

= Support Staff Conference Session

= Librarian's Conference Session

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS – 8:50 AM – 10:00 AM

Keynote: What the Heck is Inclusion? (Support Staff)	Shelley Moore	In this session we will look at what inclusion means into today's classroom and how it has evolved over time. We will look at how we can advocate and support classrooms and school to move forward in positive and practical ways.
Keynote: Why Stories Matter (Librarians)	Marty Chan	Author Marty Chan reveals how stories can connect people together and help build a community. Whether it be a reluctant student, an angry kid, or even an upset colleague, everyone has a story to tell and Marty shares some of his stories to illuminate how narratives can break down barriers to communicating with students. He discusses why he believes stories matter in a digital age and why they are needed more than ever during a pandemic. With his funny anecdotes, Marty will reveal the different ways stories have been a vital part of his career and his life.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 10:30 AM to 11:40 AM

ASEBP Benefit Overview	Tenjie Railey	Whether you're a new covered member or not, this session can help you learn about the wide range of benefits, programs and services we offer. In this presentation you'll discover how to get the most from your coverage, our different tools and platforms, the benefits of spending accounts and more!
Childhood Trauma	Tania Johnson	Trauma can significantly impact a child, and those caring for them are often left with questions about how to best help. Children with trauma can present significant challenges, and they often display patterns of behaviour that can strain the relationship between the child and those caring for them. During this course we will explore the impact of trauma on neurological development and how this presents in children's behaviours. The impact on the attachment system will also be examined, as will the role of relationship in healing and growth. Strategies to support children following experiences of trauma will be presented, giving educators concrete ways in which, they can support students. This course aims to offer practical information to educators on why certain behaviours may be present, and how they can support their children in moving towards growth and healing.
De-escalation	Sue Huff	<p>Emotions can run pretty high for some students and when they are in an escalated emotional state, no learning can take place. Sometimes our responses can further ramp up their emotions--like throwing gas on a fire! This workshop will teach you a new way to respond that is easy to remember and practical. This approach was developed specifically for use in the classroom by Dr. Adele Lafrance (Mental Health Foundations) and is based on her work in emotion-focused family therapy. Educational Assistants will learn why emotions are important signals to attend to; how cultural and historical events impact our ability to respond effectively to emotions; what happens in the brain when a person is flooded with emotion and why no learning can take place in this state; and most, importantly, EAs will learn a simple two-step method to help anyone (aged 2-102) de-escalate any intense emotion, quickly and kindly.</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SESSION WILL NOT BE RECORDED!</p>
Decriminalizing Supports: Knowing when kids need them, not IF	Shelley Moore	In this session we will debunk the myth that only students with disabilities need access to supports! Instead, we will look at how we can anticipate supports for all students, decrease challenging behaviour and make it okay for everyone to get what they need.

Helping Children on the Autism Spectrum	Cierra Chmiliar	<p><i>Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is known as a challenging, complex, and long-term condition that is becoming increasingly prevalent worldwide. Often, a diagnosis of autism can come as a shock, and can be an overwhelming experience for all involved. Consequently, this presentation focuses on empowering caregivers, teachers, and professionals so they can better understand and address the needs, strengths, and difficulties of children on the spectrum.</i></p> <p>“Helping Children on the Autism Spectrum” will give a fundamental understanding of the autism diagnosis, characteristics, and the neurobiological and physiological mechanisms that underlie symptoms and behavioral concerns. This course will also explore evidence-based approaches and practices and will give practical tools and strategies so caregivers and teachers can work collaboratively to respond to the unique needs of children with autism.</p> <p>PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS SESSION WILL NOT BE RECORDED</p>
Indigenous Ways of Knowing Math	Christine Michalysen	<p>Long before math concepts were named and defined, Indigenous people were creating mathematical connections and applying them to everyday situations. This workshop shares student centered ideas for honouring the many Indigenous ways of knowing math.</p>
Tools for Students: Free and Easy Assistive Tech Options	Jody Blackmore	<p>Voice typing, text-to-speech, audio and video recorders are very valuable tools for all students, but especially for those that find learning to be a greater challenge. In this session we'll look at a variety of tools that are built into G-Suite for Education, as well as a handful of free Chrome apps and extensions that give students more options while learning.</p>
Best of the Best for School Libraries (Librarians)	Dewey Divas and Dudes	<p>The Dewey Divas and Dudes will share highlights from their new winter/spring line up of children’s picture books, novels and nonfiction titles. Drawing from material from over 600 publishers, they focus on the Best of the Best for School Libraries</p>
Screen Magic (Librarians)	Marty Chan	<p>The pandemic has forced us to pivot to new ways of doing things, including connecting with students online rather than in person. Marty shares the underlying principles behind his successful virtual visits. He shares tips on how to adapt elements of an in-person session to an online session that will still engage kids of all ages. He will also reveal some the technological tools he uses to enhance his online presentations and show how you can use them to your advantage.</p>
Title Wave (Librarians)	Archie Jaswal	<p>Follett may just be the wonderful wizard to help unfold the world of collection development for your library materials. Please join our discussion on how TitleWave can be used to break down your library collection and the tools to help fill any missing gaps.</p>

BREAKOUT SESSION – DOUBLE SESSION 12:20 PM – 3:30 PM

<p>Make a Gnome (double session)</p>	<p>Sandra Mulder</p>	<p>If you love gnomes as much as I do, you won't want to miss out on this fun, interchangeable DIY project. In this session I'll teach you how to create a sign with a one-time-use stencil (design of your choice) and after you'll get to get your coloring/painting on to decorate your little gnome, which comes with 24 interchangeable arm pieces. This adorable sign will add to any holiday or event.</p> <p>YOU MUST ALSO SIGN UP AT: https://forms.gle/MjQt86Fxz2r9aZE58 TO CHOOSE YOUR DESIGN AND GET YOUR MATERIALS KIT.</p> <p>Additional items needed: markers, crafter paints, hot glue gun and painter's tape</p>
---	----------------------	---

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 12:20 PM– 1:50 PM

<p>Childhood Anxiety: Helping Children Heal</p>	<p>Tania Johnson</p>	<p>Anxiety has many faces, and in this presentation, educators will learn about the psychological and physiological roots of anxiety, why it is on the rise in our children, and what to do to help children better manage it. This course has a holistic* and strength-based approach that focuses on concrete tools and strategies to help children who may be struggling. what we as caretakers, parents, and professionals can do vs. stigmatizing children who are struggling. Various facets of the child's environment will be explored that can contribute to a child's emotional struggles.</p>
<p>G-Suite Introduction: Docs, Slides and Sheets</p>	<p>Jody Blackmore</p>	<p>This session will focus on the basics of these three core educational tools. Join me to learn how to use each of these tools and how to support your students in creating evidence of learning. The exact features we explore will depend on the participants in the session as these tools would have different functions for EAs supporting students in learning than they would for Admin Assistant</p>
<p>LAPP Pension Overview</p>	<p>Philip Mak</p>	<p>This session will address common questions regarding your LAPP Pension</p>
<p>Pilates</p>	<p>Char Andrew</p>	<p>Mat Pilates is a strengthening and lengthening form of exercise that focuses on your core (trunk) muscles while also training your arms and legs.</p>
<p>Supporting IEP Learning During COVID</p>	<p>Shelley Moore</p>	<p>In this session we will look at how we can translate student IEPs into supportive plans that students, families and caregiver can use. Whether students are at school, home or in-between, we will look at how we can support learning to continue, as we navigate through the disruption of the pandemic.</p>
<p>The CAC, Child Abuse and The Trauma Informed System</p>	<p>Dean Pasiuk</p>	<p>We will discuss the origins of the Child Advocacy Centers (specifically the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Center), signs of child abuse and discuss best practices in dealing with child abuse in school systems and what ALL systems need to have in place for dealing with child abuse in the best way we can.</p>

Finding the Just Right Resource for 7-12 Students (Librarians)	Lorisa MacLeod	Not exactly sure what the ORC is? Lorisia will share how the ORC vetted online reference resources can support the students and staff in your school. This is a continually updated, reference section for your library that is accessible anytime, from anywhere with an Internet connection.
Supporting our K-12 Students' Rights to Intellectual Freedom and Privacy (Librarians)	Nikki Mulholland & Jennifer Kosiorek	School libraries have a responsibility to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all of its users. In creating a safe space for our students, we need to consider how we can protect their privacy and freedom to read what they choose. In this session, we'll explore what we can do to achieve this, and provide some tools to use when student privacy and freedoms are challenged.
The World of Comics--a SUPER session (Librarians)	Jay Bardyla	In every field there is specific terminology and inside knowledge used by those who create and participate within it. Comics are no exception. What's the difference between a comic book and a graphic novel? Between manga and anime? What's a penciller and how are they different from an inker? Who's stronger, Goku or Superman? Everyone likes the little tidbits of trivia about the popular trends of the day and even though comics have been around for more than 120 years, they have never been more popular. Or haven't they? Come enjoy a tour through the technical and the fantastical highlights of the history of North American comics industry and fuel your nerdy brain with some great water-cooler fodder that you can spring on your clients!

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2:10 PM – 3:30 PM

Classroom Mental Health: Your Professional Toolkit	Tania Johnson	This presentation will help you to decode behaviours, understand the signs of common psychological issues, and empower you with the tools to help bring your students to a place of connection and safety. Educators will gain a toolbox of strategies to help children who are struggling with relationships in the classroom, anxiety, emotional regulation, depression and attention- based issues. Connection, co-regulation, respectful communication and resilience are central themes in helping you to create a classroom that is inclusive, safe, and deeply accepting of all students. 'Classroom Mental Health' is intended to help educators to create a psychologically safe environment for students, but please note, it is not intended to replace the vital work of a Mental Health Professional.
G-Suite Introduction: Gmail and Calendars	Jody Blackmore	While seemingly straight-forward, there are lots of extra features in these two core tools that will allow you to take control of your inbox and calendar in a personalized but effective manner. Join me to learn the basic operation of Gmail and Calendar while also digging into the settings options that will aid you in being more organized.
Inspired Connecting with HeART	Carmen Richardson	In this workshop we are invited to turn our attention to that which inspires us. With simple art invitations, we will explore inspiration through music, poetry and art. The hope is that we will leave this brief journey together feelings a little more alive, connected, and inspired. See handout and information: https://carcpd.ab.ca/documents/art_workshop_handout-carc_2021_2020-12-14.pdf EXTRA MATERIALS WILL BE REQUIRED.

Psychology First Aid for a Pandemic	Lorelee Marin & Christina Harvey	What is Psychological First Aid (PFA)? PFA is an internationally recognized method of support intended to help people immediately after a disaster or emergency. It's trained providers give practical support to those affected in a way that respects the person's dignity, culture and abilities. PFA can be provided by community members, first responders, and professionals. PFA is NOT the same as professional mental health treatment. During a disaster or emergency, PFA trained providers are able to provide updates and resources, listen to people's concerns, ensure their basic needs are met, and link them with appropriate resources, as needed.
Sensory Adventures	Maria Cicman	A little play time never hurt anyone! This hands on session will introduce you to several items that you will create to use with your students immediately (or maybe just use yourself). We will show you how to transform free or nearly free materials into useful tools for the classroom from fidgets to academic supports. A list of materials to support this hands on session will be provided two weeks prior. A little shopping never hurt anyone. :)
Zumba	Char Andrew	Zumba is a fitness program that combines Latin and international music with dance moves. Zumba routines incorporate interval training — alternating fast and slow rhythms — to help improve cardiovascular fitness.
Promoting your Resources and Services with Google (Librarians)	Michelle Catonio & Carly Leong	Using Google slides to showcase the amazing resources your school has and the services you provide to your staff and students is a great way to quantify the work that you do! It is important especially with the uncertainty of the provincial budget. Take charge and promote YOU!
Guided Conversation with Librarians (Librarians)	Chandra & Jennifer	Please join us for a guided conversation about what it is like to work in a school library during a pandemic. We will divide our group into Pre-K - grade 6 librarians and grades 7-12 librarians to share what we have learned and what is working well for us in our schools. You will have an opportunity to use the hive mind of our very intelligent colleagues to ask questions for those parts you don't have quite figured out and share your successes to help others.
Finding the Just Right Resource for K-6 Students (Librarians)	Lorisia MacLeod	Not exactly sure what the ORC is? Lorisia will share how the ORC vetted online reference resources can support the students and staff in your school. This is a continually updated, reference section for your library that is accessible anytime, from anywhere with an Internet connection.