

Programme



School Councils Conference & AGM

20-22 April 2018
Delta Edmonton South

PRE-SESSIONS FRIDAY APRIL 20th 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Emerald Room

Playground Builds and Rebuilds: *Getting it Right!*

Pat Zelenak

Playworks Inc.

Will there be a new school in your community? Is the current playground at your school falling apart? Do you want to learn how to build or rebuild a playground that kids will love? This session will cover everything you want to know about putting up a playground in your community. From forming a playground committee to your grand opening, learn how to maximize the play value in your playground and stay within your budget. Our mission is to build playgrounds that kids love and to keep them coming back for more.

Pat Zelenak got his start in playgrounds in 1992 when he joined the community playground committee in Castle Downs, Edmonton. He quickly discovered that he had a talent and passion for designing and building playgrounds that kids love. He has been in the industry ever since and has worked in a variety of roles, everything from design and sales to installation. He has extensive experience working with parent and community groups and is an expert at helping groups secure funding so they can maximize the play value in their playgrounds.

Calgary Room

Fundraising through Grants

Kim Street

KJ Street Consulting

It is becoming increasingly difficult to raise funds in our current economy. Gone are the days of the bake sales; big money is now needed. Computers, playgrounds, spray parks, and school upgrades are all expensive. Grants can provide large infusions of cash, but understanding the grant process can be overwhelming. The goal of this presentation is to provide an overview of the process and the considerations required, to not only complete grant applications, but inform your organization before, during and after the grants are prepared. What needs to be done, how to leverage what you have, and planning, are some key topics. Ideas for municipal, provincial, federal and corporate grants available will be introduced.

Kim has been a professional fundraiser since 1992, working for organizations such as the Canadian Paraplegic Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Handicapped Housing, Youth Emergency Shelter and Tevie Miller Heritage School. Kim has raised over \$1 million twice for both Elmwood and St. Martha School in redeveloping their playgrounds. Kim is currently working with more than 70 groups throughout Alberta in an effort to identify and secure funding for various projects including playgrounds, spray decks, arenas, community activities, technology, art and sport supplies, art programs and school improvements.

Lake Louise Room

Gaming Information for Charitable Groups

Laurie Pedersen

Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC)

Information about eligibility and use of gaming proceeds requirements for educational groups. Defining the responsibilities of the charitable group and school staff when it comes to spending and allocating gaming proceeds.

Laurie Pedersen is the Coordinator for the Gaming Information for Charitable Groups (GAIN) program at the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC). The GAIN Program provides gaming information to organizations in order to support the delivery of charitable programs throughout the province.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Friday April 20

1:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Registration
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Pre-sessions (3)
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Resource Gallery
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Welcome Social Mixer Conversation Exchange

Saturday April 21

7:00 am	Registration
7:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am	Opening Greetings
8:15 am – 9:00 am	Minister of Education Honourable David Eggen
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions A.
10:15 am	Resource Gallery & Refreshments
10:45 am	Keynote Speaker
11:30 am	Networking & Resource Gallery
12:00 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm	Plenary Presentation
1:30 pm – 2:40 pm	Breakout Sessions B.
2:45 pm	Resource Gallery & Refreshments
3:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Breakout Sessions C.
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Guest Reception Candidates Meet 'n Greet Dinner, Awards, Dance

Sunday April 22

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting
12:00 - 12:45 pm	Lunch
12:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Meeting, Board Elections

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Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada



Message from Honourable Rachel Notley Premier of Alberta

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Alberta School Councils' Association's (ASCA) 2018 School Councils Conference and Annual General Meeting.

School councils are integral in shaping the future of Alberta's education system. As leaders, we must inspire a commitment to education, and I know each of you here today have demonstrated that commitment and will continue to do so in the years ahead. I thank you for not only being here to learn about opportunities for our students, but to discuss our continual investment in the future of Alberta's next generation.

One of our government's top priorities is funding Alberta's high-quality education system to enrich learning experiences for students in our province. We will remain committed to providing stable, predictable funding as we know our children are the greatest investment we can make in our province's future.

My sincere thanks to the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers who have helped make this conference and meeting a success. I commend each of you for helping create a better, safer, more welcoming Alberta for this generation, and for all that will follow.

Rachel Notley

April 21, 2018



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister



**Greetings from the Honourable David Eggen
Minister of Education**

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the 2018 Alberta School Councils' Association Conference and Annual General Meeting.

Our government is committed to supporting and enhancing the health and well-being of all students, but we know we cannot do this alone. Creating and maintaining a culture of wellness in schools across the province requires the hard work and dedication of the entire school community.

Engaged parents have a positive impact on our students and are crucial to successful learning, in and out of the classroom. I would like to thank you for your commitment and dedication to our students, our schools and our communities.

Best wishes for a successful and engaging conference.

David Eggen
Minister of Education

April 2018



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

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

Providing development sessions, information sharing and resources for the school community, our provincial event offers opportunity to engage with the Education Ministry and network with other school council members from across Alberta.

This year, the three-day event will consider student success and wellbeing in the school community. Wellbeing in childhood and youth is proven to support positive mental health, improve academic performance and contribute to favourable life outcomes.

Thirty (30) topics are available in the breakout sessions including comprehensive school health, social-emotional learning, growing up digital, online safety, privacy legislation, anxiety in children, provincial assessment, curriculum development, reconciliation, post-secondary planning and the transportation regulations. In addition, three (3) pre-session topics are offered.

We are pleased to have Honourable David Eggen, Minister of Education, join us for a keynote address on Saturday morning. Dr. Lynn Miller, Lic. Psych., from the University of British Columbia Education and Counseling Psychology and Special Education department will share insights on psychological issues and their effect on children's lives on Saturday as well.

We are excited to offer the integrated Resource Gallery area – with exhibits, additional networking time, and the ever popular Winners Circle prize program - a highlight for many attendees.

Our banquet event promises to be a fun and engaging evening, and precedes the Sunday business meeting and election of the ASCA provincial Board of Directors.

So, welcome - we are glad you could join us!

Please enjoy the event, and I look forward to meeting you throughout the weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allison Pike'.

Allison Pike
ASCA President

FEATURED SESSIONS & KEYNOTES

Conversation Exchange

“How can school council contribute to wellbeing in the school community?”

The “conversation exchange” is a group table exercise to generate ideas and input for sharing.

The event theme will consider student success and wellbeing in the school community. Wellbeing in childhood and youth is proven to support positive mental health, improve academic performance and contribute to favourable life outcomes.

Wellbeing in early years and school settings help children and students become resilient, so they can make positive and healthy choices to support learning and achievement.

Schools are the number one setting to promote wellbeing among children and youth. Given the amount of time young people spend in school, this setting presents a unique opportunity to support and promote wellbeing.

School Councils are in an ideal position to promote and support wellbeing in the school community.

Keynote Address

Education Minister

Honourable David Eggen

MLA for Edmonton-Calder



David Eggen was sworn in as the Minister of Education and as the Minister of Culture and Tourism on May 24, 2015.

Mr. Eggen was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Edmonton-Calder on April 23, 2012 and again on May 5, 2015. He previously represented the constituency from 2004 to 2008 and served as the ND's critic for energy, education, environment and sustainable resource development.

Mr. Eggen was educated at the University of Alberta, where he received a bachelor of education degree in 1984. He then went to Zimbabwe, where he taught for three years. Upon his return to Edmonton he taught at a number of local schools from 1990 to 2004.

Mr. Eggen has served as a member of the following committees:

- Standing Committee on Families and Communities
- Standing Committee on Legislative Offices
- Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future
- Select Special Chief Electoral Officer Search Committee
- Select Special Ethics Commissioner Search Committee
- Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund

In addition to his contributions to education and health care, Mr. Eggen is a trustee with the Forum for Young Albertans and a chair leader of the Canadian Paraplegic Association.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Lynn Miller, Ph. D., Lic. Psych.

Mental Health Matters! Psychological issues and their effect on children's lives.



The mental health concerns of children and youth is emerging as an urgent problem in Canadian health and education systems. Mental health concerns in youth have been identified as the most pressing problem facing children and their families as the human, social and economic costs of the problem attract professional attention.

The Mental Health Commission of Canada has identified schools as a primary site for delivering and coordinating interventions. Educators play a key role in noticing how mental health issues can be a primary challenge for those students who are also struggling academically.

Lynn D. Miller, Ph. D., R. Psych., has retired from her position as Associate Professor in the Education and Counseling Psychology and Special Education department at UBC. She started her career as a classroom teacher, and then worked as a school counselor K-12.

She managed several research grants, including a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant, examining the effects of empirically supported approaches to child anxiety in the public school system.

She was a consultant to the FRIENDS program, an evidence-based curriculum based on cognitive behaviour principles targeting anxiety, available to all grade 4-5 students in BC.

She has conducted research on other models of anxiety prevention programs in schools, including Taming Worry Dragons, Skills for Social and Academic Success, Cool Little Kids, as well as an enhanced program for Aboriginal children.

As the Myrne Nevison Prevention Research Professor, she investigated anxiety at the entry to school in grades kindergarten and one.

She is President of the Anxiety Disorders Association of Canada, 2010-2013, 2018-2019, and recently completed her term serving as the President of the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (2004-2006).

Plenary Session

Working Together to Support Mental Health in Alberta Schools (Government Resource)

Krystal Abrahamowicz, Calgary Regional Consortium, Bev Baker-Hofmann, Alberta Education

This is a Government of Alberta resource to support processes for mental health planning in and with schools. Intended to help build a shared understanding of how schools, community partners and government can better work together, this resource is an invitation for schools and their partners to reflect on current practices, leverage current initiatives and consider how the promotion of mental health can be most effectively embedded in school and system policies, practices and services.

Krystal Abrahamowicz is a Designer of Professional Learning with the Calgary Regional Consortium. Previously, she spent over 13 years as a Teacher, Student Services Specialist, and then Student Services Coordinator at a Charter School in Calgary. Krystal is the author of the *Supporting High School Completion: A Tool Kit for Success* resource.

Bev Baker-Hofmann is an Education Manager with Alberta Education in the School and Community Supports Branch and works primarily within the area of mental health in schools. She is a Registered Psychologist and has extensive experience working in schools in a variety of roles including teacher, counsellor, consultant, and district office administrator.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Diamond Room

Measuring Individual Students' Engagement with School

Dr. John M. Burger, Dr. Anna Nadirova
Practical Data Solutions Inc.

This session addresses foundations of student engagement; Alberta research on measures of student engagement in relationship to student achievement, using the web-based Student Orientation to School Questionnaire (SOS-Q) and, future possibilities for supporting action research on student engagement with school.

John M. Burger, PhD., completed his M. Ed. and doctoral degrees at the University of Alberta and his B.A and B.Ed. degrees at the Ohio State University. His experience includes 23 years with the Alberta Ministry of Education and 17 years in several Alberta school jurisdictions.

John and Dr. Anna Nadirova have been researching student engagement in support of high school completion since 2003.

Anna Nadirova, PhD., completed her doctorate at the University of Alberta. Anna has over 15 years' experience working within Alberta government departments as well as practical experience in a large urban school jurisdiction.

Emerald Room

Sexting & Cyberbullying - Keeping Youth Safe Online

Nimmi Kanji

TELUS WISE® (*Wise Internet and Smartphone Education*) TELUS

TELUS WISE will share some key findings from two studies that provide insights for keeping youth safe online as it pertains to cyberbullying and sexting:

1. Motivations and dynamics of sexting among young people – this research, conducted in 2017 in partnership with MediaSmarts, uncovers insights about the prevalence of, and attitudes towards sexting, and gender differences associated with this behaviour.
2. The Young Canadians' Experiences with Electronic Bullying study - conducted in 2015, in partnership with MediaSmarts and PREVNet, this research is aimed at better understanding the relationship between peer intervention and electronic bullying among Canadian youth.

Nimmi Kanji is the Director for the TELUS WISE program at TELUS. The program has garnered over 3.5 million engagements by Canadians since its inception. Nimmi started her career at TELUS eighteen years ago while she was a student at the University of Calgary. After graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, and prior to leading TELUS WISE, she spent several years in TELUS Business Marketing.

Fort McMurray Room

Foundation for What? Understanding the Focus on Indigenous Foundational Knowledge in Schools

Jessica Daniels

Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC)

This session will build understanding and awareness around the shift that schools are making toward building foundational knowledge of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people in Canada - at the student, teacher, and curriculum level, and will focus on deepening understanding of how this shift creates opportunities for a caring, learning environment for all students.

Participants will explore their role in this shift and discuss how they are an essential component in this journey towards fostering an authentic and respectful relationship to this land, to its first peoples, and to each other.

Jessica Daniels is an Indigenous Consultant for the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. She is from Edmonton, and has studied political science and philosophy at the University of Alberta, as well as Business Administration at NAIT.

Jessica has been involved in Aboriginal women's organizations since 1990 when she was the youth representative on the Women of the Métis Nation Board, one of the first Métis women's groups to ever be established. She is the current president of the Aboriginal Women's Justice Foundation, an organization dedicated to policy and social change to improve outcomes for Aboriginal women.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Red Deer Room

Safe and Caring Schools & Communities: Alberta School Audit

Amber Hester, Leslie Ronaldson

Safe and Caring Schools & Communities (SACSC)

Assisting schools and communities with a variety of resources and supports under the umbrella of “safe and caring”, SACSC is excited to share a new project soon to be rolled out to all schools in Alberta.

A new process schools can use to determine to the extent that their schools are: Safe, Caring, Welcoming and Respectful.

The Alberta School Audit tool includes survey data to determine what is working well and identify areas for improvement. This session will provide the foundation and explain the “why” behind the creation of this audit tool and the journey SACSC has taken in support of Alberta schools.

Leslie Ronaldson is the Executive Director at Safe and Caring and brings extensive experience in executive leadership roles in the not-for-profit, government, and private sectors.

Amber Hester is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Inclusive Learning Services with Wolf Creek Public Schools. In education for over 20 years, she has held a variety of leadership positions in both Alberta and Saskatchewan: Assistant Principal, Principal, Coordinator, and Assistant Superintendent.

Amber works with her district in the areas of: Safe and Caring Schools, Inclusion, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education, the Learning Agenda, Program Unit Funding, Community Supports and Interagency work, leading a team that include: specialists in the area of supporting diverse learners, psychologists, and social workers.

Medicine Hat Room

Transportation Regulations and You - Parent Focus Groups

Rick Grebenstein, Wendy Boje

Alberta Education

Alberta Education is working on the new Transportation Regulations indicated in the School Act. They are seeking to gain broad cross section input from parents and school councils on some draft ideas for the Regulations.

An ideal opportunity to access feedback, these focus groups are designed for parents to provide input to the Education Ministry.

The session will be offered three times throughout the day, one in each of the scheduled breakout times, to provide opportunity for the majority of parent delegates to participate.

Rick Grebenstein is the Senior Transportation Manager with Alberta Education. Prior to joining the department in 2009, he was the Transportation Director for Elk Island Catholic Schools.

Wendy Boje has been the Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Services and Governance Division for Alberta Education since 2016. She is successfully leading and developing various policy and legislative options as well as the fiscal plan, policy and oversight of \$8.2 billion in funds in the provincial education system.

Canmore Room

CAREERS, RAP and the TRADES

Planning for Post-Secondary Begins with Exploration and Experiences

Janis Lawrence-Harper

CAREERS: The Next Generation

Key factors in planning for post-secondary education include exploring interests, identifying personal strengths and researching.

Efforts made to discover appealing occupations during junior and senior high will reduce the anxiety of what is next after high school. It will also assist in planning the high school courses that open the doors to potential careers through further education.

This session will discuss opportunities of career options and how to gain hands on experiences to help students know themselves. Shared will be general information about the range of career paths linked to these opportunities and the post-secondary education that is required.

Janis Lawrence-Harper is Vice President of Operations for CAREERS: The Next Generation, a provincial nonprofit foundation, connecting with employers and youth to create internships and career exploration workshops.

She started with CAREERS in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, and presently guides CAREERS field directors and assists schools across the province.

Previously, her ten years with Keyano College were spent growing and managing continuing education programs and developing industry training. Janis has also worked with Alberta School Councils' Association to provide webinars for parents on opportunities and resources accessible to junior and senior high school students.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Lake Louise Room

Fundraising Associations & School Council Partnerships

Brenda Kell

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider.

Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential.

An ASCA instructor since 2015, Brenda Kell has twelve years' experience with School Councils in a variety of positions. Six years as a Fundraising Coordinator, 2 years as a parent representative to the GATE Parents Association, one year as Vice Chair and three years as a School Council Chair permits her to understand a wide scope of school council issues.

Brenda has volunteered extensively in schools with a focus on classroom presentations demonstrating how Math and Science are integrated into other subjects. Her professional background is in regulatory affairs and strategic planning.

Banff Room

Supporting Student Success Through Mentoring

Caroline Gosling

Alberta Education/Alberta Mentoring Partnership

Mentoring is an evidence based strategy that supports students' mental health, sense of belonging and connectedness, engagement and attendance, high school completion and ultimately success in and beyond school.

This session will:

- Provide an overview and background for school based mentoring.
- Investigate the essentials of building a mentoring culture.
- Explore mentoring approaches, types and models.
- Learn about resources to support mentoring in schools.

Caroline is a principal with Edmonton Public Schools and has a background in special education.

She is currently seconded to Alberta Education supporting mentoring in schools through the Alberta Mentoring Partnership.

Caroline holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership.

Calgary Room

A Whole School Approach to Positive Mental Health

Kate Conroy, Kristy Baron

Alberta Health Services, Healthy Children and Youth

This session will clarify the difference between positive mental health and mental illness.

Everyone has mental health, and everyone can enhance their mental health. Participants will increase their comfort in how to promote positive mental health throughout the school, with a focus on how policy and partnerships can play a part in school health.

Note that this session will focus on promoting positive mental health; it is not about mental illness.

Kate Conroy and Kristy Baron are Health Promotion Coordinators who work with school jurisdictions to support healthy school communities, using a comprehensive school health approach. They believe in supporting healthy learning environments to improve student success.

As Health Promotion Coordinators, Kate and Kristy partner with school jurisdictions in the Edmonton Zone to assess school health needs, build action plans, develop policies and celebrate school health successes.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Edmonton Room

Student Wellbeing through a Comprehensive School Health (CSH) Approach

Brian Torrance

Ever Active Schools

Health and wellness is foundational to learning. Alberta is truly leading the way in wellness initiatives that will be shared. Comprehensive School Health (CSH) is a way to link health and education within the school setting. It is an approach to building a healthy school community.

CSH is an internationally recognized approach to supporting improvements in students' educational outcomes while addressing school health in a planned, integrated and holistic way. This whole-school model builds capacity to incorporate wellbeing as an essential aspect of student achievement.

Brian oversees the Ever Active Schools (EAS) initiative in Alberta, a school based initiative that aims to improve health and learning outcomes of Alberta students. EAS spearheads true collaboration between the health, education, recreation and active living sectors.

Brian attended the University of Alberta, has a Bachelor's of Physical Education and Recreation and a Master's of Science from the Faculty of Medicine.

Brian volunteers as a Board member on the Edmonton Sport Council and represents Ever Active Schools on the Health and Physical Education Council and the Participaction Advisory Committee.

Lethbridge Room

School Council Purpose

Suzanne Lynch

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Understanding the legislated role of school councils including which topics/areas are open for discussion and which require caution helps to prevent tension and dysfunction within a school council and the school community.

Learning how to identify the work of school councils, how to frame a "personal issue" from a school council perspective and how to broach sensitive topics is essential for new and returning members.

Suzanne Lynch, ASCA Instructor, has been self-employed for 25 years as an aesthetician. She recently continued her passion for learning and personal growth, graduating with an Addictions and Community Service diploma.

With a passion for helping others reach their true potential, Suzanne is an active member of her daughter's school community and school council, currently serving as Chair, and is a volunteer with Diabetes Canada.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 1:30 PM – 2:40 PM

Diamond Room

Supporting Refugee Students

Serving Refugee Families: Considerations for Educational Settings

Roxanne Felix-Mah,
Ashima Sumaru-Jurf

Edmonton Mennonite Centre for
Newcomers

Participants will learn about refugees and their different migration journeys and the potential impacts on students and their families' integration into the school and other systems.

The presenters are Co-Managers, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, West End Community Connections.

Both Roxanne and Ashima have led several workshops on intercultural communication, anti-racism, and inclusion in various sectors for fifteen years.

Emerald Room

The Role of Social-Emotional Learning

Dr. Deiner Exner-Cortens
University of Calgary

This session will provide attendees with an overview of social-emotional learning, and consider connections between social-emotional learning and safe, caring, welcoming and respectful learning environments.

Practices to promote social-emotional learning as part of whole school initiatives will be discussed as well as:

- core components of social-emotional learning
- connections between social-emotional learning, academic achievement and overall well-being
- whole-school practices and principles for promoting social-emotional learning

Dr. Deiner Exner-Cortens is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, and is jointly appointed to the Department of Psychiatry, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary.

She holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology (Cornell University) and a Master of Public Health (Boston University).

Dr. Exner-Cortens' research focuses on school-based mental health, both through the evaluation of healthy relationships/social-emotional learning resources, and through evaluating implementation support systems for tiered mental health approaches in the school setting.

Starting in July 2018, she will also hold an Early Career Award focused on supporting child and youth mental health outcomes in Alberta school settings sponsored by Alberta Health Services.

Fort McMurray Room

Alberta Education Provincial Assessment Update

Pascal Couture, Jenny Kim, Kelly Rota
Alberta Education

Over the last year, several important Provincial Assessment updates have been made, or are underway, including:

- Providing parts of Grades 6 and 9 Mathematics Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) that students complete without using calculators;
- Working on providing written response questions for Mathematics 30-1 and 30-2 diploma exams, starting in the 2018-19 school year;
- Permitting all students to use up to twice the writing time to complete PATs and Diploma Exams, if needed;
- Providing teachers with the opportunity to administer Grade 3 Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) at their discretion;
- Providing school authorities with flexibility to administer PATs within a timeframe.

Learn how these updates are positively impacting students!

Pascal Couture is Senior Manager of Exam Administration and Production with the Provincial Assessment Sector of Alberta Education. He has worked in education in Alberta over the past 24 years, including teaching high school science in Edmonton.

Jenny Kim is the Mathematics 30-2 Senior Manager in Diploma Programs with the Provincial Assessment Sector of Alberta Education. She has also served as the Mathematics 30 Pure/30-1 Examiner. Prior to joining Alberta Education, Jenny taught Senior High Math in Edmonton and Stony Plain.

Kelly Rota is the Senior Manager of Grades 6 & 9 Mathematics Provincial Achievement Testing with the Provincial Assessment Sector. He has worked in various teaching and administrative roles in education in Alberta over the past 17 years from elementary through high school.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 21ST 1:30 PM – 2:40 PM

Red Deer Room

The Privacy Commission and Public Education

Jill Clayton

Office of the Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Alberta

Information and Privacy
Commissioner Jill Clayton will highlight the ways in which we can teach the education community about information and privacy rights, and how teaching students about privacy rights promotes independence and creative problem solving skills in the 21st century learning environment.

Various initiatives and resources will be mentioned, and an overview of how Alberta's access to information and privacy laws apply to the education sector will be provided.

Jill Clayton was sworn in as Alberta's third Information and Privacy Commissioner on February 1, 2012, and was reappointed in February 2017.

As an Officer of the Legislature, Ms. Clayton works independent of government as a regulator to perform the broad range of responsibilities, duties and functions outlined in Alberta's three access to information and privacy laws: the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (public sector), the Health Information Act (health sector) and the Personal Information Protection Act (private sector).

Ms. Clayton began her career with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) in 2004 with the team responsible for ensuring oversight and compliance with the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA).

Medicine Hat Room

Transportation Regulations and You - Parent Focus Groups

Rick Grebenstein, Wendy Boje

Alberta Education

Alberta Education is working on the new Transportation Regulations indicated in the School Act. They are seeking to gain broad cross section input from parents and school councils on some draft ideas for the Regulations.

An ideal opportunity to access feedback, these focus groups are designed for parents to provide input to the Education Ministry.

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Canmore Room

Student Attendance and Re-engagement: A New Approach

Joy Malloch, Caroline Gosling

Alberta Education, School and Community Supports Branch

Beginning in September 2017, Alberta Education's efforts to support school authorities to address chronic absenteeism were enhanced with the creation of the Office of Student Attendance and Re-engagement (OSAR).

The OSAR provides support to school authorities and schools to encourage and facilitate early intervention that will re-engage students and their families in learning - focusing on universal strategies, early intervention and targeted interventions such as restorative community conferences.

This change in approach is more supportive and less punitive, with an end goal of student success.

This session will outline these changes and some of the strategies being used to re-engage students and their families.

Joy Malloch is Senior Manager, Office of Student Attendance and Re-engagement, School and Community Supports Branch, Alberta Education.

Caroline Gosling is Education Manager, School and Community Supports Branch with Alberta Education.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 1:30 PM – 2:40 PM

Lake Louise Room

Youth Mental Health & Wellness

Building Resilience: Supporting Optimum Mental Health in our Children and Youth

Katherine Jarrell MSW, RSW

Healthy Minds, Healthy Children Program, Alberta Health Services

Join Alberta Health Services (AHS) Clinical Consultant Katherine Jarrell for a talk about mental health.

Teachers identify that more and more students are experiencing increasingly high levels of anxiety and difficulty coping.

This session will help to better understand the stresses and strains that youth are experiencing, and what can be helpful for reduction. Tips and strategies to foster resiliency in youth will be presented.

Katherine Jarrell MSW, RSW is an outreach clinical consultant with Alberta Health Services' Healthy Minds, Healthy Children Program.

She connects with school personnel and direct service providers in Central and Southern Alberta to assist them in working with children and youth to support optimum mental health.

Katherine has also taught in the Department of Child Studies and Social Work at Mount Royal University in Calgary for over ten years.

Banff Room

Truth and Reconciliation in Real Terms and Real Time

Charlene Bearhead

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA), College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS), National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)

In this session, Charlene Bearhead will invite delegates to consider where they are in their own reconciliACTION - now that we are two and a half years post the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report.

Charlene will share updates and examples of what is happening across Alberta, and across the country, while facilitating thought and dialogue about what next steps might look like in our own school communities.

Charlene Bearhead is a mother, grandmother, experienced educator and education innovator with 30 years of regional, national and international experience.

She currently serves as the Education Coordinator for the National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, volunteers on the Downie-Wenjack Fund Board of Directors and is a member of the Pathways to Education Canada Indigenous Education Advisory Circle.

Ms. Bearhead also works to support the ASBA and CASS for the *Alberta Joint Commitment to Action: Education for Reconciliation*, the National Film Board Education Advisory, and Canadian Museum for Human Rights Indigenous Education Working Group and Canadian Geographical.

Charlene has served as a teacher, principal, education director and superintendent, both on and off reserve, over the years, and holds permanent teaching certificates in both Alberta and Manitoba.

Calgary Room

The Work of School Council: It's NOT About the Meeting

Mary Marson-Troicuk

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

School Councils often struggle with identifying the types of activities and work they should be doing in order to truly fulfil their legislated role.

In this workshop, school councils are encouraged to examine what they are doing in relation to their intended purpose and the intended result of their work, and then consider alternative means of including their school community.

Mary Marson-Troicuk came to ASCA initially as a two-year Volunteer Instructor with the School Council Development (SCD) program in 2008.

She is a Certified Professional Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA) and a graduate of Western University, London Ontario. Her varied work experience has focused on management accounting in the technology field.

Years of volunteering on boards for charities and not-for-profit organizations led her to in-depth involvement with school council and her work with ASCA.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 1:30 PM – 2:40 PM

Edmonton Room

Growing Up Digital: A Study of the Impact on Children

Dr. Phil McRae

The Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA)

This session will highlight the findings of a ground-breaking research study conducted by The Alberta Teachers' Association, Harvard Medical School, Boston Children's Hospital, and the University of Alberta, to better understand how digital technologies are impacting children and youth.

This research study, the largest in the world of its kind, is documenting the scope of physical, mental, and social consequences of digital technologies in areas such as exercise, homework, identity formation, distraction, cognition, learning, nutrition, and sleep quality.

Dr. Phil McRae is an Executive Staff Officer with the Alberta Teachers' Association and an Adjunct Professor within the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta where he earned his Ph.D. He was the Director of the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AIS) at the University of Alberta from 2005-2009, and taught several graduate courses in the Master of Education in Educational Studies (MES) program.

Phil has worked in many secondary and post-secondary educational contexts while living and teaching in the Middle East (United Arab Emirates), Asia (Japan), Europe (Spain), and in Alberta, with the Lethbridge Public School District and on the indigenous Blood (Kainai Nation) Reserve.

Lethbridge Room

Creating Change, *One Idea at a Time!*

Leanne Keyko, Laura Nieuwendyk

Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan (ASEBP), Policy, Location and Access in Community Environments (PLACE) Research Lab, School of Public Health, University of Alberta

In this interactive session you will have an opportunity to explore the *Idea Readiness Tool* - an evidence-based tool created to support school communities in moving ideas and initiatives forward.

Learn how to assess the readiness of your school community and be provided with strategies and resources to help get you going - no matter the level of readiness.

Explore how the *Idea Readiness Tool* can be applied to encourage cultures of wellness and move ideas forward in school communities.

Leanne Keyko delivers a breadth of experience in the health and wellness field to her role as ASEBP's health strategies liaison.

Since earning her Bachelor of Kinesiology and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (with Distinction) from the University of Alberta, Leanne has held leadership roles in program development, quality improvement and strategic partnership initiatives in hospital, community and education settings.

Laura Nieuwendyk is the senior program lead in the Policy, Location and Access in Community Environments (PLACE Research Lab), School of Public Health, University of Alberta.

Work in the PLACE Research Lab examines the relationships between physical and social environments, healthy public policy, and health outcomes, including impacts on health equity and on risk for cancer, obesity, and other chronic diseases.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Diamond Room

Post-Secondary Education Planning

Alessandro Bilotta

Advanced Education, Government of Alberta

If you have students who are planning for life after high school - you know it can be an exciting time, but can also become stressful and overwhelming with pressure to make the “right choice”.

With so many options and myths presented to students, making decisions and knowing which path to take can be difficult without the right tools.

This session offers information about Alberta’s post-secondary system. Topics include what academic and financial supports are available to help students access the system, how students can narrow down their options and make decisions based on their best-fit, and most importantly, what tools and resources are available to guide them through this planning process.

Alessandro Bilotta has been working for the Ministry of Advanced Education for the past year providing in-depth post-secondary planning presentations to students, parents and educators across the province.

As a current post-secondary student, finishing his Human Ecology degree, he is aware of the challenges that face students when making post-secondary decisions, and will share insights and resources to make this planning process easier.

Emerald Room

Anxiety Disorders in School Aged Children

Dr. Lynn Miller

Lynn D. Miller, Ph. D., Lic. Psych., (formerly) Faculty Emeritus, University of British Columbia

Anxiety disorders are the most common form of psychological distress reported by children and adolescents, and can interfere significantly in the lives of children.

An anxiety disorder is a level of anxiety that interferes with daily functioning, either with peer relationships, academic performance, or in family routines.

Children with anxiety disorders are shy, inhibited, and avoidant; helping personnel are typically very good at identifying anxiety in children but may not use the most effective interventions to support children and youth.

Lynn D. Miller, Ph. D., R. Psych., has retired from her position as Associate Professor in the Education and Counseling Psychology and Special Education department at UBC. She started her career as a classroom teacher, and then worked as a school counselor K-12.

She managed several research grants, including a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant, examining the effects of child anxiety in the public school system.

She has conducted research on other models of anxiety prevention programs in schools, including Taming Worry Dragons, Skills for Social and Academic Success, Cool Little Kids, as well as an enhanced program for Aboriginal children.

She is President of the Anxiety Disorders Assoc. of Canada, 2010-2013, 2018-2019, and recently completed her term serving as the President of the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (2004-2006).

Fort McMurray Room

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) in Canadian Schools

Kerry Maguire

Edmonton Public Schools

This session addresses the complex topic of sexual orientation and gender identity in Alberta schools.

Everyone has a sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). At a SOGI-inclusive school, students biological sex does not limit their interest and opportunities, and their sexual orientation and how they understand and express their gender are welcomed without discrimination.

Edmonton Public Schools is one of three pilot districts participating in the Alberta SOGI Educator Network (through SOGI 1 2 3 in BC).

The expansion of SOGI 1 2 3 into Alberta is timely given the recent passage of Bill 10 and the corresponding Minister of Education’s requirements that all school boards must develop policies that specifically include LGBTQ+ students, staff and families.

Kerry is a Diversity Consultant for Edmonton Public Schools, specializing in Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity (SOGI). She is also the Department Head for Student Leadership at Jasper Place High School in Edmonton.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Red Deer Room

Creating Healthy Eating Environments in Schools

Angela Stoye, Sarah Halton
Alberta Health Services

Did you know that our surroundings influence not only what foods we choose, but also where, when, why, and how much we eat?

Students who eat healthy may be better equipped to learn. Learn how you, as a parent, can work with your school to create healthy eating opportunities for students.

Registered Dietitians from Alberta Health Services will cover topics such as healthy vending, school stores/cafeterias, school meal and snack programs, fundraising and more.

Stories and ideas from schools across the province, will be shared.

This session will give you the tools and strategies necessary to create a healthy eating environment - that will help students thrive!

Sarah Halton and Angela Stoye are Registered Dietitians with Alberta Health Services working in the area of Public Health.

Sarah and Angela focus on school health and are involved in resource development and initiatives that promote healthy eating in schools.

Public Health dietitians are nutrition consultants for other health care professionals and provide a variety of community presentations and programs.

Medicine Hat Room

Transportation Regulations and You - Parent Focus Groups

Rick Grebenstein, Wendy Boje
Alberta Education

Alberta Education is working on the new Transportation Regulations indicated in the School Act. They are seeking to gain broad cross section input from parents and school councils on some draft ideas for the Regulations.

An ideal opportunity to access feedback, these focus groups are designed for parents to provide input to the Education Ministry.

The session will be offered three times throughout the day, one in each of the scheduled breakout times, to provide opportunity for the majority of parent delegates to participate.

Rick Grebenstein is the Senior Transportation Manager with Alberta Education. Prior to joining the department in 2009, he was the Transportation Director for Elk Island Catholic Schools.

Wendy Boje has been the Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Services and Governance Division for Alberta Education since 2016. She is successfully leading and developing various policy and legislative options as well as the fiscal plan, policy and oversight of \$8.2 billion in funds in the provincial education system.

Canmore Room

Abuse and the School's Role Keeping Kids Safe

Kim Campbell
Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre

There are students in every school who are experiencing abuse.

Prolonged exposure to traumatic events, such as abuse or neglect, can negatively impact the developing brain.

Although it may be uncomfortable to talk about, school staff must be prepared to respond when a child or youth reaches out for help as this is a critical first step on their journey to safety and well-being.

This session will provide an opportunity to view and discuss, *A School's Role in Keeping our Kids Safe*, developed to support school staff to know what signs to look for, how to ask questions if needed and what to expect when reporting suspected child abuse.

Kim is on secondment to the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre (SKCAC) from the Calgary Board of Education.

Kim has enjoyed many teaching and leadership positions at the school, system and provincial level and is honored to serve as the SKCAC Education Coordinator.

In this role, Kim works collaboratively with SKCAC staff, schools, and other educational stakeholders to build the capacity of educators to recognize and respond to suspected child abuse and use trauma-informed practices to create safe, supportive learning environments.

She is particularly inspired by her work with the Youth Champion Initiative to engage high school students in leading actions to contribute to a culture of support and wellbeing within their school community.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 21st 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Lake Louise Room

Provincial Curriculum Development

Kim Brockhoff, Janis Irwin

Alberta Education

Alberta is over a year in to an ambitious curriculum development project, and a year closer to new programs of study for Kindergarten to Grade 12 arts, language arts, math, science, social studies, and wellness.

This project includes meaningful input from Albertans, including parents, throughout the process.

An update on where we're at in the curriculum development process and discussion on plans for curriculum implementation and resources will be presented.

Kim Brockhoff works with Alberta Education's Curriculum Division as Executive Director, Curriculum Coordination and Implementation.

Kim joined Alberta Education in 2006 and has a background in research, stakeholder engagement and software development.

Kim has led several large-scale digital initiatives including redesign of LearnAlberta.ca, software development of the Student Learning Assessment Application and most recently the design and development of the Curriculum Development and Management Application.

Janis Irwin works with Alberta Education in the Curriculum Division as Executive Director, High School Curriculum.

Janis has held Senior and Executive Management positions with the Government of Alberta since joining Alberta Education in 2011. Prior to joining Alberta Education, Janis was a high school social studies teacher and vice principal in rural Alberta.

Banff Room

Bullying and Discrimination: Let's Make it Stop

Ryan Myers

Canadian Red Cross Respect Education

This session will analyze why bullying is an issue, and how it differs from conflict, teasing and harassment.

Understanding that bullying is a relationship issue, participants will explore the skills and characteristics needed for healthy peer relationships through dynamic activities.

The session will examine the role of adults in creating bullying-free environments and how intervention can impact effective responses.

As a group we will identify some social movements and programming available to mitigate bullying in schools.

Ryan Myers has been working as a Master Trainer with Respect Education programming at the Canadian Red Cross over the last five years in communities throughout western and northern Canada.

Using a public health and primary prevention approach, he trains youth to the aging, in violence prevention programs.

Ryan came to this position with a Sociology background, experience working in Indigenous communities, and English as a second language (ESL) programs.

Calgary Room

The Brain Architecture Game

Kalina Lorenz

Discovering West Edmonton Early Years Coalition

The Brain Architecture Game is a table top game experience that builds understanding of the powerful role of experiences on early brain development – what promotes it, what derails it, with what consequences for society.

Production and distribution of the Brain Architecture Game has been generously sponsored by the Palix Foundation.

Kalina has a formal education in psychology which led her to work in the prevention and intervention sector for the past five years.

During this time, she noticed a correlation between lack of supports for adverse childhood experiences and the likelihood that an individual will become well-adjusted in society.

Edmonton Room

Cannabis Use and School Children: *What Will Change After Legislation?*

Dr. Mohammed Mosli

Alberta Health Services

On April 13, 2017, the Government of Canada introduced legislation to legalize, regulate and restrict access to cannabis.

This legislation is expected to come into effect by July 2018.

Cannabis is currently an illegal substance (with the exception of authorized medical use) under the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

Many Canadians have questions about how these plans will affect their children and school, and whether we are ready for cannabis legalization.

As a Medical Officer of Health and a Public Health physician, Dr. Mosli will cover the public health approach to substances, and what to expect will change after legalization.

Dr. Mosli is a Medical Officer of Health for the Alberta Health Services Central Zone, working out of Red Deer.

His areas of interest include Health Promotion, Environmental Public Health, School Health, and Quality Improvement in Public Health.



Promoting student wellbeing in learning environments.

RESOURCE GALLERY EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

A Childs Hope

Admazing Savings Inc.

Alberta Distance Learning Centre

Alberta Health Services

Back to School Solutions

Blue Imp Recreational Products

Canadian Foundation for Economic Education

Central Sewing Machines

Creative Promotional Marketing Agency

Edmonton Oil Kings Hockey Club

ExamBank

FoodImpact Inc.

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Image Signs

Jeff Jackson Playground Pro

Lifetouch Canada

Lloyd Sadd Insurance Brokers

Marsh Canada Limited

Money Mentors

PlayWorks Inc.

Safe and Caring Schools & Communities

Staples

The Fillanthropy Movement

The Lunch Lady

Ultimate Fundraising Inc.

Usborne Books

Wintergreen Learning Materials

World`s Finest Chocolate



WINNERS CIRCLE PRIZE PROGRAM

The Winners Circle feature for delegates is a variety of prize giveaways available to be won, with chances of winning increasing by visiting exhibits in the Resource Gallery.

On the Friday schedule the Resource Gallery opens at 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm, as well as on the Saturday schedule from 10:15 am to 3:30 pm. There are over 30 exhibits offering products, services and resources relevant to parents and public education.

Exhibitors will issue “Visit Vouchers” to delegates at their booths - which can be entered into the draws for prizes. The vouchers include delegate contact information for exhibitors use.

There is no limit on the number of vouchers collected by delegates and entered for prizes.

Prizes are provided by exhibitors and sponsors, on display in the Winners Circle area of the Resource Gallery.

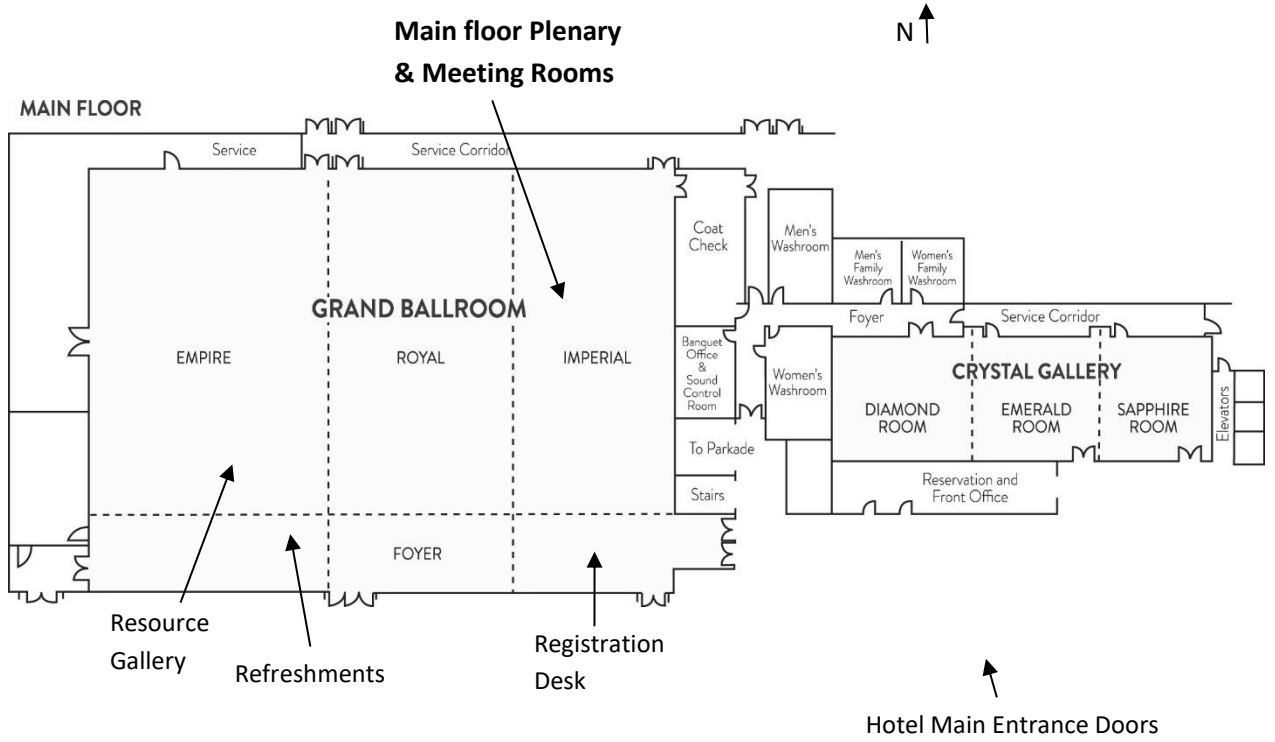
Winners Circle prize draws are done during the event (throughout both Friday and Saturday visiting hours) and winning tickets are posted on the prize itself.

Delegates must show their nametag matching the winning vouchers, and are expected to take the prize with them.

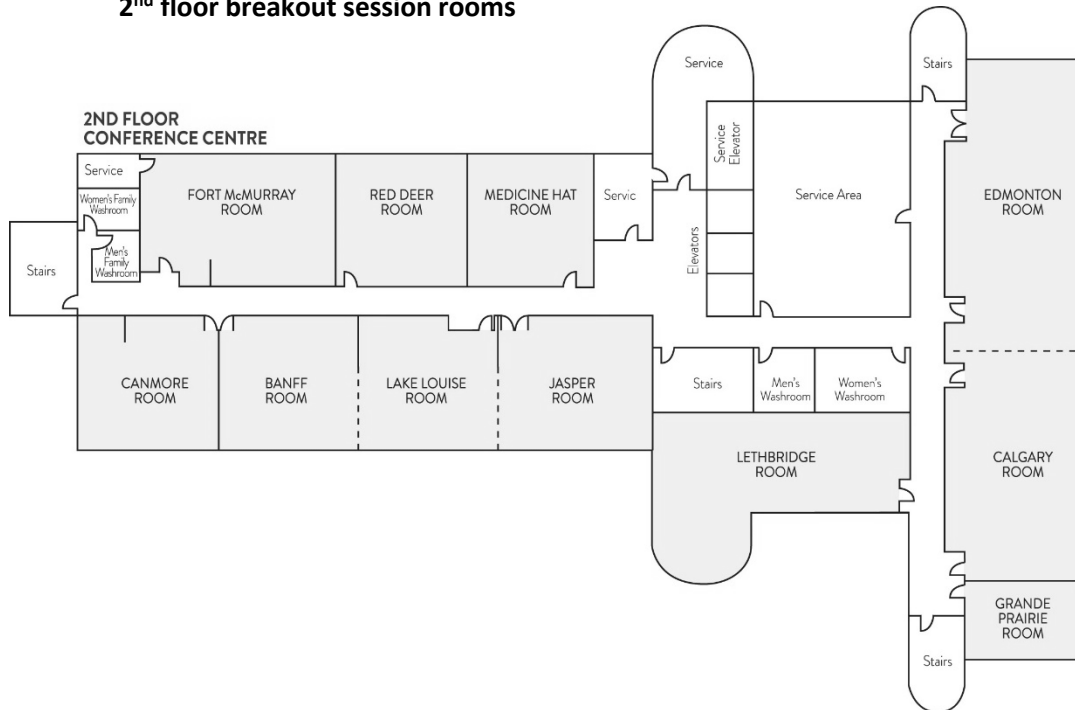
Have fun and support our exhibitors in the Resource Gallery!

VENUE FLOOR PLAN

Delta Edmonton South Hotel & Conference Centre (a Marriott Hotel)
 4404 Gateway Boulevard Edmonton AB T6H 5C2



2nd floor breakout session rooms



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday April 20

1:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Registration	Grand Ballroom
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Pre-session: Playground Builds and Rebuilds Pre-session: Fundraising through Grants Pre-session: Gaming Information for Charitable Groups	Emerald Room Calgary Room Lake Louise Room
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Resource Gallery	Empire Room
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Welcome Social Mixer & Conversation Exchange <i>"How can school council contribute to wellbeing in the school community?"</i>	Imperial Room

Saturday April 21

7:00 am	Registration	Grand Ballroom								
7:00 am	Breakfast									
8:00 am	Opening Greetings									
8:15 am - 9:00 am	Minister of Education Honourable David Eggen									
9:15 am - 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions A.									
Diamond	Emerald	Fort McMurray	Red Deer	Medicine Hat	Canmore	Lake Louise	Banff	Calgary	Edmonton	Lethbridge
Measuring Student's Engagement	Sexting & Cyberbullying	Indigenous Knowledge Focus in Schools	Alberta's School Audit Project	Transportation Regulations – <i>Parent Focus Groups</i>	CAREERS, RAP and TRADES	Fundraising Associations Partnerships	Student Success Through Mentoring	Positive Mental Health	Student Wellbeing Comprehensive School Health	School Council Purpose
10:15 am	Resource Gallery & Refreshments								Empire Room	
10:45 am	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lynn Miller								Imperial Room	
11:30 am	Networking & Resource Gallery								Empire Room	
12:00 pm	Lunch								Imperial Room	
12:30 pm	Working Together to Support Mental Health in Alberta Schools								Imperial Room	
1:30 pm - 2:40 pm	Breakout Sessions B.									
Diamond	Emerald	Fort McMurray	Red Deer	Medicine Hat	Canmore	Lake Louise	Banff	Calgary	Edmonton	Lethbridge
Supporting Refugee Students	The Role of Social-Emotional Learning	Education Assessment Update	The Privacy Commission and Public Education	Transportation Regulations - <i>Parent Focus Groups</i>	Student Attendance and Re-engagement	Youth Mental Health & Wellness	Truth and Reconciliation Update	Work of School Council	Growing Up Digital: A Study of the Impact	Creating Change, One Idea at a Time!
2:45 pm	Resource Gallery & Refreshments								Empire Room	
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Breakout Sessions C.									
Diamond	Emerald	Fort McMurray	Red Deer	Medicine Hat	Canmore	Lake Louise	Banff	Calgary	Edmonton	
Post-Secondary Planning	Anxiety Disorders in School Children	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Schools	Healthy Eating Environments in Schools	Transportation Regulations - <i>Parent Focus Groups</i>	School's Role Keeping Kids Safe	Provincial Curriculum Development	Bullying and Discrimination	The Brain Architecture Game	Cannabis and School Children: <i>Change After Legislation?</i>	
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Guest Reception, Candidates Meet 'n Greet, Banquet Dinner, Awards, Dance								Imperial Ballroom	

Sunday April 22

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration & Breakfast	Imperial Ballroom
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting	
12:00 - 12:45 pm	Lunch	
12:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Meeting, Board Elections	