



Challenge & Change 2024

35th Annual Conference

February 14, 15 & 16, 2024 • Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre • 1000 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

Conference Schedule

Wednesday, February 14th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pick up registration materials at registration desk [Coat check near Pavilion Ballroom].
Check at hotel registration desk for location if you are unsure.

Thursday, February 15th

8:00 am – 8:50 am Registration, publishers' displays, coffee and light snack in Pavilion Foyer.
9:00 am – 9:15 am Opening Remarks.
9:15 am – 11:30 am Keynote Address – Dr. Shimi Kang.
11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch on your own. Many wonderful restaurants within 6-block radius of hotel.
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Afternoon Sessions T1–T11.
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm The Schmooze! Pavilion Ballroom. Registration name tag gets you in for free. Buy guest name tag for \$30.

Friday, February 16th

8:00 am – 8:50 am Registration, publishers' displays, coffee and light snack in Pavilion Foyer.
9:00 am – 11:30 am Morning Sessions F1–F12.
11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch on your own. Many wonderful restaurants within 6-block radius of hotel.
11:40 am Annual General Meeting in Blue Whale Room [Near Registration Desk].
1:00 pm – 3:30 pm Afternoon Sessions F13–F21.

Keynote Address

Getting Future Ready - Dr. Shimi Kang

The research and reality are clear. Whether in education, health, or society at large, there are three rising global trends of burnout, disconnection and anxiety. These trends are also in direct odds with the three essential skills we all need to navigate our rapidly changing, technologically driven world: resilience, collaboration & creativity. Is there a simple answer to this unique dilemma of modern times? The answer is yes! Come find out more about the powerful tools brain-based science has discovered to help motivate ourselves and others towards more energy, purpose and creativity.

Thursday Afternoon 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

T01 The Future-Ready Mind: Resilience, Connection & Adaptability in our Ever-changing World

Join Jas and Shimi in this interactive workshop that will provide science-based solutions that every parent, teacher, and caregiver can use to guide today's youth towards a deeper, powerful, more innate use of their own incredible neurobiology and dive deeper into the three key Future-Ready skills. Learn, practice & ask questions about how to define, understand and motivate yourself & others to develop: resilience, connection and adaptability.

Jas Hundal is a Registered Social Worker and the Clinical Director of Counselling at Future Ready Minds. She has her Masters of Social Work from the University of Victoria and a Certificate in Advanced Facilitation & Consultation from the Justice Institute of BC. Jas is trained in a range of therapeutic modalities and has worked diligently in the field of mental health and addictions since 2006. Jas is passionate about helping members of her community learn ways to improve their mental health by using holistic, inclusive and strength-based practices.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 70% Lecture 30% Interactive

The BCAEA is a Provincial Specialist Association of the BC Teachers Federation. 

T02 Cedar Cuff Bracelet Making

Come join Quatsino First Nation cedar bark weaving artist Leonard Williams in this hands-on workshop. Participants will learn a bit about the various species of Cedar grown in the BC regions and their cultural significance while creating their own cedar cuff bracelet.

Leonard "Tiger" Williams is a Quatsino First Nations cedar weaving artist. His artistry incorporates his background in studies of the Traditional and Cultural Uses of Trees to create pieces that honour the harmonious relationship between community and the forest that indigenous populations hold dear. His work is informed by his study of the Quatsino ethnographic objects held in museums around the world so that the lost knowledge of their forms, styles and weaving patterns can be repatriated to his people.

LIMIT: 30 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 90% Hands-On

T03 Indigenous Culture and Health Care

Many Canadians have come to realize that discrimination is present in our current medical system, putting into question the "universality" of our universal health care system. Pixie will outline the common obstacles marginalized youth, especially those who identify as First Nations, Inuit and Metis, have when accessing health care and participants in the workshop will have an opportunity to examine how those in education can help address the health care issues brought forth by systemic racism. Ideas will be presented on how educators may be able to help youth access cultural support to attain greater health and well being in their lives.

Pixie Wells is the President of the Fraser Valley Métis Association where her roles include being the Director of Housing and the Representative for LGBTQ2+. As a proud two-spirited person, she was part of the delegation to the Vatican that advocated for the Pope to formally participate in Reconciliation actions. When at home, she enjoys being able to serve her community by exploring safe and sustainable housing options for Indigenous people and to advocate for the health and well-being of the LGBTQ2+ members.

LIMIT: 35 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 50% Lecture 50% Interactive

T04 Words to Live By

Words have great power and meaning. They guide us, prompt us to reflect, and impact our mood. Now more than ever, educators and at-risk youth alike need to hear that what they do and who they are matters. Together, we'll use multimedia approach to learn about the brain, the benefits of creativity and the power of positive affirmations. We'll teach you skills and walk you through how to blend words with paint and collage to create an art canvas as a way to connect with yourself, but helping youth connect with themselves, and with each other. Working with at-risk youth requires creativity, persistence, and thinking outside the box. Infusing mental health education and

self-compassionate mindfulness-based art activities is another tool educators can use to connect with teens and sustain themselves.

Meg Neufeld is the Co-Founder and Director of People and Culture at *Alongside You*. She has a Masters degree in Cultural Anthropology and Museum Studies from the University of British Columbia and has taught at UBC and Douglas College and held positions in private and public organizations. Meg is a practicing artist and runs programs for at-risk youth using her unique perspective on integrating the arts, creativity and mindfulness into education.

LIMIT: 30 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 20% Lecture 40% Interactive 40% Hands-On

T05 Escorted to Court

Early Start Alert: Join us at 12:15 for a field trip to the Vancouver Law Courts, a two-block walk from the Wall Centre. We will have a 30-40 minute session with a Provincial Court Judge at 12:30pm. After a Q&A, teachers will learn about the Justice Education Society and all our teaching resources, lesson plans and programs. At 2:00 pm, participants will have the opportunity to watch live court proceedings.

The Justice Education Society creates innovative programs and resources that improve legal capability and increased access to justice

LIMIT: 30 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 40% Interactive 50% Hands-On

T06 Understanding Dyslexia

Dyslexia is one of the least addressed issues encountered in our educational system, yet it seriously impacts one out every five students. It not only affects their abilities with reading, spelling, and writing, but also various aspects of arithmetic and problem solving. Since one does not outgrow dyslexic tendencies, it is vital that dyslexia be addressed much more intentionally in our education system. Come join Walter and Karen Loewen to better understand why dyslexics learn differently from other students and how that affects their performance in the classroom. You will discover how the degree of dyslexic tendencies can be determined and strategies that work with dyslexics. You will also explore various ways of retraining the brain in order to help the individual dyslexic deal with his/her specific problems in learning.

Walter and Karen Loewen have decades of experience working with gifted children and students who have identified learning disabilities like autism and dyslexia. They have developed a unique program which not only identifies the factors that interfere with learning but also provides the necessary remediation materials needed to help students remove the barriers that are encountered in the learning process.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 60% Lecture 30% Interactive 10% Hands-On

Download PDF conference brochures and register online: www.bcaea.com/conference.html

T07 The Beauty of Coping

This Beauty of Coping workshop will dive into the Dialectical Behaviour Therapy ACCEPTS model of coping. We will explore a variety of strategies that can support the development of healthy coping within a variety of different settings, situations, and populations. Come join the Beauty of Coping Workshop for an opportunity to expand our own and our students' coping toolbox, overall mental wellness, and start building the road towards resiliency.

Sheldon Franken has a B.Ed. in Physical Education and a M.A. in Counseling Psychology. Sheldon is a school counsellor for the Vancouver School Board and the workshop facilitator and owner of Inquiry Adventures, known for his activity based and hands-on learning style of facilitation. He has presented workshops and Keynotes on active and experiential social-emotional learning to educational and mental wellness organizations across North America.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 40% Interactive 50% Hands-On

T08 Lazy Stitch Leather Pouch

Using brain tanned leather, lazy stitch beading and porcupine quills each attendee will create and fill their own medicine pouch. We will discuss the history and how each of the materials was gathered and processed. Traditional medicines will be offered for the inside of the pouches.

Spèshelwèt First Nations/Métis Chris Kelly has been with the Alternate Conference for many years as an attendee and a presenter. Chris has been with the Abbotsford school District for over 30 years. 2024 will find her working in School District #34 as a Indigenous Support Worker Mentor.

LIMIT: 20 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 15% Lecture, 10% interactive, 75% Hands-On

T09 Screenagers: Under the Influence

The screening of this 90 minute documentary will be followed by a Q & A opportunity with Dr. Delaney, the film maker. Under the Influence is the third feature documentary in the Screenagers trilogy and delves into how the tech revolution has reshaped adolescence and its effects on substance use. The film debunks myths and depicts strategies parents and schools can use to encourage healthy decision-making, support teen mental health, set limits, and create healthy home environments. The film is grounded in teens' current reality of being flooded by images on social media, movies, and TV shows about vaping, drugs, and alcohol and interweaves cutting-edge science with personal stories to create an informative and entertaining film experience for young people and adults alike. Screenagers Under The Influence focuses on practical solutions for keeping our teens safe in a changing world.

LIMIT: 60 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 100% Interactive

T10 Gambling, Gaming, and Screen Time

Participants in this workshop will explore some behaviours that might be socially acceptable, but at the same time problematic if overdone. Discussions about gambling, gaming, and screen time will lead to examining the ways to effectively manage technology to move toward more balanced use.

Judy Lee has worked in the gambling industry since 1998. As a Gambling Outreach Support provider, she offers practical support and can help individuals access the community services they need as well as connect individuals with free counselling services. Judy serves BC residents in Vancouver to the North Shore.

LIMIT: 100 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 70% Lecture 30% Interactive

T11 Alternate Potpourri

Choose this session if you can't decide what session to take or might not attend a session in this time slot. Your registration will be complete, your receipt will show you registered in a session, and you will get a session card to exchange at the Registration Desk if you change your mind. This way you don't take a spot in a limited session that someone else might have wanted. Win-win!

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 100% Hands-On

The Legendary Schmooze!

It's a great chance to mix and mingle with people you know and people you've just met. And of course, Chef Lori Pilling and the incredible staff and students from the Delta Secondary Cafeteria Program, will dazzle your tastebuds once more. Heaven!

Thursday 5:00 –7:00 pm

Pavilion Ballroom

Wear your conference name tag for free entry.

Guest tickets [\$30] may be purchased in advance at the Registration Desk, or at The Schmooze entrance during the event.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Friday Morning 9:00-11:30

F01 Fostering Resilience with Restorative Justice

In an engaging and interactive format, participants will be reminded of the importance of seeing past the outside behaviour of students and instead approaching students (and even staff/parents/guardians) with curiosity and concern instead of preconceived labels and judgement. The conversation will focus on restorative resource support, creative teaching practice and dedicated therapeutic services. During our time together we will share resources, tips and ideas for how to take what we know works and incorporate it into your environment, regardless of your budget, position or title and in a way that can be utilized in your program, day to day.

Mindy Guthrie (MA in counselling/psychology) is currently serving in the role of school counselor and Department Head of the Restorative Resource Support Team for Vanguard Secondary School in Langley, British Columbia. She has been an educator for 32 years (K-12) and has recently become a presenter with Reclaiming Youth International. She has a passion for at-risk youth and restorative action. Understanding the pain and shame journey many of our youth are on, Mindy calls herself an "injector of hope" and her desire is to inspire you to be the same.

LIMIT: 50 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 80% Lecture 20% Interactive

F02 Cedar Cuff Bracelet Making

Come join Quatsino First Nation cedar bark weaving artist Leonard Williams in this hands-on workshop. Participants will learn a bit about the various species of Cedar grown in the BC regions and their cultural significance while creating their own cedar cuff bracelet.

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LIMIT: 30 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 90% Hands-On

F03 Music is Medicine

Indigenous people have long recognized the power of music as a form of therapy, spiritual connection, and cultural expression, and regard music as medicine because it has the potential to heal and restore individuals, communities and the environment. Through their music, Indigenous people express reverence for the land, water, animals and plants, reinforcing their roles as stewards of Mother Earth. Come join Pixie to explore the healing transformative qualities that creating music together brings.

Pixie Wells is the President of the Fraser Valley Métis Association where her roles include being the Director of Housing and the Representative for

LGBTQ2+. As a proud two-spirited person, she was part of the delegation to the Vatican that advocated for the Pope to formally participate in Reconciliation actions. When at home, she enjoys being able to serve her community by exploring safe and sustainable housing options for Indigenous people and to advocate for the health and well-being of the LGBTQ2+ members.

LIMIT: 35 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 50% Lecture 50% Interactive

F04 TIP: Beyond the Buzzword

Trauma Informed Practice (TIP) has been a buzzword in education for the better part of a decade. TIP is crucial to us being effective in working with children, and working with each other. We have to get past the buzzword, and dig into the practical. Together, we'll define trauma and look at how trauma impacts kids, their development, and health outcomes. We'll look at how our own trauma impacts our work and gain practical insights into tangible ways that trauma informed practice can influence how we work with children throughout the age span.

Andrew Neufeld is the Co-Founder, CEO and Clinical Director of Alongside You, Principal at Immerse Consulting, and Clinical Faculty at the University of British Columbia in the Department of Psychiatry. He is a Registered Clinical Counsellor, Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, Certified Birkman© Consultant and Executive and Leadership Consultant, with over 15 years of experience working with individuals, couples, families, and professionals. His passion is helping clients increase their resilience so they can thrive.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 50% Lecture 30% Interactive 20% Hands-On

F05 Making Sense of Attention Problems

Attention and agitation issues are increasing at alarming rates among our children and youth. Such restlessness can pose challenges for learning and behaviour at home and school. Adults often feel overwhelmed and confused how to make headway with a child or teen who cannot seem to focus or sit still. In trying to alleviate symptoms we can unknowingly employ measures that serve to exacerbate their attention problem. There is much that can be done to help bring a child to rest by understanding the two common roots of attention problems.

Dr. Deborah MacNamara provides counselling and educational services to parents and professionals based on the relational-developmental approach of Dr. Gordon Neufeld. She is on Faculty at the Neufeld Institute and presents on all of the Neufeld material. A frequent presenter at national and international conferences Dr. MacNamara is known as a dynamic teacher at the university level, an author and an experienced counsellor with over 25 years experience in educational and mental health settings.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 70% Lecture 30% Interactive

Download PDF conference brochures and register online: www.bcaea.com/conference.html

F06 Understanding Teacher Burnout

Are you feeling the weight of juggling student's needs, parents' expectations, administrative expectations, and the demands of delivering curriculum? So often holding all these pieces at the same time can leave you disconnected from yourself and those around you. You might find yourself having difficulty slowing down, or find when you get home you are numb and flat. This workshop will help you understand these responses more fully and help you begin to become aware of where you currently are in this process.

Carolynn Turner spent 16 years working in the BC Education System in various capacities (English Teacher, Family Outreach Therapist for category H students in social development programs). She is the Founder and Clinical Director of Lavender Counselling and has worked extensively with school professionals both clinically and through speaking engagements.

Hannah Nguyen has been involved in educational leadership research with UBC involving BC's school principals and vice-principals. Over recent years, she has seen through both her research work, as well as through her role as a counsellor at Lavender Counselling, how exhausted our educators are.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 60% Lecture 40% Interactive

F07 Serious Play

Social-Emotional Learning is the umbrella that guides our processes in addressing mental health, school climate, positive behaviour approaches, and growth mindset. Serious Play: Building your Social-Emotional Learning Toolbox is a workshop that exposes participants to hands-on cooperative games and activities that address both the broad and specific foundations of social emotional learning. The experiential nature of the workshop will allow the participants to learn first-hand new facilitation and debriefing skills and how active engagement can provide a meaningful method to learning. You can implement these new tools and skills back in your schools and practices immediately.

Sheldon Franken has a B.Ed. in Physical Education and a M.A. in Counseling Psychology. Sheldon is a school counsellor for the Vancouver School Board and the workshop facilitator and owner of Inquiry Adventures. Sheldon is known for his activity based and hands-on learning style of facilitation. He has presented workshops and Keynotes on active and experiential social-emotional learning to educational and mental wellness organizations across North America.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 40% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F08 Cottonwood Salve

We will gather to discuss this amazing tree and all it gives to us. All parts of the tree are used from the top most leaves, through the wood all the way to the roots. When we have finished learning about her wonders we will use some of her medicine to make a salve that participants will take home.

Sp̓shelw̓t First Nations/Métis **Chris Kelly** has been with the Alternate Conference for many years as an attendee and a presenter. Chris has been

with the Abbotsford school District for over 30 years. 2024 will find her working in School District #34 as a Indigenous Support Worker Mentor.

LIMIT: 20 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 50% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F09 Screenagers: Under the Influence

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LIMIT: 60 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 100% Interactive

F10 Alternate Gone Wild - Real Talk, Risky Trends

Participants will join a panel discussion that outlines the current risk-taking behaviour patterns of marginalized youth and the concerns about the notable trends in school district policies that are intended to address these behaviours. The overarching goal of this session will be to provide an opportunity for participants to share ideas or collaboratively problem solve how to more effectively address the issues discussed.

Melanie Harris is a teacher in Connex District Alternate in School District #42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows).

Sean Blake teaches at the Rutland Learning Centre in School District #23, and serves as the BCAEA Vice-President.

LIMIT: 50 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 100% Interactive

There's still time!

The session presenters on these pages would love to have you introduce them.

Volunteer to be a session host and get an exhibitor's Gift Certificate as thanks.

Interested? Mark YES to the Session Host question during online registration.

F11 Let's Talk About Sex

Comprehensive sex ed is the most effective way to improve sexual health decision making in teens. Traditional sex ed focuses on risk reduction, specifically related to teen pregnancies and STI transmission. While important, this approach doesn't equip teens with the tools they need to make healthy choices in real-life such as navigating social and relationship dynamics, nuances of consent, and evaluation of and access to birth control options. We will provide insight and information to help you have meaningful and effective sexual health conversations inside and outside the classroom.

Dr. Lisa Ghent *[she/her]* is a Naturopathic Physician and Sexual Health Educator. She is also the founder of Collaborative Wellness, an integrative medical clinic in Ladner, BC, and co-founder, with Cheri Jeffs, of Swell Collective, a sexual wellness education company.

Cheri Jeffs *[she/her]* is a Registered Nurse and Sexual Health Educator. Cheri previously worked at St. Paul's Hospital labour and delivery nurse for many years.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: 10-12 FORMAT: 30% Lecture 70% Interactive

F12 Alternate Potpourri

Choose this session if you can't decide what session to take or might not attend a session in this time slot. Your registration will be complete, your receipt will show you registered in a session, and you will get a session card to exchange at the Registration Desk if you change your mind. This way you don't take a spot in a limited session that someone else might have wanted. Win-win!

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 100% Hands-On

Friday Afternoon: 1:00-3:30

F13 The S Word

When a student mentions suicide not everyone has immediate access to a counselor, so what do you do? In an engaging and interactive format, participants will learn about how to recognize and manage expressions of suicide thoughts, self harm and/or violent threats in a classroom or non-counseling setting. We will explore how students may communicate these topics, how to respond in the moment (and how not to respond) and how to follow up in an ethical and appropriate manner. This session may be of particular interest to expressive arts teachers, youth workers, education assistants and other support staff. Questions and conversations will be welcomed and encouraged!

Kim Leifso *has been working with teens for over 20 years and has spent much of that time working specifically with children and youth who are at high risk for suicide. Most recently she has been working at Vanguard Secondary School as an Intervention Clinician and Therapeutic Services Department Head, offering therapeutic services to students and clinical oversight to a team of counselors and youth workers.*

LIMIT: 50 FOCUS: 6-12 50% FORMAT: Lecture 50% Interactive

F14 Neurobiology and Movement in Practice

Discover how movement can help students and educators with emotional regulation and non-verbal communication. Learn to recognize kinesthetic empathy by first engaging in the mind-body connection. Exercises in this workshop can be used with groups, individuals, or the self to support the integration of social, emotional, cognitive, and physical wellness. By experiencing interoception, participants will gain self-compassion to facilitate relating and connecting with others.

Stefanie Tong *has worked with children and families for over 15 years in non-profit, public health, and private practice sectors. It is her joy to use a mind-body approach in joining clients to unfold the innate qualities of emotional expression. Stefanie is currently pursuing a master's degree in marriage and family therapy with continuing education in play therapy and dance/movement therapy.*

Andrew Neufeld *is the Co-Founder, CEO and Clinical Director of Alongside You, Principal at Immerse Consulting, and Clinical Faculty at the University of British Columbia in the Department of Psychiatry. He is a Registered Clinical Counsellor, Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, Certified Birkman© Consultant and Executive and Leadership Consultant.*

LIMIT: 50 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 40% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F15 Peer Orientation in the Classroom

An increasing number of kids are coming to school to be with their friends, not to learn. Classrooms are filled with kids who are peer oriented and tribalizing into groups, leaving adult relationships to take a back seat. The fallout from peer orientation includes behavioural and learning problems as adults are less able to influence, teach, and provide direction. Strategies to collect peer attached kids and how to increase their teachability will be discussed.

Dr. Deborah MacNamara *provides counselling and educational services to parents and professionals based on the relational-developmental approach of Dr. Gordon Neufeld. She is on Faculty at the Neufeld Institute and presents on all of the Neufeld material. A frequent presenter at national and international conferences Dr. MacNamara is known as a dynamic teacher at the university level, an author and an experienced counsellor with over 25 years experience in educational and mental health settings.*

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 70% Lecture 30% Interactive

Pretty Please!

Volunteer to be a session host and introduce those shy presenters and we will give you an exhibitor's Gift Certificate as a thank you.

F16 Smartphone Filmmaking in the Classroom

Interested in doing a film project with your students, but not sure where to begin? This hands-on workshop with The Cinematheque will introduce the basic steps and techniques involved in digital filmmaking, so that you can start shooting films in your classroom! Participants will learn the process of making short films using smartphones and other readily available equipment and software, from pre-production to shooting to editing.

Chelsea Birks is the Learning & Outreach Director at The Cinematheque, where she has collaborated on a range of programs and events aimed at engaging her community with all aspects of film culture. Chelsea holds a PhD from the University of Glasgow and has taught university film classes in the UK and across the Lower Mainland. Her first book, *Limit Cinema: Transgression and the Nonhuman in Contemporary Global Film*, was published in 2021.

LIMIT: 40 FOCUS: 6-12 FORMAT: 30% Lecture 30% Interactive 40% Hands-On

F17 Nature Based Social Emotional Learning

Play in connection to nature can be an incredible tool to enhance personal and community wellness. This Nature's Connection to SEL workshop will use these two wellness strategies of Play and Nature to go deeper. We will explore how, through various facilitation and debriefing methods, the dynamics within nature-based games and activities can provide insights into ourselves, our schools, and our communities. These insights form the foundation of exploring various social-emotional learning competencies. We will play, laugh, learn, share, explore, and wonder outside, in, and around nature.

Sheldon Franken has a B.Ed. in Physical Education and a M.A. in Counseling Psychology. Sheldon is a school counsellor for the Vancouver School Board and the workshop facilitator and owner of Inquiry Adventures, known for his activity based and hands-on learning style of facilitation. He has presented workshops and Keynotes on active and experiential social-emotional learning to educational and mental wellness organizations across North America.

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 10% Lecture 40% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F18 Time for Tea

Join Chris to explore and taste some Indigenous teas. We will brew teas from local herbs and plants the same as has been done since time immemorial. Teas containing medical and healing properties, or used for physical and mental health. Participants will be invited to sip teas, discuss curriculum connections and make a few bags of tea to take home too.

Sp̓sh̓lew̓et̓ First Nations/Métis Chris Kelly has been with the Alternate Conference for many years as an attendee and a presenter. Chris has been with the Abbotsford school District for over 30 years. 2024 will find her working in School District #34 as a Indigenous Support Worker Mentor.

LIMIT: 20 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 50% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F19 Interventions for the Dyslexic

Since one in five students is impacted by dyslexic tendencies, we invite you to join Walter and Karen Loewen in reviewing important facts about dyslexia and taking a closer look at intervention that works to help students better navigate text-based learning activities. The connections between brain dominance and dyslexia will be discussed and participants will learn how the resulting confusion causes the disorientation that interferes with the learning process for people with dyslexia. The Symbol Mastery Program, designed by Ron Davis, author of 'The Gift of Dyslexia' and who himself is profoundly dyslexic, will be reviewed and shown how it can be used as an effective method of resolving the confusion in the brain of the dyslexic. Participants also will be provided with descriptions of recommended accommodations for the dyslexic in educational settings.

Walter and Karen Loewen have decades of experience working with gifted children and students who have identified learning disabilities like autism and dyslexia. They have developed a unique program which not only identifies the factors that interfere with learning but also provides the necessary remediation materials needed to help students remove the barriers that are encountered in the learning process.

LIMIT: 30 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 60% Lecture 30% Interactive 10% Hands-On

F20 Voting and Democracy Resources

Participants will learn about and try out free resources designed to teach future voters about voting, democracy and provisional registration (pre-registering to vote for 16 and 17-year-olds). We have resources for primary, intermediate and secondary students. We will also welcome ideas from educators on what resources they would like to have available to them that relate to these topics.

Melanie Callas is the Outreach Coordinator at Elections BC in Victoria. As the Outreach Coordinator, she creates resources and plans public education projects for voters and future voters, so they have the information and knowledge they need to register and vote.

LIMIT: 20 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 20% Lecture 30% Interactive 50% Hands-On

F21 Alternate Potpourri

Choose this session if you can't decide what session to take or might not attend a session in this time slot. Your registration will be complete, your receipt will show you registered in a session, and you will get a session card to exchange at the Registration Desk if you change your mind. This way you don't take a spot in a limited session that someone else might have wanted. Win-win!

LIMIT: 200 FOCUS: K-12 FORMAT: 100% Hands-On



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Conference Registration

Registration Website

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Fees

Until December 22, 2023: One Day \$225 Two Days \$300
After December 22, 2023: One Day \$250 Two Days \$350

Registration includes coffee and light snack, entrance to The Schmooze, and one year membership in the BCAEA for BCTF members. Regrettably, we cannot do group discounts.

Payment

Paying by credit card is fast, easy, and secure. Know instantly if you got the sessions you want, and print a receipt right away.

Cancellation Policy

You can cancel your registration yourself by following the instructions in your confirmation email. Credit card refunds typically take 48 hours.

Hotel Reservations

Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre

1000 Burrard Street 1.800.663.9255 or 604.331.1000
Vancouver, BC reservations@wallcentre.com

Make/Modify/Cancel Hotel Reservations

Book directly with the Sheraton by going to our event specific link:

<https://bit.ly/3tvsxVA>

Room rate per night (Reserve before Jan. 13, 2024, taxes extra)

\$179 Regular room (1 or 2 beds) Single/double occupancy.
\$239 Family Suite (3 beds) Single/double occupancy.
Extra registered guests \$30 each.

Important!

Hotel reservations are made separately from the conference registration, and once the conference block of rooms is gone you will have to pay the non-conference rate, so we reserve early. You can cancel your hotel reservation up to 72 hours prior to arrival with no penalty.

Transportation

Skytrain (Canada Line)

You have to have a Compass Card to travel on Skytrain. From the airport take the Canada Line to the Yale-Roundhouse stop. Transfer onto #6 Davie bus to Davie and Burrard, then walk a block and a half to the hotel. Or, get off Skytrain at the Vancouver City Centre stop and walk seven blocks to the hotel.

Taxi

Taxis are available at the airport. Flat rate is \$35 to the hotel. Return rates to the airport vary.

Parking

Sheraton Rates

Overnight parking for hotel guests is \$53.38. Hotel day rates are \$14 if in before 8:00 am and out before 6:00 pm, or \$5 for the first hour and \$2 each 1/2 hour after. There are other parking lots nearby with varying rates.

How can we help?

Registration Questions?

Christine Thygesen, Conference Registrar

email: registrar@bcaea.com

General Conference Questions?

DJ Pauls, Conference Coordinator

email: conference@bcaea.com

phone: 604.859.3015

Download PDF conference brochures and register online: www.bcaea.com/conference.html