

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

APRIL • 19 • 2024

REGISTRATION **8:30 AM**

OPENING REMARKS **9:00 AM**

- CONFERENCE BLESSING BY ELDER GLENN COCHRANE
 - WELCOME ADDRESS - STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS
 - WELCOME ADDRESS - MB INSTITUTE OF TRADES & TECHNOLOGY
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KEYNOTE PRESENTATION BY HEATHER ECKTON **9:30 AM**
STORIES FROM A WARMING PLANET

WELLNESS BREAK **11:00 AM**

ADULT LEARNING DOCUMENTARY SCREENING **11:15 AM**
WITH KEVIN NIKKEL

LUNCH & NETWORKING **12:00 PM**

AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION #1 **1:00 PM**

1. **MATH TICKLES** WITH SHERRI BURROUGHS
 2. **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ADULTS** WITH DR. VALDINE BJORNSON
 3. **MENTAL HEALTH FOR FRONTLINE TEACHERS** WITH RAY HOUSSIN
 4. **HELPING STUDENTS WITH MATH ANXIETY** WITH SARAH MELO
 5. **DISCOVER ADULT LITERACY LEARNING RESOURCES AT WINNIPEG PUBLIC LIBRARY** WITH CHRIS LAURIE
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WELLNESS BREAK **2:15 PM**

AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION #2 **2:30 PM**

1. **MATH TICKLES** WITH SHERRI BURROUGHS (CONTINUED)
 2. **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ADULTS** WITH DR. VALDINE BJORNSON (CONTINUED)
 6. **SELF-COMPASSION AND COMPASSION** WITH RAY HOUSSIN
 7. **HOW TO TEACH MONEY STEP-BY-STEP TO DEVELOP SKILLS** WITH SARAH MELO
 8. **GIVING BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY** WITH GLORIA DOVOH
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SESSION DESCRIPTIONS & PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

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KEYNOTE: STORIES FROM A WARMING PLANET

Heather Eckton shares 'Stories from a Warming Planet,' and presents a vision for helping adult learners and educators discover their North Stars, contributing to a more beautiful world. We are all interconnected and live on this one finite planet, where Earth's beauty intersects with pressing climate change challenges in the Anthropocene. Adult educators have a profound influence as catalysts for hope and action. Indigenous peoples have cared for these lands since time immemorial, serving as protectors of land and water, and offering invaluable wisdom. In confronting the urgency of the climate crisis and acknowledging the imperative for climate justice, we must also confront the harsh realities faced by underserved communities disproportionately affected by a warming world.

As concerns mount over the toll of climate change on health and well-being, including the rise of eco-anxiety, our duty as educators is clear: to invite learners to be the agents of change and serve larger-than-self goals for planetary healing. Empowering adult learners to channel fear into collective action, we cultivate agency and purpose amidst adversity. Exploring pedagogies like inquiry, project-based learning, land-based education, and experiential learning, we can ignite passion in our learners to become active participants in the solutions required. Hope shines bright through sustainable alternatives, restoring land, green careers, community gardens, and green energy solutions, offering pathways to a brighter future for all inhabitants of our planet.

Through stories of transformation and resilience, we will navigate the journey towards reciprocity with the land and reimagine regenerative worldviews. By allowing learners to become the change-makers in their communities and beyond, we possess the means for shaping a future where the enduring beauty of our world thrives for generations to come. Join me in celebrating Earth's wonders while exploring actions to address the urgency of climate change. Together, let's move towards climate hope and resilience, where learners lead in planetary regeneration.

HEATHER ECKTON

Heather Eckton has devoted 21 years to education, concurrently pursuing a PhD at the UofM and is a SSHRC Doctoral Fellow. Her research passion centers around excellence in climate change education and transformational learning.

Heather currently serves as the Climate Action Divisional Teacher Team Leader in Seven Oaks School Division. In 2017, Heather founded the Sustainable Living Academy Manitoba (SLAM), a half-day learner-centered interdisciplinary program focused on empowering learners to be the agents of change.

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MATH TICKLES WITH SHERRI BURROUGHS

Math tickles. Let loose and come play in this Math Tickles session. Experience that power of awe - the awe that comes from playing with mathematics. Tickle your brain, tickle your funny bone. Be ready to giggle and have some fun.

Mathematics is playful, and it is best experienced that way. Mathematics is inspirational as well as beautiful. At times, it is frustrating, and that frustration bears fruit with that wonderful “aha” moment when we see things clearly.

Enjoy a collection of mathematical goodies, a sweet variety of numeracy tools and resources in this Math Tickles session. As this is an activity session, we will be playing, exploring, and sharing some laughs as well as oohs and ahhs. Please bring your laptop along with a pencil. Some activities are analog and some are appropriately digital. I'll bring along some paper, scissors, and a few other tools we will use in our workshop.

You can expect a wide variety of topics with thought given to a range of abilities; I promise you will experience at least one awe-some moment to take and to share for building positive relationships with mathematics.

SHERRI BURROUGHS

Spend a few minutes with Sherri and you will be immediately struck by her bubbly, contagious passion for learning. For over 30 years she has inspired students and educators in the joy, wonder, and fascination of mathematics. Sherri has extensive leadership experience as a teacher, department head, school administrator, and K-12 Director of Learning Initiatives. She has worked in both public and independent school systems. Everyone who learns with Sherri is touched by the power of awe and excitement she brings to learning. Sherri is often able to inspire even the most determinedly math-averse folks to appreciate its inherent beauty.

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INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ADULTS WITH DR. VALDINE BJORNSON

Dr. Bjornson will provide an overview of dyslexia (Learning Disabilities with reading and writing) so that we might understand how to respond to adults with dyslexia in our professional settings. These universal design strategies are applicable to all students in our education programs. We will discuss the definition of dyslexia, the importance of recognizing dyslexia in adult education, and what strategies are best for those with dyslexia. Using her professional experiences and referring to her doctoral study of adults with dyslexia in Manitoba, we will discuss how dyslexia is a prevalent, yet underserved, identity within our post-secondary education settings. Based on her work with post-secondary students, Dr. Bjornson will also review strategies that work well for all students, yet are specifically essential for those with learning disabilities.

DR. VALDINE BJORNSON

Dr. Valdine Bjornson has been an educator for over 25 years in public and private, international and Manitoba schools teaching music, EY, EAL, Special Education, and as a Certified Reading Clinician. She currently works with university students as a Reading & Learning Coach at the University of Manitoba's Indigenous Student Centre. She has completed an EdD in Language and Literacy focusing upon dyslexia in adults. She founded the Reading and Learning Clinic of Manitoba in order to provide evidence-based professional development to educators across North America as well as advocacy and intervention to students with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia.

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MENTAL HEALTH FOR FRONTLINE TEACHERS WITH RAY HOUSSIN

The workshop goals include:

- Overview on mental health and wellness for self
- Strategies to recognize emotions and communication feelings
- Working as a team to move forward with mental health and wellness as a goal
- Overview of the resources and courses provided by Care For All In Education

RAY HOUSSIN

Ray is a retired teacher/administrator from the Louis Riel School Division. He joined the staff of Care for all in Education this fall and has already contributed so much through his ability to communicate and his lived experience.

HELPING STUDENTS WITH MATH ANXIETY WITH SARAH MELO

Research shows that math anxiety can start as early as Grade 1. By the time math anxious students are adults, their anxiety is more severe due to negative math experiences. This can lead to a fixed mindset and negative self-talk which can affect students across many subjects. Learn about the root causes of math anxiety, and how to help students develop a growth mindset to address their anxiety.

SARAH MELO

Sarah Melo (M.Ed) is a French immersion student services teacher from Winnipeg, Manitoba, a mother, a former math resource teacher and counselor. She has also taught in England, Japan and China. After completing her Master's degree, Sarah developed Melo Math to help parents and educators to guide children in math using everyday items. She is currently developing resources to help teachers differentiate their math instruction. Sarah's passion is to help children learn the magic of math to prevent numeracy problems later in life!

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DISCOVER ADULT LITERACY LEARNING RESOURCES AT WINNIPEG PUBLIC LIBRARY WITH CHRIS LAURIE

Winnipeg Public Library can help you with your students' learning goals. Librarian Chris Laurie shares tips and tricks to locate both physical and online library resources for your adult literacy learners. Learn also about the WELL Program inside Harvey Smith Library.

CHRIS LAURIE

Chris Laurie is an outreach librarian at Winnipeg Public Library. His current duties include delivering presentations on library resources to adult literacy, and newcomer programs in-person and online in Winnipeg. Chris oversees the Marlene Street Resource Centre Mobile Library visits, edits the English as an Additional Language Info Guide, and organizes English Conversation Groups across the library system's 20 locations.

SELF-COMPASSION AND COMPASSION WITH RAY HOUSSIN

The workshop objectives are:

- Clarify differences between sympathy, empathy, and compassion
- Develop an understanding of compassion fatigue
- Learn practical strategies for combating compassion fatigue (self-compassion, setting boundaries, and connecting with others)

RAY HOUSSIN

Ray is a retired teacher/administrator from the Louis Riel School Division. He joined the staff of Care for all in Education this fall and has already contributed so much through his ability to communicate and his lived experience.

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HOW TO TEACH MONEY STEP-BY-STEP TO DEVELOP SKILLS WITH SARAH MELO

Learn how an elementary school teacher teaches the foundational skills about money step-by-step to help students learn about fractions, decimal numbers, percentages, taxes, discounts and more. These concepts can be taught to any adult to develop the skills needed for life.

SARAH MELO

Sarah Melo (M.Ed) is a French immersion student services teacher from Winnipeg, Manitoba, a mother, a former math resource teacher and counselor. She has also taught in England, Japan and China. After completing her Master's degree, Sarah developed Melo Math to help parents and educators to guide children in math using everyday items. She is currently developing resources to help teachers differentiate their math instruction. Sarah's passion is to help children learn the magic of math to prevent numeracy problems later in life!

GIVING BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY WITH GLORIA DOVOH

The presentation will cover the value of volunteerism, trends in the volunteer sector, services Volunteer Manitoba offers and how to navigate our website to find volunteer opportunities.

GLORIA DOVOH

Gloria Dovah is the Community Relations Coordinator with Volunteer Manitoba. In her role, she coordinates all community outreach activities and youth programming. Community outreach includes presentations, volunteer fairs, career fairs, community resource fairs and referrals. She offers Volunteer Manitoba's presentations on the importance of volunteering and giving back to community. Wherever there is a booth with a Volunteer Manitoba setup, you are most likely to see Gloria. Gloria also coordinates Volunteer Manitoba's referral and Board Connect programs.



adult secondary education council

SAVE THE DATE

2024 ASEC FALL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2024

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DAVID A. ROBERTSON

*True Reconciliation, the Power of
Story, and the Role You Play*

DAVID A. ROBERTSON is the author of *When We Were Alone* (2017 Governor General's Literary Award), *The Barren Grounds* (2020 Governor General's Literary Award finalist), and *Back Water*, winner of the Alexander Kennedy Isbister Award for Non-Fiction and the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award. He is a member of Norway House Cree Nation and currently lives in Winnipeg.
