WINTER CONFERENCE February 16 & 17, 2023

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RELAX, REFRESH, **RECONNECT!**



Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre - Winnipeg

KEYNOTES

Kevin Chief, Norman Chief Memorial Dancers, North End Band Andrew Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Andrew Peters Dionne Potapinski Irene Nordheim Lola Whonnock Sascha Epp & Lia Gervino Glenys MacLeod Jack Slessor & Terri-Lynn Hill

TELE

Daria Jorquera Palmer & Jessica Praznik Amanda Simard & Loretta Ross Jane Couch Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson Jackie Connell Lesley Eblie Trudel

CONFERENCE FEES

COSL Members: \$295 | Non-Members: \$350 Thursday Only: COSL Members: \$40 | Non-Members: \$55

Registration closes on February 9th

REGISTRATION LINK:

https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=2581

Thursday, February 16, 2023	
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Keynote #1 - "An Evening with Kevin Chief" with the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers and the North End Band Cash bar and Wine and Cheese Kevin's presentation will be from 7:30-9pm with the time before and after available for people to reconnect and meet new principals, vice-principals, and aspiring school leaders from around the province. Doors open at 7 p.m.
Friday, February 17, 2023	
7:30 am - 9:00 am	A hot breakfast buffet is being provided
9:00 am - 9:05 am	Opening Remarks
9:05 am - 10:15 am	Keynote #2 - An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation - Douglas Sanderson & Stobo Sniderman - Our opening keynote on Friday morning is with Andrew Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) who have recently authored a book: Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a white town, and the road to reconciliation.
10:15 am - 10:45 am	Nutrition Break
10:45 am - 11:45 am	Breakout Session A
11:45 am - 1:00 pm	A served hot lunch is being provided
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Breakout Session B
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Nutrition Break
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Breakout Session C

We have held 150 rooms for February 16th and 60 rooms for February 17th at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. Guests may start calling at any point - 204-786-4801 and ask to reserve a room in the MB Teachers' Society group block (group code 259575) to access the discounted rate of \$144 plus tax.

The rooms are held until 3 weeks prior to the arrival date, so if you know you are going to attend the conference, reserve a room before January 23rd, 2023. After this date, conference participants may still call to reserve rooms, but they will be booked based on availability.

Rates for the full conference (Thursday, February 16th evening and Friday, February 17th) are \$295 for COSL members, \$350 for non-COSL members. Rates for Thursday evening only (an evening with Kevin Chief) are \$40 for COSL members, \$55 for non-COSL members.

Registration deadline is Thursday, February 9th at 4pm. We can not extend the deadline as the conference centre requires final participant numbers for the breakfast and lunch food service.

We are anticipating a sell-out for this event, so book as soon as registration is available to avoid the disappointment of not being able to attend.

Breakout A 10:45 - 11:45 am

- Mamàhtawisiwin: The Wonder We Are Born With Lola Whonnock
- Keynote follow-up session with Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson
- Workplace Safety and Health for Principals Jack Slessor and Terri-Lynn Hill
- When Principals Make Mistakes: Tales of an MTS Staff Officer Andrew Peters
- Mental Health Awareness Training for Principals Irene Nordheim
- Leveraging Collective Efficacy A Study on the Use of School Suspensions in Manitoba Leslie Eblie Trudel
- Manitoba's Report on Poverty and Education Jackie Connell

Breakout B 1:00 - 2:00 pm

- Incorporating Anti-Racism in School Sport Activities Daria Jorquera Palmer & Jessica Praznik
- What do Women Want? What Gets in the Way? What Can Be Done? Sascha Epp and Lia Gervino
- The Importance of Teaching Treaties in the Classroom Loretta Ross & Amanda Simard
- Creating an Inclusive and Innovative Learning Environment Jane Couch
- Navigating Resilience and Recovery Leslie Eblie Trudel
- Progressive Assessment Implementation to Improve Student Success and Well-Being Dionne Potapinski
- Inclusion and Your Community Glenys MacLeod

Breakout C 2:30 - 3:30 pm

- Incorporating Anti-Racism in School Sport Activities Daria Jorquera Palmer & Jessica Praznik
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KEYNOTES

THURSDAY KEYNOTE 1 "An Evening with Kevin Chief" with the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers and the North End Band.



Kevin Chief

Kevin Chief is Principal of Chief Partnerships Manitoba Incorporated. He is currently the chairperson for the Centre of Aboriginal Human Resource Development Inc. and Senior Advisor at True North Sports and Entertainment. Kevin brings a commitment to community and

leadership development through his dedication to education, training, and employment.

Born and raised in Winnipeg's North End, he has considerable public sector and community experience. He served as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, representing Point Douglas, and was appointed to Cabinet as Minister of Children and Youth Opportunities in 2012, Minister responsible for the City of Winnipeg in 2013, and Minister of Jobs and the Economy in 2014. Following public service, Kevin was the Vice President at the Business Council of Manitoba. Chief is the cofounder of the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre.

Kevin and his wife Melanie have three young sons: Hayden, Kellan, and Daxton. He is also known as a high steppin' square dancer as a part of the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers.



Norman Chief Memorial Dancers

The Norman Chief Memorial Dancers were founded in 2004 in memory of the late Norman Chief, a Manitoba musician, singer, and entertainer. The Norman Chief Dancers' primary purpose is to promote and develop community spirit through traditional style Métis music and dance. The team dances at fundraising events in communities throughout Manitoba to further promote Indigenous culture and heritage.

Accompanied by live fiddle music, the dancers create toe tapping enthusiasm from their audiences with modern, unique dance steps blended with the traditional Métis Red River Dance style.

Session Description:

Enjoy a special performance by Kevin and the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers alongside the North End Band. Accompanied by live fiddle music, the dancers create toe tapping enthusiasm from their audiences with modern, unique dance steps blended with the traditional Métis Red River Dance style.

While leading the evening as MC, Kevin will draw on his humble beginnings as an Indigenous youth in Winnipeg's North End to share personal stories of resiliency, possibility, and hope.

FRIDAY KEYNOTE 2 An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation - Douglas Sanderson & Stobo Sniderman



Douglas Sanderson (AMO BINASHII)

Douglas Sanderson is the Prichard Wilson Chair in Law and Public Policy at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and has served as a senior policy advisor to Ontario's attorney general and minister of Indigenous affairs. He is Swampy Cree, Beaver clan, of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation.



Stobo Sniderman

Stobo Sniderman is a writer, lawyer, and Rhodes Scholar from Montreal. He has written for the *New York Times*, the *Globe and Mail*, and *Maclean's*. He has also argued before the Supreme Court of Canada, served as the human rights policy advisor

to the Canadian minister of foreign affairs, and worked for a judge of South Africa's Constitutional Court.

Session Description:

Divided by a beautiful valley, the town of Rossburn and the Waywayseecappo Indian reserve in Manitoba have been neighbours nearly as long as Canada has been a country. Their story reflects much of what has gone wrong in relations between Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians. It also offers, in the end, an uncommon measure of hope. The authors of *Valley of the Birdtail* will discuss how the schools of these two communities became separate and unequal—and what it means for the rest of us.

SESSIONS

When Principals Make Mistakes: Tales of an MTS Staff Officer



Andrew Peters

Andrew has been a staff officer at the Manitoba Teachers' Society since 2007 in the Teacher Welfare Department. Prior to that he was a Principal in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan. His primary role presently is providing support to principals and bargaining advice in a

number of locals in Metro and Rural Manitoba.

Session Description:

The topics of progressive discipline, accommodation (family and medical), and hiring practices will be covered. Specifically this session will be focusing on areas where Principals make mistakes in the process and put themselves at risk of discipline.

Progressive Assessment Implementation to Improve Student Success and Well-Being



Dionne Potapinski

Dionne started her teaching career in the gymnasium as a Phys. Ed. teacher and then moved into Guidance and Counselling. From there, Dionne continued into school and divisional administration serving as Vice Principal, Principal, Physical Education

Coordinator and Indigenous Education Coordinator. Dionne's experience helps her to appreciate both divisional and school-based perspectives on implementation of initiatives. Dionne's passion for creating safe learning environments in school will be evident as she takes us through Glenlawn Collegiate's journey to very progressive assessment and ungrading.

Session Description:

Are you looking to build more equitable and progressive assessment practices in your school?

In 2017, at Glenlawn Collegiate, we started a journey to be progressive in our assessment practices and ultimately improve students' success both academically and socialemotionally. By removing percentage grades (until the final report – because the province makes us), we have been able to systemically make significant improvements in these two areas.

In this session, you will be walked through key moments in our journey and the insights gained from the daily, weekly, and monthly conversations around teaching and assessment pedagogy.

You will also learn about the philosophy that ignited these assessment conversations, as it came for an unwavering belief that the foundation of education is not to sort and rank students. At our core we believe that all students and staff have the power: "to be loved", "to make decisions", "to succeed" and "to have purpose in their life". If, at any point, we were to believe that assessment was a way to hold power over, or "coerce" students to do something educators wanted, none of this would have been successful.

The session will highlight community feedback and how we made percentage grades a practice of the past and outcome/ mastery-based assessment our way of life at Glenlawn over the last 8 years.

Our teaching team had the courage to try something new, the collaborative support from admin and colleagues to make mistakes, learn, grow, and make sustainable embedded changes to assessment practices. Our students are the benefactors, and we have the data to show it. As our school hashtag says - #wearebettertogether

Mental Health Awareness Training for Principals



Irene Nordheim

Priorto herrecentretirementafter 43 years in the education field, Irene Nordheim, was the Assistant Superintendent for Louis Riel School Division. Her portfolio included the supervision of 14 schools, curriculum and programming, Fine Arts education, Practical Arts education,

Physical education and Libraries. Before that, Irene was the Principal at Glenlawn Collegiate, Windsor Park Collegiate and Vice Principal at JH Bruns, Samuel Burland, and St. George.

Session Description:

This session is a 60-minute session for school principals modified from the CMHA's (Canadian Mental Health Association) usual 2-hour course.

This session designed specifically for principals and aspiring school leaders, outlines how to look for signs of deteriorating mental health in staff and how to respond appropriately and sensitively. Resources to support mental health and wellbeing in the workplace will also be included.

Mamàhtawisiwin: The Wonder We Are Born With



Lola Whonnock

Lola Whonnock, who joined the Indigenous Inclusion Directorate on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 as the Indigenous Inclusion Consultant, will be responsible for the leadership of Mamàhtawisiwin implementation and administering

the Indigenous Academic Achievement/Building Student Success with Indigenous Parents Grants. She will also work with other branches on Indigenous inclusion within the curriculum and programs.

Lola was born and raised in British Columbia. She is of the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations, an intergenerational survivor of Indian residential schools and the '60s Scoop. She completed her Bachelor of Education with the Native Indian Teacher Education Program at the University of British Columbia in 1997 and began a teaching career among the Nisga'a School District in northwestern British Columbia. In 2002, Lola completed a Master of Education at University of British Columbia with a focus on First Nations education and staff retention. In 2013, she resettled in Winnipeg, Manitoba where she worked as a teacher for both youth and adults, building a broad skillset working with diverse groups of learners. She has taught in English, French, Nisga'a, and Anishinaabemowin. Throughout her career, Lola has challenged herself and her students to continuously improve and take ownership of their learning journeys.

Session Description:

Lola will review the four directions that the Indigenous Inclusion Directorate supports in schools and the seven principles that support these directions. She will present a Supplemental *Tool for Reflection, Planning and Reporting* that has been developed to support Mamàhtawisiwin's implementation, while offering some concrete examples that may be useful for Principals as they continue this important work.

What do Women Want? What Gets in the Way? What Can Be Done?



Sascha Epp

Sascha works as a Staff Officer in the Professional French Language Services Department and the Teacher Welfare Department at The Manitoba Teachers' Society. Her current portfolio includes instructing the field-led courses for current or aspiring school leaders and

assisting teachers and school leaders across the province. Sascha's experience in education over a 20-year period includes various roles such as K-12 teacher, divisional lead teacher, vice principal, principal, and school board trustee.



Lia Gervino

Lia is a Staff Officer in the Professional French Language Services Department at The Manitoba Teachers' Society. In addition to workshop development for teacher groups, she also provides support to teachers through the Society's Special Area Groups of Educators, Professional

Development Chairs, and various women in educational leadership initiatives.

Lia's professional background includes Inclusive Education, student services, second language instruction, teaching in K-12 schools and vice president of a Local Teachers' Association.

Session Description:

Research indicates that women continue to make remarkable gains in educational leadership. They leverage relationships, important connections, and interpersonal interactions to achieve their leadership goals. Walk away with an understanding of what it means to be a woman in leadership and useful strategies to navigate your own complex leadership journey.

Inclusion and Your Community



Glenys MacLeod

Glenys MacLeod is the Divisional Principal of Learning and Inclusion with Pembina Trails School Division. Glenys has worked in various K-12 settings throughout Manitoba as a teacher, resource teacher and school administrator and as a sessional instructor at the University of

Manitoba. Glenys has a Doctorate in Education as well as a Masters degree in Educational ministration and a PBDE in Inclusive Special Education.

Session Description:

Join Glenys as she discusses her PHD work regarding inclusion. This presentation explores Experiential Inquiry as an inclusive, interdisciplinary, problem-based approach to using our neighborhoods as our classrooms. Experiential Inquiry is characterized as a student driven cycle of wonder, action, and reflection experienced by actively entering into problematic situations and by sharing the stories of our adventures. Through an examination of current practices and research the potential of Inquiry as a path to inclusion is developed.

Workplace Safety and Health for Principals



Terri-Lynn Hill

Terri has been a Staff Officer with the Manitoba Teachers' Society since 2015. Her work primarily involves bargaining, protecting teachers' rights, and supporting teachers with issues in their workplace. She also oversees the Workplace Safety and Health Standing

Committee and provides training to teachers across the province on topics including harassment, violence, and general safety at work.

Prior to working for MTS, Terri was a middle school teacher for 23 years, the last 8 of which she worked as a principal. Terri enjoys camping and travelling with her partner of 30+ years, and spending time with good friends who make her laugh.



Jack Slessor

Jack Slessor is a Certified Safety and Health Consultant (CHSC) with over 15 years of experience as a workplace safety and health professional. Jack began his career in 2007 as a Workplace Safety and Health Officer with the Manitoba Workplace Safety and

Health Branch (WSH). As the "committee specialist" he provided training and guidance to workplace safety and

health committees in all industries in Manitoba, shared best practices and provided on-site support to them in their efforts to make their workplace a safer place for everyone. In 2014, he joined several of his WSH colleagues who were asked to move over and partner with the WCB - SAFE Work Services staff to create the new prevention focused "SAFE Work Manitoba". Jack continued to provide wide ranging training and consultation support, such as guidance to workplace committees about their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulation. His presentations include SAFE Committee Basics, Hazard Identification & Risk Control, Supervisors & SAFE Work, Harassment & Violence Prevention and Investigating Workplace Incidents workshops as well as special presentations customized for the needs of conferences, organizations and workplaces. Jack retired from SAFE Work Manitoba in September 2022, but continues to bring his passion for people and their safety to every presentation he provides as an independent trainer and consultant.

Session Description:

This one-hour session will provide a general overview of the roles and responsibilities of school principals regarding Workplace Safety and Health. Topics will include legislated duties, addressing safety concerns, importance of training, inspections and investigations.

Incorporating Anti-Racism in School Sport Activities



Daria Jorquera Palmer

Daria Jorquera Palmer has engaged in sport in multiple ways over the past 20 years, from an athlete on the Canadian National Fencing Team for 12 years, competing in over 25 countries, to transitioning to becoming the head coach of her fencing club and

the assistant provincial fencing coach in Manitoba. She graduated with a degree in recreation management and community development from the University of Manitoba and is currently consulting for the Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign as well as the Canadian Fencing Federation on their Gender Equity Project. In her spare time, she volunteers on several boards, as the President of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, Secretary of Trails Manitoba, and as the Chair of the University of Manitoba Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management Advisory Board.



Jessica Praznik

Jessica Praznik has been working with immigrant and refugee communities for over ten years in a variety of capacities from front line and administrative, to research and project management. She previously was the Project Manager at Immigration Partnership Winnipeg,

where she oversaw many of the organizations' civic engagement, inclusion, employment and anti-racism projects including the Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign. Jessica continues to work as a Project Consultant on the campaign. She holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration from Toronto Metropolitan University, and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Winnipeg.

Session Description:

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg's Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign seeks to raise awareness, address, and eliminate racism and discrimination experienced by First Nations, Metis Nation, Inuit, Black, Racialized, and Religious Minority communities in sport. The campaign helps people identify and disrupt all forms of racism in sport through multiple activities such as school presentations, research, trainings, public awareness activities, and an Anti-Racism in Sport Accord. This presentation will provide:

- An overview of our findings from the Campaign's research project on experiences of racism in sport in Winnipeg, highlighting findings of particular relevance for the school leaders,
- 2. An overview of the Campaign's school presentations and resources for teachers,
- 3. A safe space for an engaging discussion on how school leaders can incorporate anti-racism practices into their sport activities.

The Importance of Teaching Treaties in the Classroom



Amanda Simard

Amanda Simard is from Manigotogan and is a band member of the Hollow Water First Nation, Treaty 5, and has been with the TRCM since 2010. She completed her Business Administration from Red River College and attended the University of Winnipeg working towards

a degree in Indigenous Studies. Amanda is the Treaty Education Manager at TRCM.

Loretta Ross

Commissioner Loretta Ross is a member of the Hollow Water First Nation, Treaty No. 5. She holds a degree in law from Queen's University and has been a practicing lawyer for over 20 years providing legal counsel to numerous First Nation people, governments, and

organizations. She was appointed Treaty Commissioner in 2017.

Session Description:

This session will provide participants with a broad overview of K-12 Treaty Education and why it is important for *all* students to learn about Treaties in the classroom. The essential goal of Treaty Education is to create awareness and understanding among all students about First Nations peoples in Manitoba, the shared history, and the historical impacts on the Treaty relationship over time, which are intended to lead to understanding the enduring Treaty relationship still exists today.

Creating an Inclusive and Innovative Learning Environment



Jane Couch

Jane has been Principal at Stevenson-Britannia Elementary School for the past 12 years in St. James-Assiniboia School Division, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her passion in education is in learning about students' and staff strengths and creating the conditions for them to

share their strengths with others. She believes in celebrating every family's culture in her school. Jane's other passion is in sustainability and speaking up for those without a voice.

Session Description:

In this session, I will share our journey at Stevenson School over the last decade of recognizing and utilizing staff and student strengths to create a robust learning environment for all. I believe in creating the conditions for others to thrive. I will share our philosophy of educating the whole child. Our school advocates and celebrates all aspects of learning in order to ensure that every student is able to find a place to learn and grow. I am very grateful to be working with such an amazing staff who are positive, innovative, and dedicated to our community we serve. They are always reflecting on their teaching and focusing on improving student learning, while also respecting the whole child and the gifts they bring to our school.

Keynote follow-up session with Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson

Session Description:

During their morning keynote, Douglas and Stobo will discuss lessons learned from the history of neighbouring schools in the town of Rossburn and the Waywayseecappo First Nation. They will draw on material in their acclaimed book, *Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation*, which describes how two communities become separate and unequal, and what it means for the rest of us.

In this subsequent breakout session, Sanderson and Sniderman will moderate a participant-led discussion centered on responses to the keynote.

Navigating Resilience and Recovery



Leslie Eblie Trudel

Dr. Lesley Eblie Trudel has been successfully involved in public education in Manitoba Canada for over thirty years. She has held positions ranging from instructional to administrative, working with diverse populations in both urban and rural settings. In January 2019, Lesley

joined the Faculty of Education at the University of Winnipeg as an Assistant Professor. In February 2021, Lesley became the Associate Dean in the Faculty. Prior to her position at the University of Winnipeg, Lesley was an Assistant Superintendent of Schools. Key portfolio assignments included leadership roles in Clinical Support Services, Early Childhood Development, English as an Additional Language, Healthy Schools, Inclusive Education, and Talent Development. Lesley regularly collaborated with the school division's Board of Trustees, and forged positive relationships with educators, parents, guardians and community partners.

Lesley holds a Bachelor of Education and Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Education from the University of Manitoba, a Master of Education (Administration) from Brandon University and a PhD (Education/Organizational Theory) from the University of Manitoba.

Her research is systems-focused at the intersection of inclusive education, mental health and well-being, leadership and governance. In 2020 she became a co-investigator on a SSHRC grant specifically exploring teacher well-being during the pandemic. Lesley is a kind and collaborative leader with a keen interest in organizational learning and systemic change, as it pertains to diverse and inclusive educational communities.

Session Description:

What happens when a job that once brought you engagement and joy becomes a source of psychological strain? Join me for a conversation about research findings on burnout in the workplace. We'll discuss strategies that not only increase job satisfaction and the ability to thrive, but can lower stress levels and assist in a recovery process.

Leveraging Collective Efficacy - A Study on the Use of School Suspensions in Manitoba



Lesley Eblie Trudel

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Session Description:

What are the current constructive and critical perspectives on student suspensions in Manitoban schools? Are there potential alternatives that could be used where social emotional learning and school discipline are concerned? Join us for a conversation about a research study, documenting views from the literature as well as voices of school principals in the province on this important topic.

Manitoba's Report on Poverty and Education



Jackie Connell

With 18 years of experience in public education, Jackie Connell (she/her) serves as an Assistant Superintendent in Frontier School Division. Additionally, Jackie is currently the Project Lead for a provincial task force established on

Poverty and Education for the Government of Manitoba. She has held numerous administrative positions in schools and is a proud member of the Manitoba Metis Federation. Jackie is a recipient of the Indspire, Guiding the Journey Indigenous Educator award in Community Service. She is passionate about Indigenous Education, Anti-Racist Education and takes a student centered and community approach to decision making.

Session Description:

The provincial task force on poverty and education was struck to examine the linkages between poverty and education and support the recommendation of strategies to improve engagement and outcomes for students who live with poverty. Join Jackie (project lead) to learn about the engagement strategy, findings to date and next steps for Manitoba as we move forward into the implementation of this work. Key themes include Nutrition, Transportation, Technology, Children in Care, Racism, Mental Health, Intersectional Supports and Equity.



