

Workshop	Presenter(s)
AI Tools to Amplify Professionalism and Save Time <p>Ready to revolutionize your teaching? Join this workshop on AI tools that go beyond traditional lesson planning. Explore how generative AI can create personalized content, assessments, and more. Chris will guide you through a process that balances efficiency with creativity, ensuring you remain the architect of exceptional learning experiences. Plus, let's investigate a few professional considerations—because AI is not just about algorithms; it's about impact.</p>	Chris Gonsalvez <p>Teacher. Administrator. PD Leader. Chris is an executive staff officer with the Alberta Teachers' Association and passionate about working with teachers and being involved in professional development. Spending most of his teaching career in Southern Alberta, he loved being a middle school teacher as well as a principal of Lethbridge Christian School as well as Lakeview Elementary School with Lethbridge School Division. Chris holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Bachelor of Education in Mathematics Education and a Masters of Science in Information Technology Management. He gets excited about hands on learning and connecting with teachers to support student learning.</p>
Awkward Rapping and Unicycle Fails: Using Creativity, Vulnerability, and Growth Mindset to Engage Students <p>What happens when your students see you step out of your comfort zone—maybe even flop a little—on purpose? In this session, we'll explore how embracing vulnerability through things like "cringey" rap videos and growth mindset challenges can create authentic connections, encourage a supportive classroom community, and model resilience. You'll walk away with strategies for leveraging your own passions and quirks to inspire engagement, plus some practical tips on low-barrier video and audio editing to bring your ideas to life.</p>	Tyler Capton <p>Tyler teaches at Step Up Step Down, a Recovery Alberta program for youth who struggle with mental health and addiction. Before that, he taught at Gateway Christian School in Red Deer Alberta. He loves adventuring with his family, being active, creating beauty, and podcasting with the Harmonious Gentlemen.</p>
Books Can Be Dangerous <p>Do you believe books can be dangerous, that they influence the reader? Good literature certainly should! Using examples from Y/A lit, we will explore what makes worthwhile lit and how to address the "edgy" material of many books that attract kids. Where is God in a book that is not overtly Christian and what is worth studying in our Christian classrooms.</p> <p>Note: The bulk of the examples are for grades 6-10, depending on reading levels.</p>	Klaaske deGroot-deKoning <p>Klaaske is a retired middle school English teacher who spent the last 16 of her 30 years teaching at Gateway Christian in Red Deer. She devours books of all kinds and loves discussing books with her book club friends and her 13 grand kids. Gardening, travel and faith formation work make her life beautifully full.</p>
Differentiated Learning Model – PIC Groups (JH Math and LA) <p>Trinity Christian School's Junior High is excited to share our learning model. 3 Different learning groups (Peer, Independent, and Collaborative) every Monday and Wednesday mornings to teach Math and LA in a manner best for student engagement and learning. We will share how we found ways to best use people, spaces, and time to make our model work.</p>	Maria Collins and Colleagues from Trinity Christian School <p>Trinity Christian School is a PCCE Member School and offers K-9. They are located in Calgary, Alberta.</p>
Direct Trade Coffee and Community <p>Direct Trade coffee roasting has great trust with which much can be done in terms of Kingdom work. This is what's happened in forming Good Neighbour Coffee; a sustainable, practical, relational coffee co-operative with a twist that has benefits for its community.</p> <p>Note: This session will have an off-site component that is approximately 10-15 minute drive away.</p>	Rick Abma <p>After living in Honduras, Rick Abma has been roasting and importing coffee since 2010 as part of a justice mission. From agriculture to sales to ministry, the efforts have grown. With a background in broadcasting and currently an active pastor, Rick visits the farmer's annually and meets online with them monthly.</p>
Independent School Leaders – Professional Support Network <p>A time for principals of the Independent Schools to have a PSN session in person. Assistant/Vice principals are welcome to join.</p>	
Indigenous War Veterans and My Cree Father's POW Experience <p>Information on the war efforts of Indigenous soldiers and their treatment upon their return to Canada. The session will also highlight the personal story of Cpl. Alphonse St. Germain and his time spent as a POW in Italy and Germany. A story of resilience and determination to survive and create a stable life for his family despite many unique obstacles.</p>	Brian St. Germain <p>I am Cree First Nations and Cree Metis and a descendant of the Alberta Papaschase First Nation Band. Taught with Red Deer Public Schools. The last 12 years as a lead teacher with FNMI Learning Services. I also am an Indigenous Education PD Facilitator with the ATA.</p>
Making Fun of Math Fluency - Basic <p>Games, challenges and real world applications. A session for looking at how to trick students into practicing their essential math skills in a fun and engaging way. This session would focus on basic number sense including number lines, place value, adding and subtracting.</p>	Alan Riewe <p>I am in my 11th year of teaching grade 5 and have a love for creating games to help my students build skills and proficiency in Math.</p>
Teaching with Tensegrity <p>Colossians tells us that "in Him all things hold together." In this hands-on session, we'll use a tensegrity model to explore how tension, grace, and core values work together to sustain resilient classrooms and teams. You'll leave with a physical model you've built and shared language to help you bring these insights into your own context.</p>	Tom Currie <p>Tom Currie is in his fifth year as Vice Principal and Theatre Teacher at Calgary Christian High School.</p>
UFLI: Teaching Reading Through the Science of Reading <p>I will do a mock UFLI phonics lesson, day 1 and day 2. I will also share the online tools available in the UFLI Toolbox. This is applicable for grades K-2 or 3 literacy teachers and reading intervention teachers.</p>	Juanita Henschel <p>I am Juanita Henschel, I have been teaching primary grades for more than 20 years, most of those years at Neerlandia Public Christian School. Literacy and teaching reading are two of my passions.</p>

Workshop	Presenter(s)
AI Prompting for Teacher Success <p>Discover how to harness the power of AI chatbots like ChatGPT to enhance your teaching practice! In this hands-on professional development session, you'll learn how to craft effective prompts to get tailored, high-quality results including generating engaging lesson plans, creating differentiated instructional materials, or brainstorming new pedagogical strategies. Perfect for beginners and seasoned tech users alike, this session will equip you with practical skills to use AI as a creative collaborator and thinking partner. Leave with ready-to-use examples, prompt templates, and confidence to make AI work for you in the classroom.</p>	Chris Gonsalvez <p>Teacher. Administrator. PD Leader. Chris is an executive staff officer with the Alberta Teachers' Association and passionate about working with teachers and being involved in professional development. Spending most of his teaching career in Southern Alberta, he loved being a middle school teacher as well as a principal of Lethbridge Christian School as well as Lakeview Elementary School with Lethbridge School Division. Chris holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Bachelor of Education in Mathematics Education and a Masters of Science in Information Technology Management. He gets excited about hands on learning and connecting with teachers to support student learning.</p>
Before TFT there was Harro van Brummelen <p>A reflection on the impact of van Brummelen's leadership for the development of thought about teaching Christianly. Before 'throughlines' and 'living the story', Harro taught and wrote about distinct Christian methodology, pedagogy, and curriculum development.</p> <p>This workshop will provide an overview of main themes such as 'Education for Discipleship', which Harro developed during his years at SCSBC and Trinity Western University and has written about in 'Walking with God in the Classroom' and 'Stepping Stones to Curriculum – A Biblical Path.</p>	Hugo VanderHoek <p>Last year Hugo retired after 43 years in Christian education. Much of his career was in the Fraser Valley where he had the opportunity to learn from Harro van Brummelen. Hugo currently serves the PCCE community as the Independent Schools Consultant</p>
Have Heart: Lessons on Living Harmoniously from Hardcore Music and Skateboarding <p>"Have Heart" is a Storyline built from experience, passion, and personality... and even though I no longer work in Christian education, I can't let it go. I'll explain what I think it means to Have Heart, and how an effective Storyline reframes the purpose of school for both students and teachers. At the very least, we'll get to talk about music as connection and watch some skateboarding videos!</p>	Tyler Capton <p>Tyler teaches at Step Up Step Down, a Recovery Alberta program for youth who struggle with mental health and addiction. Before that, he taught at Gateway Christian School in Red Deer Alberta. He loves adventuring with his family, being active, creating beauty, and podcasting with the Harmonious Gentlemen.</p>
Making Fun of Math Fluency - Advanced <p>Games, challenges and real world applications. A session for looking at how to trick students into practicing their essential math skills in a fun and engaging way. This session would focus on basic number sense including Multiplication, Division, Fractions, Decimals and Coordinate grids.</p>	Alan Riewe <p>I am in my 11th year of teaching grade 5 and have a love for creating games to help my students build skills and proficiency in Math.</p>
Planning With Purpose: Your Pension, Your Retirement <p>Whether retirement is just around the corner or still a few years away, join us to get clarity, ask questions, and have the tools to make informed decisions with confidence. We'll cover key features of the Christian Education Pension Plan (CEPP), including payout choices and benefit structures, and guide you through important considerations as you plan your financial future in retirement.</p>	Jonathan Bilodeau - Christian Education Benefit Solutions (CEBS) <p>Jonathan Bilodeau is the Canada Managing Director at Christian Education Benefit (CEB) Solutions, where he's been leading with purpose and energy since May 2023. With a strong background in financial planning and advising, Jonathan brings both technical expertise and a genuine passion for making a difference in the world.</p>
Spirit of the Metis <p>The Metis are a people of mixed European and Indigenous ancestry with a distinct and rich culture different from other Indigenous peoples. Participants will learn about the historical impact and significance the Metis have had on the development of Canada. An understanding and definition of the Metis identity will be defined, and the importance and significance of traditional Metis cultural items will be shown.</p>	Brian St. Germain <p>I am Cree First Nations and Cree Metis and a descendant of the Alberta Papaschase First Nation Band. Taught with Red Deer Public Schools. The last 12 years as a lead teacher with FNMI Learning Services. I also am an Indigenous Education PD Facilitator with the ATA.</p>
Ten Tiny Teaching Tweaks (That You Can Use Next Week!) <p>When we're ready to make changes to our teaching practices, we often get hung up on the scope of the changes: "Do I have to scrap everything and start over?" Not to worry! There are many small changes we can make in our practices that have big impact on student learning—things you can start doing next Monday when you're back in class. In this session we'll explore ten tweaks that you might consider that can have a big payoff for your students' learning.</p>	Dave Mulder <p>Dr. David J. Mulder serves as a professor and the department chair in the Education Department at Dordt University.</p>
The Selah Project <p>The ancient psalmists used the word selah to signal an intentional pause before a moment of profound revelation. As Christian educators, our teaching journey is filled with these selah moments—opportunities to pause, reflect, and anticipate the deeper significance of our calling.</p> <p>In this workshop, we will explore how faith shapes our approach to teaching, not merely as a set of practices but as a deeply embedded vocational story. Constructing meaning in our work requires more than occasional reflection on methods or pedagogy; it calls for a lens through which we can interrogate our lived experience as teachers. Yet, amid the constant movement of education, how do we find space for these intentional pauses?</p> <p>Through guided reflection, discussion, and practical exercises, we will consider how selah moments—especially in light of the Easter event—can renew our sense of purpose, sustain us in the challenges of teaching, and deepen our faith in the midst of the everyday. Join us in reclaiming the sacred pause as a transformative practice in our teaching and spiritual lives.</p> <p>Note: Participants are encouraged to bring a personal journal, but a small notebook and pens will be available for the session.</p>	Colin Ward <p>Colin Ward teaches Junior High humanities at Covenant Christian School, where he brings over two decades of experience and a deep passion for faith-based education. His doctoral studies focus on teacher efficacy and the role of spirituality in education. Colin is dedicated to helping students grow in both character and knowledge through reflective and transformative learning. Outside the classroom, he's an avid Seattle Seahawks fan who never misses a game.</p>

“They Just Can’t Pay Attention”

This session flips the script on attention problems. Instead of asking, “Why won’t they focus?” we’ll ask, “What are they focusing on, and why?” Together, we’ll share real classroom stories and uncover patterns that reveal both opportunities and responsibilities in how we respond.

- Positivity → Seeing attention shifts as insights, not obstacles.
- Purpose → Giving students clear tools to transition back into learning.
- Passion → Designing experiences worth their attention—while maintaining the boundaries that help them thrive.

Tom Currie

Tom Currie is in his fifth year as Vice Principal and Theatre Teacher at Calgary Christian High School.

Your Classroom Meets the EduDeo School Campaign!

The Lakou Campaign is EduDeo Ministries’ 2025–2026 school fundraising initiative, designed to support Dominico-Haitian children in the Dominican Republic with access to quality, Christ-centred education.

For years, families have migrated from Haiti to the Dominican Republic in search of safety and work. Despite hopes for a better life, children face significant challenges, which you will learn about. As a result, by the time they reach their teenage years, more than half of these students are no longer in school.

By joining the Lakou Campaign, your students and supporters take meaningful action that restores dignity and hope. Your students will add depth and global perspective to their studies, finding an opportunity for “real work that meets a real need for real people”!

This will be an interactive workshop that makes room for good discussion and collaboration on curriculum connections and other ways to get involved.

Keith Cameron and Danielle Reid from EduDeo

Keith Cameron joined the EduDeo team in July 2022 and currently serves as the Key Relations & Strategy Director. In this role, Keith builds strong relationships and partnerships with EduDeo’s dedicated support community. Keith is deeply passionate about EduDeo’s mission of advancing Christ-centred education worldwide, especially throughout majority-world countries. In his free time, he loves cycling, backcountry canoeing, and a good cup of coffee.

Danielle Reid is EduDeo’s School Relationship Manager. With 20 years of experience as a Christian educator, a love for missions, and a deep passion for Christ-centred education, she is excited about the opportunity to advance EduDeo’s vision of transforming communities through the Gospel.

COMBINED SESSIONS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM AND 1:15 – 2:15 PM

NOTE: Participants must register for both sessions

Workshop	Presenter(s)
Aussie Rules 101: Bring the Game to Your PE Class <p>Dive into the fast-paced world of Australian Rules Football in this dynamic, hands-on workshop for PE teachers! The first part introduces the game’s key rules and fundamental skills, giving you a solid foundation to teach with confidence. In the second part, you’ll get moving, exploring these skills through modified games and interactive activities. Participants will also be provided with ready-to-use resources and lesson plans to take back and implement in their own PE classes. Come ready to play, experience, and bring the excitement of Aussie Rules to your students!</p>	Ash Diek <p>Ash, an experienced educator with 21 years of teaching experience, completed his studies in Health & Physical Education with a minor in IT at the University of Notre Dame, Western Australia. He has taught at various schools in Canada and Australia, including Maranatha Christian School, John Calvin Christian College, Providence Christian School, and Coaldale Christian, where he has been for the past eleven years. In addition to teaching Social Studies, Information Technology, and PE, Ash serves as the Athletic Director and maintains the technology at Coaldale Christian School.</p>
Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child: A Cross-Curricular Writing and Art Project <p>Participants will spend the first session focused on the writing process of this project, and we will lead them through step by step. In the second part, we will complete candle art to accompany this ‘Christmas Gift’. Participants will go home with a completed project and all they need to recreate this in their classrooms.</p>	Cindy Kamphuis and Jenn Munton <p>Jenn has been teaching since 2000, with most of her experience happening at the Grade One level. She is the proud wife of a fellow teacher and mother of three girls, the eldest also teaching:) She loves Rae Dunn and all things Disney.</p> <p>This is my (Cindy’s) ninth year teaching Grade One at Trinity Christian School. Jenn and I have been partners for eight. We’ve been friends for over 20 years and are also neighbours! We love sharing ideas that making teaching smarter not harder :)</p>
Find The Cure: Our Students Have Turned into Zombies! <p>This session will focus on the building blocks to turn any subject matter into an engaging learning experience that increases student engagement, facilitates deeper learning, and opens the door for Transformational Practices. Using elements of Gamification practices, I’ll introduce you to the Ocatalysis Framework for Gamification and how you can incorporate it into the design of your courses.</p>	Conrad Hoover <p>I have been teaching Jr High at Edmonton Christian West School for 16 years. I love playing board games, video games, volleyball, basketball and of late Golf is my new obsession. I have been experimenting with experiential learning and gamification pedagogy since my first year teaching. I love inviting student into a world of creativity and adventure.</p>
Integrated Arts and Creation Based Learning Experiences <p>This session will introduce the fundamentals of designing and leading Integrated Arts and Creation-Based Projects (IACPs). Participants will learn what an IACP is, the rationale behind it, and practical tips for creating one.</p> <p>IACPs are cross-curricular projects that combine core subject objectives with one or more of the Fine Arts or nature-based learning. They give students opportunities to engage deeply with the arts and Creation, connect core curriculum to hands-on experiences and strengthen habits of learning through collaborative work. Teachers also benefit by building capacity for creative, flexible instruction.</p> <p>These projects often bring whole grade levels together, fostering community across classrooms. Formats are flexible—teachers can design their own classroom IACPs, develop them into FLEX projects, or collaborate across classes as our school does.</p>	Shyann Ethier and Nicole Nieuwenhuis <p>Shyann Ethier and Nicole Nieuwenhuis design and deliver Integrated Arts and Creation-Based Learning programming for K–9 students at Meadowlark Christian School in Edmonton, AB. They are excited to connect, share, and collaborate with colleagues at this year’s PCCE Convention!</p>
Introduction to Welding <p>An introduction to welding including safety, a demonstration and an opportunity to try it.</p>	Cindy Siebenga <p>My husband Steve and I and our 3 teenagers live on an acreage in Morningside, Alberta where we operate a heavy-duty mechanic shop. I graduated from CACHS in 1993, have an Agriculture diploma from Olds College, a Wood Products Engineering diploma from NAIT and am a journeyman welder. I have had the pleasure of being the welding instructor at CACHS for the past 5 years.</p>
Trauma-Informed Care <p>Teaching information about trauma, how it can affect kids and youth, how to notice it in the classroom and provide care to these particular students.</p>	Mary Eggink <p>I am a wife, mom of 4, therapist and community member in Lacombe, Alberta. My heart is to serve Christ through each of these roles for His glory. As part of this calling, I am a local therapist (Masters of Marriage and Family Therapy) working with youth and families in Central Alberta with hopes to create spaces of safety, trust and healing for hurting people.</p>

COMBINED SESSION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM AND 1:15 – 2:15 PM AND
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025
9:00 – 10:00 AM

NOTE: Participants must register for all parts of this session

Workshop	Presenter(s)
<p>Teaching Habits That Make a Difference in a Divided World—Difference Curriculum</p> <p>Teachers are uniquely placed to shape a generation of students who are compassionate, courageous, and equipped to navigate differences in today's complex and divided world. Difference for Schools is a pioneering curriculum resource for grades K-10 teachers to equip their students with the ability to cross divides, handle conflict well, pursue justice, and contribute to flourishing communities. The Difference curriculum—six, 75-minute modules each for primary, junior, and intermediate grades—will be provided free of charge to all attendees for them to use in their Bible, ELA, and/or health subjects.</p> <p>Rooted in Scripture and inspired by the life of Jesus, the programme draws on the wisdom of global peacebuilders and has been developed in collaboration with leading education specialists. At its heart are three transformational habits—Be Curious, Be Present, Reimagine—which help students grow in empathy, deepen their listening and think creatively about solutions in a complex world.</p> <p>These interactive training sessions will give educators the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the three habits and understand how they shape thinking and behaviour • Gain a clear overview of the Difference for Schools programme, its purpose, structure, and impact • Engage with practical classroom activities from the resource • Reflect on real-life case studies from pilot schools and current settings • Consider approaches to embedding the habits across the curriculum and wider school life • Session One: Understanding the Vision – What Is Difference for Schools? • Session Two: Practising the Habits – Be Curious, Be Present, Reimagine • Session Three: Making It Work – Embedding Difference in Your School 	<p>Alysia-Lara Ayonrinde and Kiera Phyo</p> <p>Alysia-Lara Ayonrinde is the Schools Project Lead for Reconciliation at Lambeth Palace. Her 15-year education career includes senior leadership across the U.K., West Africa, and South America. She brings evidence-based perspectives that challenge norms and promote interfaith and intercultural understanding in schools, communities, and churches. Deeply committed to cultivating belonging, her transformative work has shaped learning environments globally. Alysia-Lara pioneers innovative strategies that empower leaders, teachers, and students from all backgrounds to flourish.</p> <p>Kiera Phyo is the Director of the Reconciling Leaders Network, with a vision to see a generation of peacemakers mobilised for a just and flourishing world. This ministry launched the Difference course; a resource for churches, chaplaincies, schools and youth groups that explores following Jesus in a complex, divided world. Kiera also led Tearfund's UK youth work and is a BBC Radio 2 faith contributor.</p>

SESSION THREE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Workshop	Presenter(s)
<p>AI Without the Hype: Real Applications for Faith-Based Teaching</p> <p>This workshop demystifies AI for Christian educators, offering clear explanations, practical strategies, and guided practice. You'll learn how to use AI to streamline planning, save time, and spark creativity—all while aligning with a thoughtful, faith-informed philosophy of education. No hype—just honest tools to serve your calling more effectively.</p>	<p>Josh McGillis</p> <p>Josh McGillis is a digital executive, consultant, and strategist with over a decade of experience bridging business strategy and enterprise IT. Currently completing an MBA in Community Economic Development, he also holds key industry credentials including CISSP, GIAC Defensible Security Architecture (GDSA), and VMware Certified Professional (VCP-NV). Drawing on deep expertise in cybersecurity, cloud, and IT service delivery, he helps organizations align technology with strategic goals to drive transformation and resilience, while pursuing his passion for artificial intelligence and maximizing personal productivity.</p>
<p>Beyond Bubble Baths: Practicing Self-Care AT Work</p> <p>It isn't easy to be a school professional these days. Now more than ever, your wellness AT work matters! In this session, we'll have insightful conversations about self-care in the workplace while discovering how staff and student wellness work together to improve overall school climate. We'll explore practical tips and tools that can make a significant difference for you, your colleagues, and your students.</p>	<p>Rod Snaterse</p> <p>Rod is a Health Promotion Facilitator with the Healthy Schools team at Primary Care Alberta. He partners with school authorities to implement coordinated initiatives that improve wellbeing for both staff and students using a Comprehensive School Health framework. Rod has over 20 years' experience as a public-school educator, instructs preservice teachers, and holds a Master of Education with a specialization in adult learning.</p>
<p>Bring Your Best Idea! Grade One Teachers Sharing Session</p> <p>This will be a time for Grade One teachers to gather and share ideas. Please bring at least one idea to share with the group!</p>	<p>Colleen Van Veen</p> <p>Colleen lives in Edmonton with her husband and three sons. She attended The King's University College and has been teaching Grade One at Edmonton Christian School since 2008.</p>
<p>Burnt Out to Built Up: Renewing A Passion for Teaching</p> <p>Teaching is a sacred calling—but even the most dedicated Christian educators can face exhaustion, disillusionment, and spiritual dryness. This will be a time designed to help teachers reconnect with their God-given purpose, rekindle their passion for the classroom, and rediscover joy in serving students through Christ-centered education.</p>	<p>Jennifer Kumm</p> <p>As a fulltime teacher and a part time counseling therapist in private practice, Jennifer knows first-hand the struggles that exist in the classroom and how that can affect every area of life. From experience and training, she wants to renew your passion for Christian education.</p>
<p>Cosmetology</p> <p>Discovering the value of Cosmetology with a Christ-centred foundation and how it can propel forward Gen Z and Gen Alpha in an impactful way. We will finish our session with everyone enjoying a hand care treatment!</p>	<p>Patricia Collette</p> <p>I grew up in a farming community called Pansy, MB. My husband and I have four precious children and have been married 19years. I love sunrises!</p>

Faith, Wellness, and Disc Golf: Building Community Through Play

This session is a way for teachers to learn disc golf and discuss ways to foster wellness within their community. Teachers will be broken off into groups of 4 (roughly) and disc golf with other teachers. Teachers will be given questions that they can discuss with other teachers in their group about wellness within their community. For any teachers new to disc golf, Jon Bell will be able to teach them the rules and where to go. The focus of this session is to develop strategies collaboratively with other teachers that focus on improving overall wellness at schools.

The course address is; 6730 University Drive, Lacombe, AB, Canada, T4L 2E5. We will meet in the parking lot and I will direct you where you need to go. Bring weather appropriate clothing, bug spray, sunscreen, and a backpack/bag to carry all necessary materials.

Jonathan Bell

My name is Jon Bell and I am a teacher at Central Alberta Christian High School (CACHS). I am also alumni to CACHS and Lacombe Christian School and I have been in Lacombe most of my life. I teach Math, Science, Phys Ed, Sports Performance and was recently named Athletic Director for CACHS.

Fostering Belonging for Newcomers and EAL Learners

Rooted in her own immigrant story, Michelle shares ideas and suggestions for building a school culture where newcomers and English as an Additional Language (EAL) learners feel seen, safe, and valued. Discover how Christian schools can foster a sense of belonging, celebrate diverse stories, and empower every student to thrive in God's story.

Michelle Prinsonsky

Once an EAL student herself, Michelle Prinsonsky (Mrs. Prince) now serves as assistant principal at Edmonton Christian West School. She is passionate about creating a welcoming school culture where students, staff, and families feel a deep sense of belonging. Michelle leads with a heart for relationships, striving to see communities flourish together through God's grace, light, and love.

Get to Work! : It's Not 'Just a Grown-Up' Thing

Touching on the Biblical origins of work, why we work, what work is out there, the role of employers, government, Unions (CLAC in particular), and employees in work.

Eric Nederlof

Eric Nederlof is a born and raised Albertan who has worked in labour relations for the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC) for 33 years. He lives in Edmonton with his wife, Winona, of 36 years and they have 4 grown children and 9 grandchildren.

High School Physics Lab

An interactive session where teachers can share their favorite Physics 20 and 30 Labs. Whether you're looking to enhance your teaching toolkit or discover new experiments to ignite curiosity, this session will provide a platform to exchange ideas and discuss best practices. Bring or upload your favorite lab experiments and ideas to share and discuss!

Miranda Beukema

I have been teaching Science and Math in both junior high and high school for a little over 10 years. I just recently have been teaching physics and am looking to collaborate with fellow teachers!

Intro to Philosophy in 60 Minutes

If you are a Christian, you must think Christianly. This session contrasts Christian thinking to secular understandings of the world.

Robert Duiker

Rob has been teaching in Christian schools since 1991. He has been a principal in Christian schools since 1994 and has served as the principal of Rocky Christian School since 2005.

Learn About Taxes: Tools & Resources for Teachers

Introduce teachers to CRA's tools for teachers:

- The Learn about your taxes program. It's a set of learning modules which provide an understanding of how the Canadian tax system works and walks through completing a basic tax return. There are lesson plans for teachers and facilitators to help guide students through the lessons, along with warm up exercises.
- The Learn about your taxes - Educator toolkit - Canada.ca. Designed to support educators in teaching tax literacy effectively, this toolkit offers a range of resources to engage and educate students about their tax responsibilities and financial literacy.
- A 60 min PowerPoint presentation, ideal for Grades 11 and 12, that CRA agents can share directly with young people, virtually or in-person. It's called: Students and Income Tax - What are taxes, levels of government, do you need to file, how do you file, scams, Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP)
- Webinar available to use anytime, called: Students, it pays to do your taxes!

Judy Wild

Judy has 14 years of experience answering questions about Personal Income Taxes at Canada Revenue Agency. She feels strongly that everyone should have a basic understanding of income taxes to eliminate fear of the government. She's here to share CRA's free online tool called Learn About Taxes so you can use it in your classrooms.

Making Learning Meaningful: Hands on Activities to Spark Creativity, Ignite Conversations and Promote Problem Solving

Join Chris for this engaging session as we examine the world of meaningful, hands-on activities that will spark creativity, ignite conversations, and promote problem-solving skills. Be prepared to embark on a cross-curricular journey of discovery, armed with a wide array of practical resources and innovative ideas. Participants are guaranteed to leave the workshop with a collection of carefully curated activities and lessons that you can seamlessly integrate into your classroom, starting as early as Monday morning.

Chris Gonsalvez

Teacher. Administrator. PD Leader. Chris is an executive staff officer with the Alberta Teachers' Association and passionate about working with teachers and being involved in professional development. Spending most of his teaching career in Southern Alberta, he loved being a middle school teacher as well as a principal of Lethbridge Christian School as well as Lakeview Elementary School with Lethbridge School Division. Chris holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Bachelor of Education in Mathematics Education and a Masters of Science in Information Technology Management. He gets excited about hands on learning and connecting with teachers to support student learning.

Rolling with ADHD: Tools to Support Students, Families, and Educators

In this interactive Learning Lab, discover Rolling with ADHD, a free online resource designed to support educators, families, and teenagers in understanding ADHD. Explore materials on ADHD basics, classroom strategies, and information for families. Bring a Chromebook to navigate the website and take away practical insights to better support students with ADHD in the classroom.

Lauren Brown

Lauren is a Learning Support Teacher at Trinity Christian School in Calgary, AB. She completed her Master of Educational Studies in Inclusive Education from Trinity Western University in 2022, with a research focus in the area of ADHD. She is passionate about sharing research-based information on how ADHD can impact students in the classroom.

Starting Strong: Practical Tools, Resources, and Strategies for Beginning Teachers (K-3)

Your first years in the classroom can be exciting, rewarding—and sometimes overwhelming. This session is designed for new elementary teachers (K–3, up to three years of experience) who want practical ideas they can use right away. We'll explore simple, effective strategies for classroom management, organization, and instruction, along with time-saving tools and resources. You'll leave with ready-to-use tips that can help you feel more confident, create a positive classroom community, and make a lasting impact on your students from day one.

Rebecca Garnett

Rebecca Garnett graduated from Ambrose University in 2022 and has spent the past three years teaching Grade One at Calgary Christian School. She is passionate about creating a warm, engaging, and fun learning environment where students feel excited to learn and grow.

WWJD-Online: Digital Citizenship for Elementary Students

A discussion and presentation with resources and activities for elementary teachers to assist in meeting the new Alberta digital outcomes with a Christian perspective. The main emphasis will be on developing digital citizenship and digital skills for students.

Kaitlin Meeuwisse

I have been an elementary teacher for over a decade and I am about to complete a Masters in Digital Education. I am currently teaching grade three at Calgary Christian School. I have three boys (ages 7, 5 and 4) and the topic of digital education is important to me professionally and as a parent.

Why Educational Pluralism Matters

Drawing on the Cardus Education Survey, this workshop will provide educators and school leaders with an understanding of what educational pluralism is and why it matters for students and society.

Catharine Kavanagh and Joanna DeJong VanHof from Cardus

Catharine Kavanagh is the Western Stakeholder Director. Based in Calgary, Catharine works to advance greater diversity and pluralism in provincial education and child care systems. She holds an Honours B.A. in Political Science from the University of Calgary and previously worked in policy development and analysis, primarily in the areas of agriculture, family & social policy, and Canadian heritage.

Joanna DeJong VanHof is program director for Education at Cardus. She is a PhD student in educational leadership and policy at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, from which she holds a master's degree in education. Her previous experience lies in educational leadership and governance in the independent education sector in Ontario.