

## Breakout Sessions for: Annual Support Staff / Librarians' Conference 2024

### Arm Yourself for Life

**Facilitator:** Dausen Kluin

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (8:30 am to 10:00 am)

"Arm Yourself for Life"

Dausen Kluin's achievements as a recognized arm wrestling champion and motivational speaker embody the spirit of that quote. When you hear Dausen reflect on his story, you understand that from an early age he valued obstacles and pushed himself forward to exceed his goals and limitations. Dausen was born with Cerebral Palsy and has limited mobility mostly on the left side of his body. Recognizing that traditional sports like hockey were not possible, he took up arm wrestling and soon realized that his fierce determinations and right side of his body was built to excel in this sport. He has competed and placed in local, provincial, and national competitions earning him a spot in Canada's arm wrestling elite. It would have been easy to live in the world at his fingertips in rural Alberta, but at a very young age Dausen discovered something bigger than the expectations most people had for him. In addition to being a world champ someday. Dausen will contribute his story to other people in hopes that it will motivate and inspire others to push past their obstacles and excel in their dreams. When asked about living with the challenges of Cerebral Palsy, Dausen often states that "I don't live with cerebral palsy, Cerebral Palsy lives with me. Dausen Kluin grew up on a farm near Fort Assiniboine, Alberta. He graduated from the Fort Assiniboine School in 2011 and graduated from post-secondary in 2017. Dausen currently lives in Barrhead Alberta with his wife Xayna, where he has pursued a passion for politics and has served at a municipal level as a town councilor since 2017. He also works for a disability support agency and within the local school division as a part time educational assistant. Dausen is currently working towards a goal of becoming a health and life coach. Dausen is an avid outdoorsman and in his spare time enjoys horseback riding, traveling, camping, curling, hunting, and quadding.

---

### Co-regulation in the Classroom

**Facilitator:** Candice Larson

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

Candice uses humour and research along with years of professional and personal experience to provide foundational learning about brain function, emotional development, ACE's and trauma along with useable strategies to help educators build safer, calmer, more emotionally regulated classrooms.

---

### ASEBP Benefits

**Facilitator:** Mark Jones

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

Whether you are 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 will discover how to get the most from your coverage, our different tools and platforms, the benefits of spending accounts and more!

**Note: this will be approximately a 1 hour session**

---

### Support Strategies for Math Manipulatives 2-6

**Facilitator:** Chris Zarski

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

This session will explore some of the math manipulatives that would help students better understand and engage in the New and Current Mathematics programs. For the topics we will explore, the session would best fit Support Staff working with students in Grades 2-6 New Curriculum as well as Grades 7 and 8 current curriculum. Participants are requested to have a personal device, outside of a phone, that they can practice the virtual manipulatives being demonstrated. Come and roll up your sleeves and have some fun in math!

---

## WRap: Education Needs of Students with FASD

**Facilitator:** FASD Network

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

Through the services of FASD Instructional Coaches, including at-the-elbow assistance and professional development, school authority staff will be supported to enhance their capacity to meet the education needs of students with FASD (Early Childhood Services – Grade 12).

Objectives

- Increase the capacity of teachers and schools to meet the educational needs of children and youth (ECS to Grade 12) with FASD.
  - Teachers and school leaders will increase their knowledge and skills regarding how to support students with FASD by engaging in current best practices as shared by the FASD Networks through FASD instructional coaches.
  - Schools will enhance their capacity by incorporating FASD-informed approaches into their classroom communities, as part of a continuum of supports and service.
- 

## The 4 and 7 of Trauma

**Facilitator:** CACAC

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

This session will provide an overview of the Four Pillars and Seven Principles of Trauma. Trauma plays a key role as an obstacle in the ability for a student to learn. Dean and Lee will help you understand how the 4 and 7 can be implemented in your organization. They believe that every organization needs to understand the pillars and principles before implementing a process to effectively support children and youth who are experiencing trauma.

---

## Unlock the Magic of P.A. K-3

**Facilitator:** Lana Lane

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

Build foundational understanding of Phonological Awareness and uncover a treasure trove of practical strategies to support early readers and writers. Sound Phonological Awareness sets the stage for success in Literacy and beyond. This session is designed for Support Staff K-3.

---

## Lowering the Barrier to Copyright: Resources for Gamification of Copyright Law in Educational Spaces

**Facilitator:** Taylor McPeak

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

There is a barrier to understanding copyright law because of its complexities, nuances, and legal jargon. This barrier, along with the fear of copyright infringement, have created confusion and frustration around the use of copyrighted materials (also known as copyright anxiety). Copyright anxiety may even cause someone to abandon their creative endeavours all together for fear of copyright infringement, real or perceived. How can copyright law become more user-friendly?

In this session, Taylor McPeak (she/her) showcases a number of interactive lessons, games, and case study examples, which help to make copyright more accessible and engaging to educators and students.

---

## Ditching Dewey

**Facilitator:** Tom Haennel & Heather Henry

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

The Dewey Decimal system (DDC) has been the most popular way to catalog books in schools and public libraries, yet after a century after its creation many libraries have started replacing the DDC with new systems such as the Book Industry Standards and Communications (BISAC). In this session participants will be introduced to the BISAC system and learn how a Highschool and Middle school made the switch. The session will tips tricks and general advice for Ditching the Dewey Decimal system and the pros/cons of the BISAC system.

---

## Challenging Times: Intellectual Freedom and the Professional Responsibility of School Libraries

**Facilitator:** Lisa Shamchuk

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

In response to the often challenging and contentious context of our current society, this presentation will review the concepts of intellectual freedom and censorship, as well as how these relate to the responsibility of school libraries and library professionals, and will discuss actionable ideas to incorporate into your own school library.

---

## Supporting Communication with Students

**Facilitator:** Carolyn Hovey-Johnson

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (10:20 am to 11:50 am)

The session will focus on various elements to support communication with students, including tools for improving student's ability to understand us and express themselves. Both hi-tech and low-tech tools will be discussed, along with how to decide what, where and when to use them. Examples of tools include basic signs, printed words, visual schedules, AAC systems etc.

---

## Understanding Individual Wellness--a SIVA Approach

**Facilitator:** Irene Donaldson

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

SIVA - Self Care

"Self-care" is a term that we hear a lot these days. It may bring up thoughts of bubble baths, a walk in a park, and listening to calming music.

In Supporting Individuals Through Valued Attachments (SIVA), however, "self-care" is viewed holistically and involves more than a bubble bath. This session will cover areas relating to self-care such as :

- holistic energy
- energy drains
- narratives and narrative conflicts
- compassion fatigue & burnout
- matching self-care to areas of holistic energy
- development of a self-care code

This session is based on content from SIVA's two-day certification program.

---

## Supporting Autistic Students Effectively

**Facilitator:** Dr. Lilian Saltel

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

In this workshop, participants will discuss what autism means and how it translates to the classroom. They will also learn how autism impacts learning and how to use effective strategies to promote more effective student learning.

---

## Understanding Childhood Depression: Risk Factors, Signs/Symptoms and How to Support

**Facilitator:** Melissa Prins

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

This 1.5-hour virtual presentation will focus on the physiological, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral components of childhood depression. Risk factors, signs/symptoms, and specific strategies to support children experiencing depression will be addressed."

---

## Supporting your Students Who are Learning English as an Additional Language

**Facilitator:** Lynn Farrugia

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

We are welcoming more English as an Additional Language (EAL) Learners to our schools and classrooms than ever before. What do we need to know about our newcomer students and what are some of the very best strategies and supports we can provide for them? Please join me as I will share the latest research based practical ideas that I have found most successful and some of my favourite anecdotes from my years of working with these amazing students.

---

## Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre and Child Abuse

**Facilitator:** CACAC

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

This session will discuss what a child advocacy centre is, the role it plays in a case of abuse and the support it offers to a child and their family during this difficult time. Additionally: the types of child abuse, the signs of child abuse, reporting disclosure and child abuse suspicion and the processes our kids go through once child abuse is reported.

---

## Assistive Technology and All Learners

**Facilitator:** Janet Bell

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

Working with students who have challenges using their Chromebooks (can't right-click?), opening links (just too many clicks?), reading (need text to speech or language translation support?), staying focused (need multi-modal supports - and uncluttered pages?), listening (hearing impaired? distracted?), processing (need things repeated, more slowly), and more? In this session, gather tips, resources (helpful Chrome extensions and sites), and strategies (e.g. visual supports, reading strategies, dyslexic font, writing supports) that can help you and your students approach learning more strategically and proactively, with the mindset and tech tools in hand from the start to empower learners to be better able to complete learning challenges!

---

## Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue: The Cost of Caring

**Facilitator:** Destiny Reay CMHA

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

Caring for others can come with both physical and emotional costs. This session will help you recognize the early signs of compassion fatigue and provide some practical strategies to mitigate the negative impacts this can have on you and those around you.

---

## Big Picture Overview: New Curriculum & Texts to Consider

**Facilitator:** Charlie Kraig

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

New curriculum means an opportunity to review collections and add to our shopping lists! This session will explore some key ideas from new curriculum (ELAL 4-6, Math 4-6, Science K-3) and offer suggestions that you may wish to have in your library collections to help teachers and students work with the each organizing idea.

---

## Challenged Book Policy

**Facilitator:** Marjorie Jantzen & Jennifer Kosiorek

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (12:35 pm to 2:00 pm)

With over 50 years of combined experience in school libraries, Marjorie and Jennifer have joined together to deliver an informative (and timely) session about the importance of establishing a challenged materials policy. This dynamic session will leave attendees with easy-to-implement steps and effective strategies that can be applied when faced with challenges to library materials.

---

## Mindful Ways to Ease Anxiety

**Facilitator:** Renee Joslin

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

Mindfulness is known to ease anxiety by helping us turn inward; to become quiet and focus attention on the present moment. Typically, anxiety takes over when we participate in rumination and fears about the past or engage in worries and what-ifs about the future. It allows us to notice and pay attention to present experiences, sensations, and bodily states without getting caught in our thoughts.

Experience some simple and tangible ways to turn down the volume of anxiety in the classroom setting and in other areas of your life. These strategies will include tips for students and the adults who support them.

---

## Grief and Loss

**Facilitator:** Dawne Adkins

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

Explore the myths surrounding grief and loss and how we can support our students by making small changes in approaching this difficult topic.

The opportunity to address our losses as they occur will ultimately result in a healthier community – within our schools and beyond.

---

## Emotional De-escalation

**Facilitator:** Sue Huff

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

This is skills-based workshop will teach you how to help someone quickly de-escalate an overwhelming emotion to return to a more rational, flexible and receptive state of mind. This workshop is especially useful for teachers, parents, administrators, and front line workers who are confronted with the emotional dysregulation of others and aren't sure what to say or do to help the situation. With the added stressors of the pandemic, this workshop offers something educators will find applicable, relevant, and deeply practical.

---

## LAPP

**Facilitator:**

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

This webinar will cover the following topics:

- Calculating Your LAPP Pension
- Pensionable Salary and Service
- When You Can Start Receiving LAPP Pension
- Early Retirement vs Unreduced Pension
- Pension Options
- Single Lifetime vs Joint Lifetime
- Pension Partner vs Beneficiary
- Online Access
- Your Pension Profile
- Pension Projection Calculator
- Application Process

---

## Our Shared Journey

**Facilitator:** Erin Tisdale

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

We will examine our journey in deepening our foundational understandings and explore ways that we can support our indigenous students in building resiliency.

---

## App Exploration

**Facilitator:** Charlie Kraig

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

Our students have access to many different kinds of learning apps and we often don't have time to explore them ourselves. This session will offer time for participants to explore some common apps found in our classrooms and perhaps discover some new ones. As many of these require registration, participants are asked to bring their usernames and passwords if they have them.

---

## Decolonizing Collections and Metadata

**Facilitator:** Collette Poitras

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

During this session, we will discuss what libraries are doing to be more inclusive when it comes to Indigenous collections; concentrating on metadata, such as updating Library of Congress Subject Headings and Canadian Subject Headings. We will also discuss the importance of these initiatives, how to approach consultation with Indigenous communities, and Indigenous

data sovereignty. Finally, we will discuss initiatives taking place throughout Turtle Island and the world to create improved access for more inclusive metadata, subject headings and collections as a whole.

---

## Integrate AI Literacy and CHATGPT Into Your Students' Learning Toolkits

**Facilitator:** Janet Bell

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

Today, students can use AI to support their reading and writing and learning, but need our guidance to help them use it productively and ethically. Whether reframing ideas, sifting through information, providing feedback, creating drafts, or even being a kind of 24/7 tutor, ChatGPT is a form of AI here within reach at no cost to be drawn upon as a learning tool that supports understanding and creation of new texts. Imagine your student being able to break through the paralysis of the blank page by starting their writing with an AI-generated first draft. Is this good or is it cheating? Explore the hows and whys of realistic ways students can use ChatGPT to work "smarter" - efficiently, thoughtfully, and ethically, to minimize chances for plagiarism and maximize opportunities for authentic learning.

---

## Understanding Team Wellness--a SIVA Approach

**Facilitator:** Irene Donaldson

**Date/Time:** Feb 22, 2024 (2:15 pm to 3:45 pm)

SIVA - Team-wellness

"Team-wellness" is a newer term that takes the concept of self-care into a team/group setting. We have all seen this in action but may not have known how to describe it. The goal of this session is to come away with an understanding of what we need to feel safe in a team and how we can support our team members in feeling safe.

In Supporting Individuals Through Valued Attachments (SIVA), team-wellness requires that we combine an understanding of what we need to be productive in a team with what others need out of a team setting as well. This session will cover areas relating to team-wellness such as :

- review of self-care content (morning session)
- psychological safety in teams
- how psychological safety is built and diminished
- impact of conflict-driven gossip
- team engagement and productivity
- development of team-wellness plan

This session is based on new content from SIVA's two-day certification program.