the Nakota people of Treaty 6 territory. Seneca's career has been focused in Education working to support Indigenous youth in their endeavors to navigate the public education system in Alberta, and to inspire non-Indigenous youth to confront long held views of Canadian history through the experiences and lens of Indigenous peoples and the complex relationships with the people of this land.

Some highlights of her career include serving as the National Education Strategist for the Moose Hide Campaign, supporting Healing Our Spirit Worldwide, Project of Heart, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Education events, the College of Alberta School Superintendents FNMI Gathering and more through volunteer work.

Through this journey Seneca recognizes her responsibility to pass along the teachings of her Elders, family and community and sees Roots of Resilience as the avenue to create positive social change in this country. She is honoured to use her own agency to support this important work.



Layla Dumont (right)
Seneca Dueck (left)

The Walking School Bus

Grasslands School Division

Have you thought of a Walking School Bus for your school community? Join Katie Graham and Jennifer Shepherd as they share how they implemented a Walking School Bus Program in the community of Brooks to support elementary students who were walking to and from school.

They established two Walking School Bus routes and hired two walkers who took students to and from school. They will discuss set up procedures, hiring of walkers, communication of the School Bus Walkers to parents, students, staff, and community. Katie and Jennifer will share all of their resources and share their follow up and lessons learned.

Katie Graham is an Assistant Superintendent with Grasslands Public Schools. As a former K-12 administrator she understands the positive impact movement and activity have on the health and wellbeing of students. One of her goals as a system-level leader is to ensure a comprehensive wellness approach for all students and staff within Grasslands.

Jennifer Shepherd is the Grasslands Health Promotion Facilitator. She and her husband have three boys and enjoy acreage living. Her background is in nursing and nutrition. Her passion is whole wellness, and she hopes to bring more awareness to wellness into our schools and community.



Katie Graham

Jennifer Shepherd

The Learning Farm: Connecting Experiences with Curriculum

Sturgeon Public Schools/ École Morinville Public School

Come and join Aimee Diewert, Monique Webb and Sandra Wood as they lead you through the unique journey that resulted in a school wide Learning Farm being built at their ECS-Grade 9 school in Morinville.

The Learning Farm engages students in projects such as caring for chickens, composting, STEM challenges and more! Attendees will learn how this project has improved community relations, teacher collaboration, staff wellness, shaped student learning, enhanced school culture and brought JOY! This session is also for anyone who is looking for a new approach to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

Aimee Diewert, Monique Webb, Sandra Wood all teach with Sturgeon Public Schools at École Morinville Public School. They are veteran teachers with a wealth of knowledge and experience under their belts. They have expertise in Reggio, Literacy, Leadership, and special education, but their most recent claim to fame is as EMPS's Learning Farm Coordinators. At home they are all moms who enjoy spending time with their families.



Aimee Diewert,
Monique Webb, Sandra
Wood

School Council Purpose

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Understanding the legislated role of school councils including which topics/areas are open for discussion and which require caution helps to prevent tension and dysfunction within a school council and the school community. Learning how to identify the work of school councils, how to frame a "personal issue" from a school council perspective and how to broach sensitive topics is essential for new and returning members.

Marcia graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor's of Education Degree. As a former high school teacher, she saw first-hand the positive impact parental involvement had on student engagement and academic outcomes. So when her own children started school, she was excited to contribute. She has been volunteering on School Councils and Fundraising Associations for more than 18 years, and feels privileged to use her experience and knowledge to empower other parents. Marcia lives in Edmonton with her son, daughter and husband near the river valley, where they love to cycle, ski, walk and search for bugs.



Marcia Hole

Supporting Positive Emotional and Social Learning Through Recess

Balwin School, Edmonton Public Schools

Recess is a time that many students look forward to. In most schools, students get 15 minutes of play time three times a day (including lunch hour). Even though most students look forward to recess, without proper support many students will not benefit from the activity time in a manner that supports positive emotional and social learning.

Conflicts and frustration can be present at recess. Is there a way the environment can ensure the situations that arise are dealt with in a manner that supports resolution and return to activity in a healthy manner? Currently in Canada there are many recess initiatives being implemented.

This presentation will focus on one school's journey to initiate a safer and more active recess time for the students. The supports implemented will be discussed as will the support from the Comprehensive School Health team of both Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholic Schools. The initiatives in north Edmonton schools are now moving to many Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholic Schools and the result is schools supporting a recess system that is teaching students positive social and emotional regulation to support executive functioning skills, leading to happier and more focused students returning to academic learning.

Christina Jones is Principal at Balwin School (Edmonton Public Schools), Stacey Hannay, Consultant - Comprehensive School Health (Edmonton Public Schools), and Heather Rootsart, Consultant - Physical Education (Edmonton Catholic Schools).



Christina Jones



Heather Rootsart



Stacey Hannay



Alessandro Bilotta

Andrea Kocken

Youth Programming and Supports through YMCA

YMCA of Northern Alberta

The Youth Programs of the YMCA of Northern Alberta focus on services offered to youth who are experiencing at-risk behaviour or societal barriers. Moreover, the youth programs through the YMCA Community and Housing Initiatives portfolio work to support these youths through their transition into adulthood and back into society.

Supported by youth workers, youths accessing the programs gain a support and mentor who can come from five program areas with a focus on the specific needs of the youth. Through our youth programs, we look to encourage resilience and strength through the reflective process. Moreover, we affect positive change by meeting youth where they are at.

Alessandro Bilotta is the Youth Programs and Outreach Supervisor. He oversees the Youth Transitions Program, Alternative Suspension Program, and the Youth Community Action Network. These programs look to empower youth to take on leadership opportunities, reflect on their behavior and how to better themselves, and finally the overall transition into adulthood.

Andrea Kocken is the Program Supervisor for two YMCA of Northern Alberta programs that have been created recently, and have had great impact in our community. Overseeing the Youth Diversion Program and the Youth Detour Program, Andrea and her team look to impact youth who have gone through or are currently going through the justice system.

Engagement on the Draft Kindergarten to Grade 6 Curriculum

Alberta Education

A presentation on the draft K-6 curriculum including an update on Grades 7 to 10 and 11 to 12 development.

Ashley has been with the Government of Alberta for 20 years currently as the Executive Director of the Early Middle Years, French Education and Indigenous Curriculum. In this role, Ashley leads a team responsible for developing the draft K to 6 curriculum and supports curriculum engagement. Ashley has worked in Education for approximately 3 years.

Prior to working in Education, Ashley has spent time working in the departments of Municipal Affairs and Indigenous Relations. Previous to his work in Education, Ashley led Government-wide initiatives to implement the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, and worked closely with First Nations and Métis Settlements as the Métis Settlements Land Registrar and First Nations Consultation Policy Director.

Jennifer has been with the Government of Alberta for 12 years and is currently the acting Executive Director of Curriculum Coordination and Implementation at Alberta Education. In this role, Jennifer leads a team responsible for all the component parts that enable curriculum to be accessible to the education system. Ranging from curriculum implementation strategies to stakeholder engagement, the production and digitization of curriculum through to the operation of new.learnalberta.ca to learning and teaching resources and all things in between.

Prior to joining the Alberta Education team nearly two years ago, Jennifer worked in various government departments including Alberta Labour, Corporate Human Resources, Human Services and Justice and Solicitor General. In these portfolios, Jennifer has led teams to deliver operational excellence and strategic initiatives, working in leadership and talent development, supporting Albertans with employment standards issues and working with Victim Service organizations across the province.



Ashley Bodnar



Jennifer Cassidy

Leading with Purpose - What ASCA's Board Should Do

Alberta School Councils' Association

If Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) could inform, consult, involve, collaborate with, and empower School Councils in a manner it is not doing now, what would that look like? Join ASCA Board members in this discussion to provide your thoughts and insights intended to guide the work of the ASCA Board of Directors and the Association.



ASCA Board of Directors



Charlene Bearhead

Siha Tooskin Knows... Stories of a Young Nakota Boy for Reconciliation

Join authors Charlene and Wilson Bearhead as they share the stories of Siha Tooskin, Paul Wahasaypa, an 11 year old Nakota boy living and learning in an urban community in western Canada. Charlene and Wilson will share their 8 book series and share ideas for teaching and learning with your own children at home and in schools.

Charlene is a mother, grandmother, educator, Indigenous education advocate and author with over 30 years of regional, national and international experience. Charlene is the co-author of the children's book series, Siha Tooskin Knows. Previously Charlene was a co-founder of Mother Earth's Children's Charter School, education coordinator for both the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls as well as education advisor for the Canadian Geographic Indigenous People's Atlas of Canada. Currently she is a Director of Reconciliation at Canadian Geographic, and member of the Indigenous Education Advisory Circle for National Film Board.



Wilson Bearhead

Wilson is Nakota and a member of the Wabamun Lake First Nation in Treaty 6 territory and the co-author of the children's book series, Siha Tooskin Knows. Wilson has served as Chief in his own community, Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty 6 as well as the Assembly of First Nations Alberta Regional Chief. Wilson was the first Elder in Residence for Edmonton Public Libraries before moving to the field of education where he served as the Elder for Elk Island Public Schools for four years and is now the Elder in Residence at Victoria School for the Arts in Edmonton Public Schools.

The Influence of School Councils Through Comprehensive School Health

Ever Active Schools

School councils are key partners for supporting the well-being of all learners in the school community. Using the Comprehensive School Health framework, Ever Active Schools invites you to join this session to learn how school councils can engage and impact the health and academic outcomes of students by providing resources and learning opportunities, as well as collaborating to influence decision-making.

Attendees will learn about areas they can support within their school community, including:

- active school travel
- in-residence learning for overall wellbeing
- intramural and extra-curricular activities
- healthy fundraising

Ever Active Schools is a registered national charity designed to create and support healthy school communities. We engage and support schools through a Comprehensive School Health framework, which addresses health and education goals to improve the social outcomes of children and youth in Alberta.



Ever Active Schools

Validation - What it is and Why it Works

The Sashbear Foundation

In this session we will look at using validation to be more effective when communicating with others and why it works. We will also explore some myths about validation, the many obstacles that get in our way to validate and how to overcome them. Most of the time it's not easy... AND it works... because it's powerful to feel understood!

Lynn Courey and Mike Menu are co-founders of The Sashbear Foundation, a charitable organization created in 2012 after they lost their daughter Sasha to suicide at the age of 20. They are trained NEABPD Family Connections™ (FC) leaders providing psycho-educational and skills groups to families with a loved one challenged with mental health issues. The Sashbear Foundation has expanded the FC evidence-based program throughout Canada running groups that give skills and hope to over 1,000 participants per year and growing. Lynn is the president and chair of the foundation and, in 2017, was voted one of Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's (CAMH) 150 Difference Makers in Canada.



Mike Menu, Lynn Courey



Scout Gray

Introduction to SOGI 1 2 3

ARC Foundation

SOGI 1 2 3 is an initiative that helps educators make schools safe and inclusive for students of all sexual orientations and gender identities (SOGI).

This session will provide participants with an understanding of what SOGI 1 2 3 is, what resources are available for educators and parents, and what SOGI-inclusive education looks like in schools at different grade levels. Pathways to inclusiveness are diverse, and this session is ideal for those interested in how SOGI 1 2 3 can support all members of the school community to achieve student success.

Scout is a youth engagement specialist who uses education to foster positive social change. Scout is passionate about creating safe and inclusive spaces for youth. In their role as the SOGI 1 2 3 Program Lead, Scout supports educators throughout western Canada to reach their SOGI-inclusive education goals.

Give Students a Better Future - A Session to Advance Environmental Education (1 of 2)

Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental and Energy Education

What do students want to see in their education to help them be part of the solution to create a sustainable future? Students from the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental and Energy Education (AYLEEE) will share some of their concerns about what they feel is lacking in their education and what they need to prepare them for a rapidly changing world.

They will highlight the work they have done in creating their own recommendations for enhanced environmental education in K-12, and some of their current work in engaging school communities. They'll share the materials they've developed to support their work.

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and find out the different ways in which they may help support students with their ask of education leaders.

Shauna Kelly joined ACEE in May 2019 as the Environment and Energy Education Intern and has now taken on the role of Youth and Program Coordinator for the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental and Energy Education (AYLEEE). She is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental and Sustainability Studies at the University of Northern British Columbia and has a strong passion for environmental education.

Shauna first discovered her passion while volunteering for the Alberta Climate Leadership Youth Network (now AYLEEE), where she had the opportunity to connect and collaborate with Alberta students on the importance of environmental education and youth voice.



Shauna Kelly

The Work of School Council

Alberta School Councils' Association

School Councils often struggle with identifying the types of activities and work they should be doing in order to truly fulfil their legislated role. In this workshop, school councils are encouraged to examine what they are doing in relation to their intended purpose and the intended result of their work, and then consider alternative means of including their school community.

Suzanne has been self-employed for 31 years as an aesthetician. She recently continued her passion for learning and personal growth, graduating with an Addictions and Community Service diploma. She has a great love for helping others reach their true potential.

Suzanne has been an active member of her daughter's school community and School Council. She has a great ability to develop interpersonal relationships with diverse groups. She is involved in her community, as well as a volunteer with Diabetes Canada.

Suzanne joined the ASCA team five years ago and is excited to be working with school communities. Seeing parents engaged in their child's success, while supporting their understanding of School Councils and Fundraising Societies, she finds very rewarding.



Suzanne Lynch

Strategies to Support Adolescent Literacy at Home

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium

Alberta Education defines literacy as “... the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with language to acquire, construct and communicate meaning in all aspects of daily living” (2016). Learners in all subject areas require the use of literacy tools -- reading, writing, viewing, listening, and speaking -- to construct meaning in diverse contexts and for a variety of purposes. This session will provide parents with some practical tips on how to bolster their adolescent’s ongoing literacy development at home.

Tannis Niziol is currently supporting Alberta teachers as a Professional Learning Facilitator with the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. She recently served as the Secondary Language Arts Consultant for the Edmonton Catholic School Division. Throughout her 30-year career as an educator, in both Edmonton and Winnipeg, Tannis remains passionate about teaching and learning, and the need for explicit literacy apprenticeship at all levels in all subject areas.



Tannis Niziol

7 Habits at Home (Leader in Me School)

FranklinCovey Education, Good Shepherd School – Fort McMurray Catholic

Join Sheldon Germain, Principal of Good Shepherd School (A Leader In Me Lighthouse School) in Fort McMurray and *FranklinCovey Education* consultant and a former Leader In Me principal, Anthea Boras, as they introduce the **7 Habits of Highly Effective People** and how they can be used in your home to help build a strong foundation for life-ready leadership skills, social emotional learning and wellness.

You will leave with a couple of activities that you can take home to complete with your family.

At FranklinCovey Education we strive to enable greatness in people and organizations everywhere!

Sheldon Germain is Principal of Good Shepherd School with Fort McMurray Catholic Schools, and Anthea Boras is a FranklinCovey Education Consultant and Client Partner.



Sheldon Germain



Anthea Boras

Navigating on Virgin Snow: What can be Learned about Parent-Teacher Relations from the COVID-19 Pandemic

University of Alberta

This session will share highlights from an ASCA-sponsored study that explored parent-teacher dynamics during the first pivot to emergency remote teaching in March, 2020. Based on web surveys of 1067 parents and 566 teachers, and individual interviews with 10 parents and 10 teachers, the study provides insights into what worked and did not work for parents, and how parent-teacher relations were both strengthened and strained during school closures.

Because the data collected reflect the early days of the pandemic when everyone was navigating on virgin snow, it will provide a launch point for discussing whether and/or how school communities have worked together to create the best possible experience for children and youth given the persistence of, and continually shifting impact, of COVID-19.

Bonnie Stelmach is a Professor in the Department of Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta. Her research career was launched through a study of parents’ roles in school improvement, and she has continued to explore parent-teacher dynamics, especially in rural and secondary schools where she did most of her teaching.



Dr. Bonnie Stelmach



Pamela McCoy Jones



Lynda Burgess

Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle

First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Directorate, Alberta Education

In this session, you will receive an overview of the work of the Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (Circle). The purpose of the Circle is to provide a forum for education stakeholders and Alberta Education to collaborate in a meaningful way on matters and issues related to Indigenous education and advancing truth and reconciliation.

Pamela is a purpose driven policy professional, with extensive experience in Indigenous education. She is a proud member of Batchewana First Nation, which is along the beautiful Lake Superior in Ontario. She has found roots in Treaty 6 territory and lives in Stony Plain along with her husband, two teenage sons and two younger daughters. She is a Policy Advisor in the Policy and Intergovernmental Collaboration Branch, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Directorate within Alberta Education.

Lynda is a relational leader and teacher first with over 20 years' experience in teaching and leadership positions with St. Albert Public Schools, before joining Alberta Education in 2013. She has found roots in St. Albert, Treaty 6 territory, where she lives with her two university age children. Lynda is currently a Manager in the Policy and Intergovernmental Collaboration Branch, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Directorate within Alberta Education.

Achieving Student Success

Alberta School Councils' Association

What are the best ways to achieve student success in Alberta within the realities we know exist now, and are likely to exist over the next two (2) years? Join ASCA President Brandi Rai in this positive, respectful, and safe space, to share **solution-focused ideas** on critical education topics impacting student success at local, jurisdictional, and provincial levels.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 24th 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM



Sue Huff

Emotional De-Escalation and Emotion Coaching: *Getting Them Back on Track For Learning*

This is a skills-based workshop which will teach you how to help someone quickly de-escalate an overwhelming emotion to return to a more rational, flexible and receptive state of mind. This workshop is especially useful for parents, teachers, administrators, and front-line workers who are confronted with the emotional dysregulation of others and aren't sure what to say or do to help the situation.

This workshop was developed by Dr. Adele Lafrance, who has a PhD in Child and Clinical Psychology and is the co-director Mental Health Foundations. After working for many years with Canadian school boards as a psychologist, Adele developed this quick and effective de-escalation tool for teachers in direct response to their classroom needs as well as their feelings of burnout. Adele, who is based out of Ontario, has delivered the workshop countless times to parent groups, schools and police officers. Sue Huff is the only person in Alberta currently authorized to deliver this workshop.

At the conclusion, participants will have:

- a quick strategy (<2 minutes) to de-escalate any intense emotion, in anyone, of any age or background
- insight into what is happening in the brain when a person is flooded with emotion and why they can't learn, receive direction or support in this state
- a deeper understanding of our own strengths and weaknesses when dealing with the emotion of others
- access to additional resources, including free webinars to reinforce skills
- the ability to role model this approach at work, at home and in the community, creating ripples of positive change around accepting and processing emotions

Sue Huff is a skilled presenter who brings a wealth of experience to her work. She is the former Executive Director for the Eating Disorder Support Network of Alberta, former Trustee with Edmonton Public School Board, the author of *The Book of Hope*, and has been trained in Emotion-Focused Family Therapy, Mediation, Conflict Resolution and Restorative Justice Practice.

She has also worked as a professional actress, an award-winning writer for television, and director for the National Film Board of Canada. Most importantly, she is the parent of a child who has recovered from Anorexia Nervosa and counts the skill embedded in this workshop as the single most powerful tool she has as a parent to help her child process and regulate the powerful emotions associated with this mental illness.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Teacher Quality Standards

Northwest Regional Learning Consortium

This session provides an opportunity to take a closer look at the changes and additions to the September 2019 Teaching Quality Standard. Examine connections to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action in education and peruse other potential areas for action.

Previously a teacher, principal, and researcher in northern Alberta, Kim's work evolved into building educational equity. This path led her to the work of many influential educators in the field such as Curtis Linton, Anthony Muhammad, John Hattie, and Mike Mattos. She spent many years involved in diversity leadership training with the National Coalition Building Institute.

Additionally, Kim had the unique experience as the protégé of a Cree Elder for ten years. As a principal, Kim was able to put all she learned into practice with favorable results in student achievement. She learned firsthand the complexities involved in building educational equity. Kim continues to live on an acreage in the High Prairie area with her husband, enjoying the outdoors and spending time with her children and grandkids.



Kim Barker-Kay

About the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC)

Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia

Join Executive Directors in this session to learn more about how The Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC) are dedicated to promoting student learning and achievement, school improvement, and parental engagement in the educational process through the provision of professional learning opportunities at the local, regional and provincial levels.

This session will include an overview of Consortia, an exploration of our website and direction on how to access professional development sessions for you and your school community.

Sandra Ciurysek is the Executive Director for the Northwest Regional Learning Consortium (NRLC) and has been with Consortia for the past four years. Sandra is a former elementary school principal and high school English teacher. She has taught various subjects from K-12, led the student services department of K-6 school and has a passion for education. Sandra is experienced in delivering adult learning, teacher professional development and is an advocate for lifelong learning. She holds a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Lethbridge, a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta and is a longtime resident of the Peace River Country.

Brent Allen is privileged to be entering his eighth year of service, as the Executive Director for the Learning Network Educational Services. In his 'former life', he was a teacher and administrator for 33 years and had the privilege of teaching at every grade level from K-12. Brent has served as the President of the Canadian Student Leadership Association and, along with representatives from Lloydminster Catholic Schools and Lloydminster Public Schools, was the Co-Chair of the 2005 Canadian Student Leadership Conference hosted in Wainwright and Lloydminster. As he continues along on his journey, the lens through which he views the world includes the perspective of a 'Grandpa'. There remains nothing more precious to all of us than our children. By keeping them at the forefront of all our discussions, we ultimately arrive at the decisions which are best for our collective futures. As Jess Lair shared, "Children are not things to be molded, but are people to be unfolded."



Sandra Ciurysek



Brent Allen



Brian Callaghan

So - You Want to Be A Trustee

Sosna Koti Consulting Inc.

The call to represent one's community as an elected official is the cornerstone of our democracy. If you are considering answering the call this workshop will provide you with an overview of the legalities and protocols that one must consider before advancing your nomination. We will review the existing legislation governing eligibility and process to become a Trustee, and also touch base on a few practical matters once your campaign begins.

Brian Callaghan's background includes 25 years as Alberta Superintendent of Schools, five years as Education Consultant with the Alberta School Boards Association, three years Consultant and Executive Director with Public School Boards' Association of Alberta, and Education Consultant with Alberta School Councils' Association. His Community Service includes 30 years with Rotary, Director with Bow Valley Community Foundation, Palliative Care Society of the Bow Valley and Alberta Council for Environmental Education.

School Councils as Leaders

FranklinCovey Canada

Learn and explore what it's like to lead with purpose both in life and work to achieve your most compelling results. The *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* is a time-tested system of principle-centred leadership that honours your core purpose and addresses your desired outcomes.

It can be utilized by both individuals and organizations and has been applied worldwide for over 30 years. Did you know that this system of leadership can even be taught to very young children? The *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* is anchored in the definition of leadership as choice, not position and can be practically applied.

When we look at leadership in this way, everyone can be a leader and school councils are in a unique position to model this perspective. In this session, participants will get a taste of each of the seven habits along with a handful of practical applications within each habit in order to make connections to their lives and work.

Imagine the power of province-wide, highly effective school councils modeling life-ready leadership skills and competencies for students, staff, parents and community. Imagine the incredible promise and potential we could release in education both today and in future generations.

Kelly Johnson, BA, BEd, MA is an Alberta educator, organizational development facilitator, experienced Professional Certified Coach, former school administrator, instructional coach and parent of two Alberta graduates.

She supports schools, administrators, boards, school councils and central office leaders in school community transformation. To date, she has applied her coaching and educational expertise to partnering with senior and system leaders in the public and private sectors, government, public and post-secondary education, non-profit, health, communication/publishing and business entrepreneurial areas.



Kelly Johnson

The Pandemic Pulse: Rapid Research Evidence on COVID-19 Impacts Across Alberta K-12 Schools

Alberta Teachers' Association

This session will share the key findings from a series of pandemic research activities conducted by the profession of teaching in Alberta in the Spring and Fall 2020 and Winter 2021. Each survey scanned thousands of teachers and principals across Alberta and has created a historical record of the pandemic's impact on education in Alberta.

This session will open up small group discussions about what this tells us about the future of teaching and learning in Alberta, wellbeing for children and youth, and what trends will begin to emerge in the months and years ahead in light of the emerging issues, forces and accelerating trends identified in the Alberta's K-12 pandemic pulse research surveys.

Dr. Philip McRae is Executive Staff Officer and Associate Coordinator, Research with the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), and Adjunct Professor within the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta, Canada where he earned his Ph.D.



Dr. Phil McRae

Phil is the past winner of the Alberta Excellence in Teaching Finalist Award, the University of Alberta's Queen Elizabeth II Doctoral Scholar Award, Minister of Education's Innovation Award, and the ATA Provincial Educational Research Award. He represents the teaching profession and field of education in Canada on several provincial and national committees and as Director on several Boards, including Harvard Medical School's Centre on Media and Child Health.

Give Students a Better Future - A Session to Advance Environmental Education (2 of 2)

Alberta Council for Environmental Education

The Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE), along with engaged students from the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental and Energy Education (AYLEEE), will speak on the importance of advancing environmental education in Alberta schools.

During this session, presenters will review the new evidence they have gathered from youth polling and youth focus group research, as well as providing personal insight from students in the K-12 education system.

You will learn of the work ACEE and AYLEEE are doing to support education leaders (including school councils) to 'take the next steps' to advance environmental education. You will receive digital resources to help improve the environmental, energy and climate literacy of youth. At the end of the presentation, you will have opportunity to ask questions and find out the different ways in which you may 'give students a better future' by supporting environmental education.

Kathy Worobec is a Senior Education Advisor for ACEE. She brings her more than 25 years of experience in environmental and energy education programs to this role. She provides strategic guidance for programs and operations. Kathy is our lead in supporting, connecting and building capacity within the environmental and energy education community. She continues to support our work in advancing environmental education with education leaders in K-12 education. Kathy has taught in the classroom, worked in the energy efficiency field and before joining ACEE was part of the Pembina Institute and GreenLearning Canada education teams. She received her education degree from the University of Alberta.



Kathy Worobec

Fundraising Partnership Purpose

Alberta School Councils' Association

Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider. Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential.

Marcia graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor's of Education Degree. As a former high school teacher, she saw first-hand the positive impact parental involvement had on student engagement and academic outcomes. So when her own children started school, she was excited to contribute. She has been volunteering on School Councils and Fundraising Associations for more than 18 years, and feels privileged to use her experience and knowledge to empower other parents.



Marcia Hole

Understanding Your School's Budget

Association of School Business Officials of Alberta

Critical to understanding a school budget is knowing the language and being able to ask the right questions. This session is intended to provide you with a fundamental vocabulary for the variety of ways resources are allocated to schools, the limitations and constraints of your school's budget, and how to ask probing questions, that are indicators of your school's priorities. *"If you want to know the priorities, follow the money."*

Edward Latka is currently Secretary-Treasurer for STAR Catholic Schools and a past president of the Association of School Business Officials of Alberta (ASBOA). A member of ASBOA for over 23 years, serves on numerous provincial committees, and has a breadth of experience in school business management of administration gained from working with five rural or "rurban" school boards across the province in his career. He is a Chartered Professional Accountant, with a business degree from McMaster University, growing up near Mayerthorpe, Alberta.



Edward Latka



Corrie Ziegler

I Am a Parent, Not an At Home Learning Teacher!

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium

As parents, you and your child(ren) have no doubt experienced some form of “at home learning” at least once this past school year, and in fact, many of you are still engaged in “at home learning” today.

Working with your child(ren) at home has most likely challenged you in ways you could not have imagined previous to the onset of the pandemic! Teaching your child was NOT a job you signed up for! The good news is that as parents, you do not have to be your child’s *teacher*. But, you do have an incredible role to play in your child’s at home learning.

Attend this session to deepen your understanding of how to become a powerful influence in your child’s at home learning. You will learn about some practical, researched based strategies to foster your child’s learning. We will discuss questions such as:

- How do I create a positive learning environment?
- What does a realistic schedule for learning at home look like and how is the schedule adjusted for different aged children?
- How much support should I be giving my child? What does that support look like – how is guiding different from telling? How do I know if I am providing too much support? Not enough support? What kind of feedback should I give?
- What is the difference between practice and teaching? What is my role as a parent?
- How do I keep my child engaged?
- How do I help with assignments, especially when my child is struggling?
- What about the length of screen time?
- How can I encourage movement and physical activity into the day, and why is it important to do so?
- What about issues related to isolation? Friendship? Anxiety? Social emotional learning?
- How do I support and balance the learning of more than one child, as well as my own work challenges?

If the above questions resonate with you, I look forward to “meeting” you and engaging in dialogue together!

Corrie Ziegler has been an educator for over 39 years. Prior to joining Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium, Corrie served as a teacher, principal, supervisor and director with Edmonton Public Schools, where she led numerous district-wide projects, managed complex teams, and facilitated professional learning sessions on a broad spectrum of topics related to teaching and learning.

Corrie has her Master’s degree from the University of Alberta, and was a finalist in Alberta’s Excellence in Teaching awards program. Corrie believes in the power of collaboration and has coached numerous learning communities in working together to achieve high levels of engagement and learning for all students.

Leading with Purpose - What ASCA’s Board Should Do

Alberta School Councils’ Association

If Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) could inform, consult, involve, collaborate with, and empower School Councils in a manner it is not doing now, what would that look like? Join ASCA Board members in this discussion to provide your thoughts and insights intended to guide the work of the ASCA Board of Directors and the Association.



ASCA Board of Directors



Brian Torrance

Comprehensive School Health - 10 Stories of Wellness

Ever Active Schools

More than ever the health and wellbeing of our students, staff and school community is critical. We are and will move through COVID but we will need to focus on wellbeing for everyone in our learning environments.

Advancing health in school is never a straight forward journey and is not a checklist of “things to do”. But - in this session, we will break the rules and try to create that checklist from stories of wellness from across the province.

Delegates will learn about long term strategies to play a critical role in wellness and also some things that school councils can implement at their next meeting.

Ever Active Schools works alongside other provincial organizations working to address the health and wellbeing of students in healthy school communities. This session will highlight key projects and provide opportunities for school councils to work alongside Ever Active Schools.

Topics will include community engagement, positive mental health, advocacy, student voice initiatives, what to make of grants, building capacity and more.

School councils have an important and critical voice in the wellness of their school community.

Brian Torrance is the Executive Director of Ever Active Schools (EAS) aimed to advance health and wellness in Alberta School Communities. Brian works with associated government ministries, connects with partners, leads fund development, provides a vision, and initiates new projects that support health and wellness in Alberta children and youth. Brian firmly believes that to improve the health and wellness of children and youth in Alberta we need to increase the value of the dialogue and solutions will be a collaborative, partnership based approach. *"The best part of my job is working with passionate, dedicated people across the province in support of healthy, happy schools. Everything is aiming to achieve what is best for our youth. It's important and fun to connect the dots to make this happen,"* he says. He's been happily working with EAS since 2010.

"My hobby is also a healthy addiction to running and my two young girls are teaching me dance" says Brian.

ATA's Code of Professional Conduct and Discipline Process

Alberta Teachers' Association

This session will look at the Alberta Teachers' Association's (ATA) Code of Professional Conduct and its discipline process. The session will help delegates understand the difference between unprofessional conduct and competence; what unprofessional conduct looks like; how complaints are investigated; and, when a request for investigation should be filed with the Association.

Dan is currently an executive staff officer in the Member Services program area with the ATA. Prior to joining the ATA, Dan was a principal, assistant principal, and classroom teacher for 14 years in two school divisions (Pembina Hills and Elk Island Catholic). Dan has been with the ATA for the last two and a half years.



Dan Coles

Myth Busting the Assurance Model

Alberta Education - System Excellence Division



Gloria Iatridis

This session focuses on the question - what is the assurance framework? The session examines how the framework was developed, what are the key features of the framework and how it differs from the Accountability Pillar. It also examines how school authority planning and reporting is reflected in the assurance framework. The session will also examine the role of school councils in supporting the assurance framework at the local level.

Gloria is the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), System Excellence with Alberta Education. Prior to that Gloria was the ADM, Policy, Innovation and Indigenous Connections with Children's Services for three years. She initially started working for the Government of Alberta in September 2014 for Human Services as the ADM, Aboriginal Engagement & Strategy.

Before moving to Alberta, Gloria worked for the Government of the Northwest Territories (NWT) for 20 years. She was the Associate Deputy Minister and ADM of Advanced Education and Income Security for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment. Gloria also worked as the Deputy Director of the NWT Human Rights Commission.

Gloria has a Bachelor of Arts from Augustana University College and an Advanced Executive Certificate in General Management from Queen's School of Business. Gloria is also a Certified Arbitrator/Mediator. Gloria is Inuit, born and raised in the community of Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.



Sean Wells

Sean taught for 12 years with Edmonton Public Schools. He joined the Government of Alberta in 2007 as a secondee in the Provincial Achievement Program where he developed field tests for Knowledge and Employability Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) and went on to become the Examination Manager for Science grade six (6) and nine (9) PATs.

Sean became Director for the Provincial Achievement Program where he oversaw the development and implementation of the Student Learning Assessments. Sean went on to become the Director of Certification and Analytics with Municipal Affairs for three years. He returned to Alberta Education in 2018 to the position of Director, System Assurance which he currently holds today. Sean has a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta and a Master of Education in Leadership from the University of Calgary.

Treaty Education for Truth and Reconciliation: Allyship and Action

University of Alberta



Dr. Jennifer A. Tupper

It has been almost six years since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada released its 94 Calls to Action for Canadians. And it is over a hundred years since the signing of the numbered treaties in Canada. This session will invite participants to consider what it means to be a treaty person and how as treaty people we can be allies and advocates in the work of truth and reconciliation. It will explore the imperative of Treaty Education in classrooms and school communities at a time of increasing social precarity, polarity and divisiveness.

Currently professor and Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta, Jennifer has spent the better part of the last two decades thinking deeply about what it means to be a treaty person. Much of this thinking took place in Treaty 4 at the University of Regina, where she began her academic career. Her research and scholarship explore treaty education as pedagogical and curricular imperatives that seek to foster ethical relations with Indigenous people in Canada. She is a former high school teacher, school community council member, and is the mother of two amazing daughters, currently in grades 6 & 12.



Tim Coates

Homework: When Does Helping My Child Become a Hindrance?

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium

Naturally, parents want to “be there” for their children as they maneuver through the school years, and support their child’s academic and social development. A dilemma parents face is determining the extent to which they should assist with their child’s school work. How much assistance is appropriate? When does helping become a potential hindrance?

In this session the presenter will address issues related to the degree to which parents should help with their child’s school work. After a brief presentation on the benefits and problems of parental assistance with a child’s completion of tasks and assignments, time will be allowed for sharing of ideas and opinions among the participants and with the presenter.

Tim Coates is currently an Educational Consultant with the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) serving as a specialist in curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Tim is also a sessional instructor at the University of Alberta, teaching a course in classroom assessment to students preparing for their first round of student teaching.

From 1994 until 2015 Tim was employed by Alberta Education, first as the manager of a Diploma Examination and later as the Director of the Diploma Examinations Branch. While with the ministry Tim also served as a curriculum developer and the Director of the Classroom Assessment Capacity Project.

Tim has also participated in school inspections in Dubai, and in the fall of 2019, he offered professional development sessions to private schools in Hong Kong, Macau, and China. Tim has also provided professional development sessions in the United States. Tim received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Province of Alberta when he was a teacher in Devon, Alberta.

Assessing What’s Hard to Measure: Our Children’s Learning

Alberta Assessment Consortium

During these stressful times, how can we be assured that our students are in learning environments that are welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe? How do I know if my child is learning the right things, and is being assessed fairly and accurately? How can I be sure that my child’s learning has been accurately reported to me?

In this session, we will explore tools and resources that will help parents understand their child’s learning environment(s), experiences, assessments, and the communication tools used to report their child’s learning.

Michele Jones is the Executive Director and Education Consultant for the Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC). The AAC is an independent, not-for-profit education partner in the province. For the past six years, Michele has been designing and facilitating professional learning in the areas of Wellness, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

In her role with AAC, Michele works with teachers and leaders at school and district levels and provincial and national levels, building capacity in the area of classroom assessment to support learning for *all* students.



Michele Jones



Suzanne Lynch

School Council-Trustee Relationship

Alberta School Councils' Association

Understanding the relationship is vital to assist you in successfully furthering your role in the school community. School councils should understand the role of the school board Trustee, and the Trustee should be aware of their role on school council. A Trustee is a valued partner who can share school board information with parents they represent, and gather valuable parent perspectives from division school councils.

Suzanne has been self-employed for 31 years as an aesthetician. She recently continued her passion for learning and personal growth, graduating with an Addictions and Community Service diploma. She has a great love for helping others reach their true potential.

Suzanne has been an active member of her daughter's school community and School Council. She has a great ability to develop interpersonal relationships with diverse groups. She is involved in her community, as well as a volunteer with Diabetes Canada.

Suzanne joined the ASCA team five years ago and is excited to be working with school communities. Seeing parents engaged in their child's success, while supporting their understanding of School Councils and Fundraising Societies, she finds very rewarding.

Digital Citizenship and Online Safety for Parents

YMCA of Northern Alberta

The modern digital environment has children from a young age using technology to play games, communicate and learn online. This can leave parents and educators with concerns over the safety and privacy of kids, particularly since technology is always changing.

In this session, participants will gain insight into the online communities' youth are participating in through gaming and social media, and learn strategies to ensure privacy protection, gain internet safety best practices and recognize and address cyberbullying.

Cameron is a Digital Literacy Facilitator for the YMCA of Northern Alberta supporting with the building of the new Digital Literacy program at a National level. He has a background in teaching and a passion for ensuring safe online use and teaching computer skills to schools at a student, teacher and parent level.

Scott is a Digital Literacy Facilitator for the YMCA of Northern Alberta supporting with the building of the new Digital Literacy program at a National level. Scott also has a background in teaching and is excited about teaching digital literacy skills to students, teachers and parents.



Cameron Switzer



Scott Chambers

Healthy Movement in the Classroom

CDI SPACES

Humans are programmed to move. A young developing brain requires various types of motion to develop important foundational skills for learning. The sensory systems that respond to movement help to coordinate the eyes, hands and body for everyday fine motor and gross motor activities. "Healthy" movement refers to safe and accessible opportunities for motion that help everyone feel organized, alert, fit and ready to learn.

As parents and adults we tend to want children to "sit still." The reality is no one sits without moving for very long, because if we keep our bodies completely inactive, we tend to fall asleep or zone out.

Dynamic sitting involves making adjustments to our position for comfort and moving our arms, legs, and body while we are sitting, in order to keep ourselves alert and engaged. Children who have access to healthy movement in the classroom are more likely to stay engaged and to have better attention and behavior.

My passion is creating spaces that facilitate the best learning experience possible!

Every individual learns differently, and by relying on my 13 years of experience in furnishing educational spaces, I will help enable every learner to reach their full potential. I do this by creating a Student Centered Classroom, which is "an inclusive learning environment that balances the needs of each student's personal learning style, recognizes individual communication styles, and supports flexible teaching styles for the educator."



Craig Ward



Charlie Kraig

The Power of Play

Learning Network Educational Services

Experts remind us that “play is a primary and integral mode through which children make sense of the world, and that it is essential to their development and well-being. In addition, it supports skills like collaboration, communication, and creativity”. In fact, play is an important learning space for children of all ages.

Conversations during your child’s play can introduce or reinforce concepts, improve language development, and promote deeper thinking. During this session we will look at ways parents can support and encourage play, sneaking some learning in without your child even noticing.

Charlie Kraig is a designer of professional learning for Learning Network Educational Services. She is a *Learning Transfer Endorsed Educator* as well as the Regional Network Chair of @WomenEdAlberta (part of the global #WomenEd network supporting and encouraging women in formal and informal leadership positions). She is passionate about instructional leadership and improving teacher practice for all learners’ benefit. Mostly though, she is a parent for two tiny humans who keep her very busy.

Achieving Student Success

Alberta School Councils’ Association

What are the best ways to achieve student success in Alberta within the realities we know exist now, and are likely to exist over the next two (2) years? Join ASCA President Brandi Rai in this positive, respectful, and safe space, to share **solution-focused ideas** on critical education topics impacting student success at local, jurisdictional, and provincial levels.

POST-SESSIONS SATURDAY APRIL 24TH 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Choose one topic to join in on, or move between them all.

Candidates Corner

Meet and ask questions of the candidates running for a position on the ASCA Board of Directors.

Parliamentary Procedures

Ask questions regarding process and procedures for the ASCA Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Resolutions Discussion

Ask questions and clarification to the Sponsors of the Advocacy Resolutions proposed for voting consideration at the ASCA AGM.