

April 22, 23, 24, 2022

School Councils Conference

Annual General Meeting
Alberta School Councils' Association

P r o g r a m m e

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Friday April 22	
12:30 pm	Opening, Partner Greetings
1:00 pm	Opening Plenary
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Networking
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Conversation Exchange
Saturday April 23	
8:45 am	Welcome
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 am	Keynote Speaker
11:00 am	Networking
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 pm - 1:30 pm	Plenary Presentation
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Networking
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	Closing Plenary
5:00 pm - 6:15 pm	Pre-AGM Sessions
Sunday April 24	
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Opening Address
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting, Board Elections
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Business Meeting, Board Elections

CONTENTS

[Breakout Sessions List](#)

[President's Message](#)

[Education Minister's Greeting](#)

[Featured Sessions & Keynotes](#)

[Friday Breakout Sessions 1:45 pm](#)

[Friday Networking Sessions 2:45 pm](#)

[Saturday Breakout Sessions 9:00 am](#)

[Saturday Networking Sessions 11:00 am](#)

[Saturday Breakout Sessions 1:45 pm](#)

[Saturday Networking Sessions 2:45 pm](#)

[Using Zoom](#)

[Charity of Choice](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Activity Game Card](#)

[Saturday Pre-AGM Sessions 5:00 pm](#)

[Schedule of Events](#)

[Social Media: #ASCAconf22](#)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS LIST

Friday 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

[Nature as Teacher: Cultivating the Whole Child through Outdoor Learning](#)

[The Power of Parents: Passion Led Us Here](#)

[School Curriculum Development and Implementation in Alberta](#)

[SOGI 1 2 3: A Pathway to Safe and Inclusive Schools](#)

[I HAVE, I AM, I CAN: Building Resilience in Children](#)

[Cultivating Compassion in the Virtual Meeting Environment](#)

Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 am

[The Importance of Indigenous Parent and Community Engagement](#)

[Cultivating Compassion and Connection with Resiliency](#)

[Understanding the New English Language Arts and Literature Curriculum](#)

[Looking at the New \(K-3\) Math Curriculum](#)

[The New K-6 Physical Education / Wellness Curriculum](#)

[Effective Classroom Assessment](#)

Saturday 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

[Council of School Councils Working in the School Division: Assurance in Action](#)

[Building Futures in Alberta: Financial Literacy is Coming to the K-12 Classroom!](#)

[The Why and How of Alberta's Standardized Test](#)

[Fostering Wellness and Compassion through Environmental Education](#)

[Emotional De-escalation at Home](#)

["One Small Thing"](#)



Welcome to the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) promoting School Council and parent engagement in education.

This has been another year in education where we have needed to lean into community and work together. This global pandemic continued to impact many aspects of our daily lives and our children's educational experience. It has been the relationships between families and school communities that have helped our children as we all navigate challenges.

As it was last year, this has been a hard year for many families in so many ways, for a variety of reasons, and across Alberta I see how parents have continued to be the partners in education that our students deserve.

Parent voice in education is meaningful and impactful. There are many opportunities that school councils have locally and provincially to effect changes within our education system. As the many education partners work together with school councils to honour the expectations of the Assurance Framework, as school councils advise their school principals and Boards of Trustees, as ASCA members bring their resolutions to the AGM - all this relevant and significant work relies on school councils being respected and empowered – the ASCA Vision.

School councils are vital pieces of their communities and the cultures of compassion they help to cultivate are integral for student success. Meaningful connections, authentic engagement of parents, collaborative problem solving, all combine with innovative thinking in order to serve the overall wellbeing of school communities.

I hope that the sessions you attend this weekend, the conversations you enjoy, and the learning you leave with are helpful in your own journey as a school council member. Your voice is important, your dedication for your children is palpable, and your work is valuable. Our resiliency as parents in education lies within our connections to our babies, our fellowship with other parents, and our partnerships with educators.

Thank you for all that you do and all that you give for our students.

Brandi Rai

Brandi Rai
ASCA President



Greetings from the Honourable Adriana LaGrange Minister of Education

On behalf of Alberta's government, congratulations on another successful year. As school council members, you are a valuable voice for the students and families in your communities. Thank you for all you have done to keep our school communities safe and welcoming. As Albertans are starting to return to a more normal way of life, I hope you and your families are able to enjoy some of your favourite activities again.

This year's conference has a powerful and timely theme: cultivating compassion, with a focus on well-being to benefit student success. Well-being and mental health are also top-of-mind for Alberta's government. In this year's budget, we continue our focus on helping schools support students experiencing academic challenges, and on helping them create school environments that promote student well-being and positive mental health. I am pleased to note that we are providing targeted funding of \$110 million over three years, including \$30 million in 2022/23, in support of these measures. This is in addition to \$40 million added to the 2021/22 school year budget for a continuum of supports and services including those supporting mental health and well-being. This puts total funding for learning support specialized grants at over \$1.4 billion dollars.

Our commitment to support student well-being has also included spreading the word and making it easier for youth to access online, phone and in-person information and support during the pandemic and beyond—including resources like the Kids Help Phone, which children can text at 686868, and a youth mental health resource hub from jack.org. I ask that you also help ensure students, teachers and parents at your schools are aware of these valuable resources.

As parents and council members, you play such a key role in the well-being and success of Alberta's students. You are the supporters and community leaders they look up to for guidance and inspiration. I hope this conference provides you with valuable learnings and insights, and a chance to have fun while connecting with colleagues from across our great province.

Thank you. I hope you all enjoy this year's conference.

Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Education

April 2022

Opening Plenary Friday April 22 @ 1:00 pm



Barry Litun

Compassion in the School Community

Join retired superintendent Barry Litun to hear of his experiences as a teacher, principal, and superintendent ‘cultivating compassion’ in school communities. Barry will share stories and insights he gained over several years working with students, parents, teachers and education stakeholders and colleagues.

Barry Litun retired in July of 2020, having served as the Executive Director for the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) for seven years.

He was very proud to have received the President’s Award at the 2017 Alberta School Councils’ Association Annual Conference.

Barry’s career in education included serving as Superintendent for Lethbridge School Division, Vice-Principal and Principal at Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School in Red Deer where he was also Deputy Superintendent with Red Deer Public Schools, Principal of Hilltop High School in Whitecourt (now Northern Gateway Public Schools), and teacher and Vice-Principal at Lamont High School in Lamont (now Elk Island Public Schools).

Barry is an alumnus of University of Alberta, University of Victoria and University of Montana.

Barry is married to Gail, and they have two sons: Justin (Kealy) in Edmonton and Adam (Erin) in Houston. Justin and Kealy are the parents of Noah and Everett, Barry and Gail’s two grandchildren.

Conversation Exchange Friday April 22 @ 3:45 pm

School Councils: Cultivating Compassion

How do school councils work to promote positive engagement and wellbeing in the school community to benefit student success? What does compassion look like in your school community?

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.

Keynote Speaker Saturday April 23 @ 10:15 am

David Irvine, the Leader's Navigator

CULTIVATING COMPASSION AS SCHOOL COUNCIL LEADERS



"Let's Make the Comeback Better than the Setback"



As we emerge from this pandemic and re-engage in different ways, new challenges and opportunities lie ahead. As we move forward together in promoting wellbeing in the school community to benefit student success, compassion and grace are required now above all else.

We all, at least to some degree, are emerging from these past two years exhausted, uncertain, strained, isolated, and divided. We are likely all a little more edgy and impatient.

The opportunity lies before us to re-enter, re-engage, and re-build the partnership with our school communities. How we take time to heal together and relate to each other will directly impact the new reality that we create together.

Based on David's best-selling book, *Caring Is Everything: Getting to the Heart of Humanity, Leadership and Life*, this session will kick off the day and set the

tone for working together with an inspiring, reflective, and **practical perspective on the importance of caring in your role as school council leaders.**

Through the power of caring and an open heart, let's ensure we make the comeback better than the setback.

- Be reminded of the importance of compassion and grace with ourselves and with those we serve.
- Learn how to build bridges of trust to ensure a stronger school community amid diversity.
- Leave with practical strategies for putting compassion to work - promote meaningful connections, facilitate problem-solving, foster reciprocal responsibility, and improve overall wellbeing.

David Irvine is a widely sought-after speaker, author, and trusted leadership advisor. His work has helped build accountable, authentic organizations across North America, making him one of the most respected voices on leadership and organizational culture.

He has advanced degrees in human development, science, and social work. With more than 35 years of experience as a family therapist, workshop facilitator, lecturer, and adviser to executives, he has developed a unique personal and practical approach to inspiring leaders and transforming lives.

David has worked with people in the public, private, not-for-profit, and entrepreneurial sectors across North America, but his background as a family therapist and advisor to schools makes him uniquely qualified to integrate an understanding of children with the leadership required to foster reciprocal responsibility and wellbeing in a school community.

David is a bestselling author of seven books, with over 300,000 copies sold worldwide. *The Other Everest: Navigating the Pathway to Authentic Leadership* is the most recent and brings together the learnings, teachings, and wisdom gleaned over a lifetime of meaningful work.

The popular *Caring Is Everything: Getting to the Heart of Humanity, Leadership and Life*, deals with the importance of caring in all aspects of our lives.

As a former nationally ranked distance runner, he also maintains an active lifestyle of yoga, boxing, and walking his dogs. David lives with his wife in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains near Cochrane, Alberta.



Plenary Presentation Saturday April 23 @ 12:45 pm

Dana Fulwiler-Volk

Bouncing Forward: Prioritizing Wellbeing in Education

There is often a focus on 'bouncing back' after a challenge or adversity, even though we only have one direction we can truly go - forward - equipped with new insights gained along the way.

This session will explore how lessons learned during the pandemic (and beyond) can enable us to grow and bounce **forward** with even greater perspective, compassion, coordination, and collective wellbeing.

After a brief overview of Alberta's Child and Youth Wellbeing Review, we will consider opportunities to intentionally prioritize the science and practice of wellbeing in our school communities.

Dana Fulwiler-Volk is an educator and consultant with expertise in wellbeing science and positive mental health. She has served in various roles in education including classroom teacher, system specialist in wellbeing and mental health, University Instructor, and researcher on infusing wellbeing into school communities.

Dana holds a Master of Applied Positive Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania, where she learned from global leaders in individual and organizational wellbeing and serves as an Instructor.



Closing Plenary Saturday April 23 @ 3:45 pm

Sandra Woitas

"We all have the power to change the world"

As part of the City of Edmonton's 100th birthday celebrations, **Dr. Sandra Woitas** was honored as one of the 100 Edmontonians of the Century.

As a long time educator and tireless advocate for the needs of Edmonton's most disadvantaged children and families, Sandra continues to spread the word that poverty cannot be an excuse and by only working together, we, as an entire community, can raise the bar for all children and youth. She believes we can no longer make excuses for not meeting the needs of our marginalized children and youth and can only be part of the solution.

As a former Director of the *City Centre Education Project* with Edmonton Public Schools, she worked collaboratively with seven inner city schools to make sure the students had the resources and supports they needed to realize their full potential, academically and in life. The *City Centre Education Project* was recognized by *Today's Parent* magazine as one of the *Top Forty Schools in Canada* and by the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development for its collaborative practices. The project also received the *Alberta Premier's Award for Excellence*.

In 2003, she was recognized as a *Woman of Integrity* on behalf of the Riverview Rotary Club. She has received the *Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal* and the *Alberta Centennial Medal* for her work in the community and was featured as a Global Edmonton, *Woman of Vision*, in the late spring of 2006. In November 2006, she also received the ATA Early Childhood Education *Advocate of Young Children Award*. In November 2008, she was recognized with an *Honorary University of Alberta Alumni Award*. In June 2014, she was granted a Doctor of Laws Honorary Degree from the University of Alberta. In November 2014, she received the Lions Club International Foundation "Melvin Jones" Citizen of Distinction Award for Dedicated Humanitarian Services. In 2022 as part of the McEwan University 50th Anniversary, Sandra was selected as one of the top 50 Community Leaders.

As of April 2015, Sandra started a private consulting practice and continues to be a serial volunteer. In addition to her current position as consultant with a variety of school boards across Alberta, she also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education. Dr. Woitas is a sought after speaker on a variety of topics to a variety of audiences.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY APRIL 22nd 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM



Lyndsey Spring

Nature as Teacher: Cultivating the Whole Child through Outdoor Learning

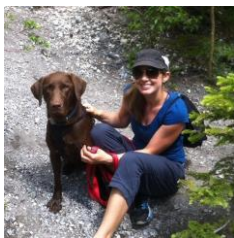
Alberta Health Services (AHS) School Health & Wellness Promotion Team

Nature is all around us in Alberta. Exposure to nature increases opportunities for students to play and to be more physically active. It nurtures compassion, supports social emotional skills and improves stress management for all ages. Even more, it creates meaningful opportunities for students and staff to connect with each other and with the land.

In this session, we'll explore practical ways that schools are weaving the outdoors into daily activities, play, and leisure time at school. We'll illustrate the important role that parents and caregivers can have in supporting schools to provide students with meaningful time in nature.

Get inspired with resources, stories, and tips for your parent community to help make it happen.

Lyndsey and Teresa are Health Promotion Facilitators with Alberta Health Services, School Health & Wellness Promotion team. The School Health & Wellness Promotion Team within Alberta Health Services, partners with school authorities to promote nutrition, physical activity, and mental health using a Comprehensive School Health (CSH) approach.



Teresa Curtis

Session Sponsored by:



Dianne McConnell

The Power of Parents: Passion Led Us Here

Dianne McConnell, Parkland School Division (Retired)

Dianne is a parent and an educator with 46 years of experience working within the education sector. Parents are our best experts and advocates for their children. Join Dianne for this session as she talks about the importance of being that one caring adult in the life of a child, setting high expectations and most importantly how to be an authentic member of your child's educational learning team.

Dianne began her career as a teacher with the Parkland School Division. She has completed her PhD in Special Education and was also a registered psychologist. She has worked as a Vision Consultant (Teacher for the Visually Impaired), Director of Student Services at multiple school divisions, led the Alberta Provincial initiative for inclusion (Setting the Direction) and was the Associate Superintendent with Parkland School Division over the eight previous years.

Session Sponsored by:



While her list of career accomplishments is indeed extensive, perhaps more important has been her role as a parent. She is also the mother of three children, two of which have complex health conditions, including vision loss. She has been involved in advocacy in the field of Blindness and Visual Impairment at both the provincial and national levels for over 30 years. Dianne brings a unique perspective to this subject matter. Through her experience as an educator and a parent of children with severe disabilities, she is well-versed on the ongoing challenges families and practitioners face in dealing with complex situations. She has worked as a service provider and has also been the benefactor of service provision. She has been a dedicated advocate throughout her career and is passionate about making a difference for children and their families.



Amy von Heyking

School Curriculum Development and Implementation in Alberta

University of Lethbridge

Our official K-12 school curriculum embodies the state’s answer to the question: What must children learn so they can function appropriately as adults in our society? Answering this question is complicated because it is an expression of what we value as a society. It requires critical consideration of the nature of knowledge, children, teaching, learning, and society. Historically, it has been informed by frameworks that have differing goals, values, and understandings.

The past decade, however, has seen public and professional discussion around curriculum reform descend into ideologically-driven, partisan conflict in Alberta. What makes curriculum development so complicated? How did it become so contentious? This session examines curriculum developments of the past decade, identifies key features of the current K-6 draft, and indicates how we might move forward to ensure that Alberta students get the high-quality curriculum they deserve.

Amy von Heyking is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Lethbridge. Her PhD in Educational Policy Studies focused on the history of Alberta school curriculum, particularly citizenship education. She is the author of *Creating Citizens: History and Identity in Alberta Schools* (2006). She has published books and articles on the history of Canadian schooling, curriculum studies, and history teaching and learning. She is the author and editor of a number of history teaching resources. She served on the Minister of Education’s Curriculum Advisory Panel in 2019-20.

Session Sponsored by:



Reg Krake
Executive Director
(he/him/his)

SOGI 1 2 3: A Pathway to Safe and Inclusive Schools

ARC Foundation

Join us for a conversation on the importance of creating safe and welcoming learning environments for students of all sexual orientations and gender identities (SOGI). Learn more about SOGI 1 2 3, including the support available for educators, and resources for parents and families!

Reg is an executive leader with over 20 years’ experience in the for-profit and non-profit sectors and as an educator with several years of teaching experience. He is a focused, team-oriented and results driven leader that brings an unwavering passion for, and commitment to, education and inclusivity.

Daley is a community facilitator, researcher, and project manager with a deep commitment to 2SLGBTQ+ inclusion and equity. Their passion lies in supporting individuals and organizations to create futures where more of us can bring more of ourselves more of the time. They value creativity and connection as tools for systems level change.



Daley Laing
SOGI 1 2 3 Lead Alberta
(they/them/theirs)



David Knechtel



Rod Snaterse

I HAVE, I AM, I CAN: Building Resilience in Children

Alberta Health Services

In today’s world, our children seem to face change and stress at every turn. More than ever, our children need to feel supported, resourceful, and equipped so they can ‘bounce back’ from life’s challenges more effectively. In this session, we will discuss ways that parents and caregivers can increase their child’s resilience. We will look at foundational strategies that help children and youth to engage with supportive relationships and communities (“I have!”), identify their internal strengths and abilities (“I am!”), and access practical skills (“I can!”) to help them cope through daily stressors and work towards positive goals.

David Knechtel has devoted his career as an occupational therapist and counselling therapist to working with children and adolescents and providing supports to the parents and teachers who care for them. As an Addictions & Mental Health Educator with Alberta Health Services, David develops and facilitates education sessions for caregivers and professionals and leads groups for parents and children. David enjoys supporting mental health literacy and wellness in individuals, organizations and his community.

Rod Snaterse is an Addictions & Mental Health Educator with Alberta Health Services who brings to the role 23 years’ experience as a public school teacher along with a Master of Education with a specialization in adult and community education. He has experience as an instructor for graduate students and university teacher education programs, including a course on mental health literacy. In his current role, Rod enjoys developing and leading teacher professional development and mental health education for caregivers. He has also supported the development of a Day Hospital Classroom and Summer Transitional Programming for students with mental health concerns.



ASCA Board of Directors

Cultivating Compassion in the Virtual Meeting Environment

Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) Board of Directors

Join Directors from the ASCA Board to learn how compassion and relationship building has been an intentional focus during all ASCA Board of Directors Meetings since April of 2020.

With new Board members coming in each April after the AGM, what did the Board as a whole, and individual Directors, do differently to get to know each other on a personal level, so that the professional, and often difficult, discussions and decisions needed were balanced with the compassion so much more easily acquired in the ‘in-person’ environment?

Also hear how some school councils are incorporating ‘get to know you’ activities into their virtual and online school council meeting routines. Time will be provided to hear your stories, too!

VENDOR ROOMS: Session for delegates to visit Vendors in a designated Zoom room. Vendors will supply a prize (minimum \$50 value) drawn from contact information provided by visiting delegates.

TOPIC ROOMS: Delegates can choose one topic, or more, to join in a discussion, to learn and share with others.

VENDORS



Debbie Vance

Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE)

Building Futures in Alberta Program

Join Debbie Vance in this session to learn more about economic education and the wide array of financial programs available with CFEE.

CFEE works collaboratively with our funding partners, departments of education, school boards, schools, educators, and teacher associations to develop and provide free, non-commercial programs and resources for teachers and students – developed and reviewed by educators. CFEE also has a range of programs to assist newcomers to Canada as they look to settle and integrate into their new country.

The **Building Futures in Alberta** program is a program of CFEE. Its goal is to support financial education in Alberta by providing teachers with free access to resources and programs to use in their efforts to improve the financial literacy of Alberta youth.

CFEE has received a grant from the Alberta Government to help improve financial literacy of students.



Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC)

Join this session to learn all about the ARPDC, what it is and what it does in your community!

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. On our site you will find: Connections to your **Regional** Consortium.

Mission: To provide high quality professional learning opportunities for Alberta's educational community.

TOPICS

School Council Email Address for Alberta Education

ASCE Grant Uses/Usefulness

Curriculum Implementation



Wilson Bearhead



Seneca Dueck

Session Sponsored by:



Understanding the Importance of Indigenous Parent and Community Engagement

Join us as we have conversations about the importance of Indigenous parent, family and community engagement and how to create more meaningful and respectful relationships. We will share our experiences both personally and professionally within the education system as Indigenous people ourselves.

Wilson Bearhead is a Nakota Elder and a member of the Wabamun Lake First Nation in Treaty 6 Territory. Wilson has served as the Chief of his community, Grande Chief of Treaty 6 and Assembly of First Nations Alberta Regional Chief. He began his career in the field of addictions, mental health and supports for children in care. Over the years Wilson had dedicated his time, always in service to the community, families and children, in roles that include Elder at federal corrections agencies, public libraries and in schools. Most recently Wilson Served as the Elder for Elk Island Public Schools. Wilson's grandmother Annie was a powerful, positive influence in his young life, teaching him all of the lessons that gave him the strength, knowledge and skill to overcome difficult times and to embrace the gifts of life.

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.

Cultivating Compassion and Connection with Resiliency

One of our greatest desires is belonging and connectedness to a group or community. Yet, our life experiences, relationships, beliefs, and internal thoughts keep us separate and prevent us from experiencing all that life has to offer.

In this session, Lori Veres will take you on a journey to become more aware, open, and curious about yourself and others through the lens of compassion. Practicing compassion calms your nervous system, decreases stress levels, helps you think more clearly and increases your capacity to navigate life's challenges. Rooted in compassion and connection to your heart, you will gain tools to be open to love with a renewed sense of resiliency and hope.

In this session, you will explore:

- How compassion differs from empathy, sympathy, and kindness
- The science of compassion and the connection to your heart
- Tools to navigate the challenges of being human
- Why cultivating self-compassion can be difficult
- Ways to foster compassion for self and others
- The positive impact of compassion

Lori Veres is an entrepreneur and business leader passionate about personal and professional development. She loves to help people understand how their family system, childhood traumas and beliefs may limit their capacity for deep, authentic connection.

Lori has a degree in Human Kinetics from the University of British Columbia, but her passion for enhancing the collective human experience stems from the past two years, working towards her diploma in Transpersonal Psychology.

In 2023 Lori will be a registered counsellor and will continue to use her knowledge, skills, and life experience to cultivate and encourage healthy sharing, vulnerability, connectedness, compassion, and resiliency in personal and professional settings.



Lori Veres

Session Sponsored by:





Karen Filewych

Session Sponsored by:



Understanding the New English Language Arts and Literature Curriculum

This presentation will provide you with an understanding of the structure and content of the new English Language Arts and Literature curriculum. Karen will also share what to expect in your children's classrooms and ways that you can support your children with literacy at home.

Karen Filewych has twenty-five years of educational experience as an elementary teacher, school administrator, and language arts consultant. In 2007, she completed her Master of Education degree in the area of literacy. Karen's first book - *How Do I Get Them to Write?* - was published by Pembroke Publishers in May of 2017. Her second book - *Freewriting with Purpose* - was published in January of 2019. Both books are practical guides for the teaching of writing and include lists of mentor texts for each area of study. Karen continues to write and has some exciting projects in the works!

Karen presents regularly for teachers on a variety of topics. She especially enjoys working with students through school-based writing residencies to demonstrate how writing can transform their work and their lives in the classroom and beyond. She also offers parent literacy evenings providing simple, effective ways to engage children in literacy-rich activities in the home.



Tammy Leslie

Looking at the New (K-3) Math Curriculum

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC)

Alberta Education defines Mathematics as ... "a subject in which students study patterns and relationships to understand various aspects of the world" (2021). Come learn about the new Elementary math draft curriculum.

In this session parents will be provided with an overview of the new K-3 math curriculum, including some of the major shifts in both knowledge and skills from the current to new.

Tammy Leslie has been an educator for over 30 years. She spent 23 years teaching in Grades 1 through 6 and the past 8 years as an Elementary Math Consultant with Edmonton Catholic Schools. As a consultant, Tammy had multiple opportunities to work with many individuals both within and outside the division; including consultants, administrators, teachers and students to provide ongoing support and guidance in developing and deepening best math practices in inclusive communities.

Tammy is passionate about math and numeracy. Her goal, as a Learning Facilitator with ERLC, is to support educators in their continued efforts to understand and address the need for impactful strategies in math and numeracy. She believes in a collaborative approach model with teachers as leaders, where we can work ON practice, IN practice. She aims to co-construct meaningful professional learning to guide instruction and maximize student learning.



Patrick Bohnet

Session Sponsored by:



The New K-6 Physical Education / Wellness Curriculum

Central Alberta Regional Consortium (CARC)

This presentation will provide you with an understanding of the structure and content of the NEW K-6 Physical Education/Wellness curriculum. What has changed? How can parents support their children? What questions do you have?

Patrick is the Executive Director of the Central Alberta Regional Consortium. Patrick's education includes a BEd, MEd, and Graduate Diploma in Educational Technology. Patrick has been a consultant for CARC and has over 30 years of classroom and administrative experience with five school divisions. During the last Physical Education and Health Curriculum change, Patrick was the Zone 4 implementation specialist.



Tannis Niziol

Effective Classroom Assessment Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC)

Effective classroom assessment tells a story. By design, the story of student learning should capture not only the *summative* assessments teachers use to determine a final grade, but also reveal the many *formative* steps a student has taken in the face of new learning. This session will explore the powerful connection between formative in-learning feedback and the summative assessment results teachers communicate to parents.

Tannis is currently supporting Alberta teachers as a Professional Learning Facilitator with the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. She recently served as a curriculum 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 is a voracious reader who believes all students deserve access to rich, diverse reading experiences and to a safe equitable space to talk about what they see, hear, think and feel. She is on a journey to disrupt and bring clarity to the conversations that drive our planning and assessment practice.

NETWORKING SESSIONS SATURDAY APRIL 23RD 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

TOPIC ROOMS: Delegates can choose one topic, or more, to join in a discussion, to learn and share with others.

TOPICS

School Council Email Address for Alberta Education

Mix 'n Mingle

Summer Coping Tips *Bring your best ideas and family summer coping tips to share!*

ASCE Grant Uses/Usefulness

Curriculum Implementation

BREAKOUT SESSIONS SATURDAY APRIL 23RD 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM



Brenda Cryer

Council of School Councils Working in the School Division: Assurance in Action Parkland School Division

Parkland School Division (PSD) shares a successful engagement of parents at both the school and division levels, working hard to get the Assurance Framework information into the school community.

Watch a short video of a live Council of School Councils (CoSC) meeting and discuss the importance of school councils in a school division working together with each other, the school board trustees, and the school board administration.

Various school councils are able to work together to help each other by answering questions and sharing experiences as they may have solved the same types of concerns.

This session may help others understand more about what “Assurance in Action” looks like, and how it might work in their own school council and school community.

Brenda Cryer has been involved with school councils for 18 years. She has been involved with four different school councils, sometimes two at the same time, as well as participating in the division-wide Council of School Councils (CoSC). Brenda received a Special Recognition award from the Office of the Superintendent of Parkland School Division for her many years of service. In 2019, Brenda was a recipient of the School Council Parent of Distinction Award from ASCA.



Debbie Vance



Deborah MacFadyen

Building Futures in Alberta: Financial Literacy is Coming to the K-12 Classroom!

Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE)

CFEE is honored to be coordinating the **Building Futures in Alberta** resources in English and French for **Alberta Education** to support implementation in financial education and financial literacy for Alberta students, teachers and parents.

The **Building Futures in Alberta** project aims to integrate a basic economic and financial education into the Alberta curriculum in grades 7-12.

The session will explore the importance of improving financial capability and literacy that goes beyond calculating interest, using an ATM properly, and picking the right credit card. Efforts to improve the financial literacy of our youth is vitally important – not only to make good, informed financial decisions but to know how to stay in control of their financial lives – knowing where their money is going, working with a budget, setting goals, making trade-offs, living within their means, and setting manageable debt limits.

This session will outline and share the multiple programs that support implementation of financial literacy topics for teachers and parents in the delivery to children and youth. It will provide an overview and then move to break out sessions for Grades 5-9, High School, and a Parent Program and Resource Session.

Debbie Vance, currently the team lead for **Building Futures in Alberta** is an educator in Alberta. Debbie designed and developed the *Career Pathways Model* for the Calgary Board of Education, and had the pleasure of implementing *Dual Credit Strategy* across the province of Alberta which has transformed student’s future Career Paths. Debbie has worked with Alberta Education, Advanced Education and Alberta Labour developing the *Career Development Strategy for Alberta Connecting Learning and Work*.

Deborah MacFadyen, formerly with Calgary Board of Education as the Site Leader of Westbrook Outreach School, experienced K-12 educator, administrator, former CTS Alberta Education Resource Manager, PD facilitator, and published author whose academic credentials include B.Sc., B.Ed., and M.Ed. in Teaching, Learning and Supervision. She was previously the Vice President and Professional Development Director of the ATA Career Educator Council (CTEC), and currently, continues to serve as a Director on the SafeGen Board of Directors. Among other pursuits she is a consultant with CFEE for the **Building Futures in Alberta** financial literacy resources for grades 7-12.

The Why and How of Alberta’s Standardized Test

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC)

This session will explore why Alberta has a program of standardized testing. Information will be provided regarding the purpose of the tests and the processes that go into their design, development, and administration.

Time will also be devoted to exploring some of the common misunderstanding people have about these assessments. The presenter is a former director of diploma examinations with over twenty years’ experience working at the Assessment Sector of Alberta Education.

After a number of years in the classroom, Tim Coates was seconded to Alberta Education as a Diploma Examination Manager; first for Social Studies 33, and later for Social Studies 30. From 2005 until 2014 Tim was the Director of the Diploma Examination Program Branch. His final service to Alberta Education was as the Coordinator of the Classroom Assessment Capacity project.

From 2009 until 2018, Tim served as a sessional lecturer at the University of Alberta, teaching a course in classroom assessment. Tim has offered many professional development presentations throughout Alberta and on occasion in the United States. He has been featured as a keynote speaker at district professional development and conventions. Tim’s educational interests and expertise focus on how to make assessments that engage students and provide meaningful information.



Tim Coates



Shauna Kelly



Jodi Lammiman



Sue Huff

Fostering Wellness and Compassion through Environmental Education

Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE)

Eco-anxiety, eco-grief, the climate crisis, COVID stress - these are all things students are facing today. You will hear from students who are part of the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental Education (AYLEE) about their student polling results, their experiences with eco-anxiety, and how being part of AYLEE and engaging in projects in their schools helps them deal with eco-anxiety. Join Jodi Lammiman of Refugia Retreats to explore how schools and teachers can help students deal with these feelings and learn some strategies and tools for helping students deal with these feelings of grief and anxiety.

Shauna Kelly joined ACEE in May 2019 and is the Youth and Program Coordinator for the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental Education (AYLEE). 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.

Jodi Lammiman is a certified eco-spiritual director (coach), community facilitator and artist living in Mohkinstis (Calgary, AB) in Treaty 7 territory. She has experience working in the public sector, non-profit sector and in higher education. Her work explores the intersections between personal change and systems change through the establishment of spaces that invite people into deeper relationships with self, community, and the natural world through ritual, dialogue, silence, and solitude. She has a Bachelor of Sacred Literature, MA in Leadership and a Certification in Spiritual Direction.

Emotional De-escalation at Home

Are your kids experiencing emotional outbursts? Do you feel like everything you say seems to make it worse? Do you feel like you are walking on eggshells? This skills-based workshop will teach you a simple approach to emotional de-escalation to help. It works with brain science, is compassionate, effective, and easy to learn. This approach helps your child process emotions in a healthy way, and returns them to a more receptive and flexible mindset quickly. It also strengthens interpersonal relationships and rebuilds trust.

This workshop was developed by Dr. Adele Lafrance (PhD Clinical and Child Psychology) and is derived from her work in emotion focused family therapy.

Facilitated by Sue Huff, Family Peer Supporter with the Alberta Wellness Center for Eating Disorders and former Executive Director for Eating Disorder Support Network of Alberta. Sue is trained in Peer Support, Emotion Focused Family Therapy, and Mediation.

When Sue learned this skill, it was transformative in her own family as her child battled an eating disorder: *"This is literally a life-saving skill. People who are flooded with emotion are not rational, and if they feel alone and overwhelmed, they can make very desperate and sometimes irrevocable decisions. By helping them learn to regulate their emotions using this approach, we can show them that there is light at the end of the emotional storm."*

"One Small Thing"

Alberta School Councils' Association

Join ASCA Directors Jacquie Surgenor and Krista Scott as they share *One Small Thing* that your school council can do to connect the work of school council to your school's annual education plan. Jacquie and Krista will share how an initiative that Jacquie started at Salisbury Composite High School in Elk Island Public Schools to recognize school staff during the pandemic has successfully grown into a multi-school initiative that builds resilience in the school community, encourages staff, and supports the assurance framework. You will walk away from this session with everything you need to get started at your own school!

Both Jacquie and Krista have been long time participants in their respective school councils. They have served on school councils as their children grew from elementary through to graduating high school. They continue to be involved in their district Council of School Councils (CoSC) as well as serving on the board of ASCA as provincial directors.



Jacquie Surgenor (l)

Krista Scott (r)

VENDOR ROOMS: Session for delegates to visit Vendors in a designated Zoom room. Vendors will supply a prize (minimum \$50 value) drawn from contact information provided by visiting delegates.

TOPIC ROOMS: Delegates can choose one topic, or more, to join in a discussion, to learn and share with others.

VENDORS



Debbie Vance

Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE)

Building Futures in Alberta Program

Join Debbie Vance in this session to learn more about economic education and the wide array of financial programs available with CFEE.

CFEE works collaboratively with our funding partners, departments of education, school boards, schools, educators, and teacher associations to develop and provide free, non-commercial programs and resources for teachers and students – developed and reviewed by educators. CFEE also has a range of programs to assist newcomers to Canada as they look to settle and integrate into their new country.

The **Building Futures in Alberta** program is a program of CFEE. Its goal is to support financial education in Alberta by providing teachers with free access to resources and programs to use in their efforts to improve the financial literacy of Alberta youth.

CFEE has received a grant from the Alberta Government to help improve financial literacy of students.



Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC)

Join this session to learn all about the ARPDC, what it is and what it does in your community!

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. On our site you will find: Connections to your **Regional** Consortium.

Mission: To provide high quality professional learning opportunities for Alberta's educational community.

TOPICS

School Council Email Address for Alberta Education

ASCE Grant Uses/Usefulness

Curriculum Implementation

USING ZOOM

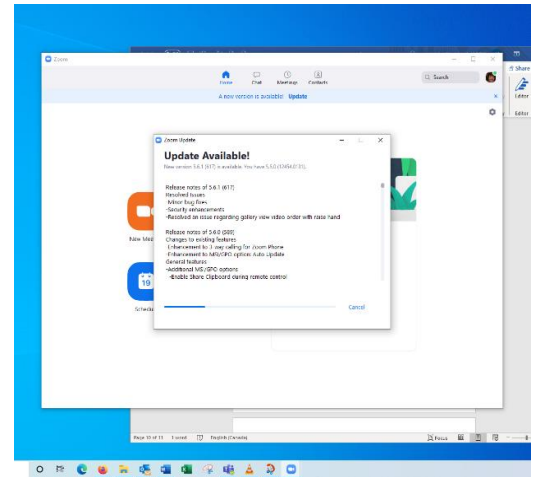


As the event sessions will be presented in Zoom, attendees are encouraged to create a free Zoom account (*if you do not already have one*), to ensure you have the **latest updates** for Zoom, and avoid connection issues. You can **join a Zoom test meeting** to familiarize yourself with Zoom, or for a refresher, click [here](#).

<https://zoom.us/>

Attendees have the option to have their camera on or off, the microphone will be muted (except with permission to turn on).

Registrants will receive a document that contains the Zoom links for each event session.



CHARITY OF CHOICE

In lieu of gifts to speakers/presenters, ASCA Board of Directors chooses a “charity of choice” to receive a donation.

The Charity of Choice for 2022 is the **Safe Haven Foundation of Canada**. *Helping Give Calgary’s Homeless and At-Risk Girls Their Future Back.*

The Safe Haven Foundation of Canada was born from one couple’s personal mission to develop a program dedicated to keeping homeless, and at-risk teenage girls safe, off the streets, and in school.

An extensive study confirmed the need for a comprehensive program that provided a long-term home and all the necessary supports for girls who would otherwise be calling the streets ‘home.’

Haven’s Angels, the volunteer arm of Safe Haven Foundation, is a dynamic group of caring volunteers who are committed to helping give Calgary’s homeless and at-risk girls their future back.

Safe Haven Foundation of Canada
Box 609, 7620 Elbow Drive SW, Calgary, AB T2V 1K2
403.230.2613 <https://www.safehavenfoundation.ca/>



SAFE HAVEN
FOUNDATION

SPONSORS

Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia
Canadian Foundation for Economic Education
Canadian Parents for French (Alberta)
Canadian Tire
CMVTC MJG Technologies Ltd.
Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium
Foster Park Brokers
Habitat Systems Inc.
Marsh Canada
Pounce Support Services
Public School Boards' Association of Alberta
Quantum Recreation



Sponsor Directory Listing with company description, website and contact information is available at:
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/210525>

ASCA is grateful for the financial support provided by our event sponsors. Now more than ever, we appreciate the partnerships that enable the Association to continue providing a quality, meaningful event for participants.

Breakout session sponsors will provide brief company information at the start of the session, and in some cases, have created a **1 MINUTE** video ad to show, prior to introducing the presenter.


Delegate attention, and support for sponsors, is much appreciated.

Vendor rooms have been set up for those sponsors wishing to “meet” with delegates to provide further information on their programs, products and/or services. Delegates “visiting” these vendors have the option to provide their contact information for additional follow up after the event. A prize draw will be made from the list of contacts, and delivered to the winner after the event.

GAME CARD

Complete the Q & A Activity Card “How well do you know ASCA?” to be entered to win a \$250 Canadian Tire Gift Card.

Head to the [ASCA website](#) to find answers and fill in the blanks!



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH ALBERTA Sponsor

Q & A Activity Card

April 22, 23, 24, 2022
School Councils Conference
 Annual General Meeting
Alberta School Councils Association

How well do you know the Alberta School Council's Association? Are you a good detective? Head to ASCA's website and do your best sleuthing! Complete the Activity Card BEFORE 1:30 pm on Saturday, April 23rd for your chance to WIN a \$250 Canadian Tire Gift Card!

Name: _____

School Council: _____

1. What is ASCA's Vision?
Answer: _____
2. Name two of ASCA's Enhancement level workshops that are offered to School Councils:
Answer: _____
3. What is one example of what that the Alberta School Council Engagement (ASCE) Grant can be used for?
Answer: _____
4. How do School Councils in Alberta benefit from having an ASCA Membership?
Answer: _____
5. What are the three (3) levels a School Council may advise and consult at?
Answer: _____
6. Name two (2) of the four (4) ways to donate to ASCA: <i>(Hint: The answer can be found in a letter from the Executive Director)</i>
Answer: _____
7. Name one of ASCA's Destinations for our 2022-2025 Vision Path:
Answer: _____
8. Name two (2) Webinar Wednesday topics that were presented this year (2021-2022)?
Answer: _____
9. Name one (1) of the Projects relating to School Council Reconciliation:
Answer: _____
10. What are the four (4) Support Services that ASCA offers to School Councils and School Divisions?
Answer: _____
11. What are two (2) provincial committees that ASCA has been represent at, or participated on?
Answer: _____
12. What does COSCs stand for?
Answer: _____
13. Name two (2) of ASCA's Online Learning Resources?
Answer: _____

Finished? Take a picture, or save it on your computer, and e-mail your completed card to:
support@albertaschoolcouncils.ca

Completed cards are the entry for the prize draw and must be submitted by **1:30 pm on Saturday**.

Take a picture, or save it on your computer, and e-mail your completed card to:
support@albertaschoolcouncils.ca

Draw prize is a \$250 CANADIAN TIRE Gift Card delivered to the winner after the event.

The LINK to the Game Card will be available at the start of the event.

Thank you to our Game Card Sponsor!
Canadian Parents for French, Alberta

PRE-AGM SESSIONS SATURDAY APRIL 23rd 5:00 PM – 6:15 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. |

The **AGM PRE-sessions (or Conference POST-sessions)** can be accessed using the Zoom links provided to registrants, and are also available on the ASCA website [here](#).

There is no charge for these sessions, and attendees can be conference participants, AGM participants, or anyone wishing to attend. The three topics run for 75 minutes each, and are designed to be informal (no structured Agenda), to allow attendees to potentially move from one session to another in the time allotted.

AGM Link

Please note – the ASCA AGM is a secure meeting hosted in the ZOOM platform. Registrants will have a separate, unique Zoom link issued to them for the meeting.

ASCA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Sunday April 24, 2022



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday April 22

12:30 pm	Opening Greetings				
1:00 pm	Opening Plenary				
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions				
Nature as Teacher: Cultivating the Whole Child through Outdoor Learning	The Power of Parents: Passion Led Us Here	School Curriculum Development and Implementation in Alberta	SOGI 1 2 3: A Pathway to Safe and Inclusive Schools	I HAVE, I AM, I CAN: Building Resilience in Children	Cultivating Compassion in the Virtual Meeting Environment
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Networking				
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Conversation Exchange School Councils: Cultivating Compassion <i>How do school councils work to promote positive engagement and wellbeing in the school community to benefit student success? What does compassion look like in your school community?</i>				

Saturday April 23

8:45 am	Welcome				
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Breakout Sessions				
The Importance of Indigenous Parent and Community Engagement	Cultivating Compassion and Connection with Resiliency	Understanding the New English Language Arts and Literature Curriculum	Looking at the New (K-3) Math Curriculum	The New K-6 Physical Education / Wellness Curriculum	Effective Classroom Assessment
10:15 am	Keynote Speaker: David Irvine CULTIVATING COMPASSION AS SCHOOL COUNCIL LEADERS "Let's Make the Comeback Better than the Setback"				
11:00 am	Networking				
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch Break				
12:45 pm - 1:30 pm	Presentation: Dana Fulwiler-Volk "Bouncing Forward: Prioritizing Wellbeing in Education"				
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions				
Council of School Councils Working in the School Division: Assurance in Action	Building Futures in Alberta: Financial Literacy is Coming to the K-12 Classroom!	The Why and How of Alberta's Standardized Test	Fostering Wellness and Compassion through Environmental Education	Emotional De-escalation at Home	"One Small Thing"
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Networking				
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	Closing Plenary: Sandra Woitas "We all have the power to change the world"				
5:00 pm - 6:15 pm	Pre-AGM Sessions (3) Candidates Corner, Parliamentary Procedures, Resolutions Discussion				

Sunday April 24

8:30 am - 9:00 am	Opening Address
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting, Board Elections
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Business Meeting, Board Elections