

INVITATION TO ATTEND

21st NATIONAL CONGRESS ON RURAL EDUCATION IN CANADA

MARCH 20-22, 2016

TCU Place · Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Imagine

THE POSSIBILITIES...



Important Conversations about Rural Schools

Imagine THE POSSIBILITIES... invites registrants to reflect on what is possible in overcoming the obstacles of distance, size and economic uncertainty for schools in rural and remote settings. This year's program features keynote and breakout presentations designed to stimulate thinking and facilitate important conversations about the possibilities for making our rural schools great places for learning.

■ Pre-Congress Workshops Sunday, March 20th

2:00-4:30 pm – TCU Place in Galleries A and B

WORKSHOP 1 ► *Promoting Educational Success for Aboriginal Students: Answers through Research and a Turn of the Medicine Wheel*

Released in 2015, the *Truth and Reconciliation Report* called upon Canadian citizens to improve the educational experiences of Aboriginal students. This presentation presents a partial answer to that call. In part one, the presenters provide an overview of a



Jane Preston
Assistant Professor,
University of
Prince Edward Island



Elder Noel Milliea
Eisipogtog First Nation
New Brunswick



Tim Claypool
Department Head,
College of Education,
University of
Saskatchewan



William Rowluck
Research Assistant,
College of Education,
University of
Saskatchewan



Brenda Green
Superintendent,
Saskatoon Public Schools

two-year study which documents how principals and teachers in Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island and Nunavut fostered the educational success and well-being of Aboriginal students. Their research findings show academic success and well-being is rooted in relationships and personal awareness of Aboriginal cultures and ways of knowing. The second part of presentation features applications of these findings as presented by Mi'kmaq Elder, Noel Milliea. In this portion, Elder Milliea explains how to apply Medicine Wheel teaching to one's personal life which in turn influences the success of Aboriginal learners in school.

WORKSHOP 2 ► *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Canadian Schools: Rights and Responsibilities*

Rural schools throughout Canada have more diverse populations than ever before due to changing demographics, shifting societal norms and a robust inclusionary approach to education. This presentation explores the issues for educators related to developing a school environment where students and teachers with different sexual orientations or gender identities can feel fully included, protected and respected. This session shares current research trends, legal obligations, lived experiences and policy documents that speak to the rights and responsibilities of individuals regarding freedom from prejudice, bullying and discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. This session will also provide participants with the opportunity to raise questions and discuss issues with panelists.

Dr. Kristopher Wells
Workshop Presentation
and Moderator



Assistant Professor,
College of Education,
University of Alberta

Geraldine Knudsen
Panel Member



Saskatchewan School
Boards Association,
Legal Counsel

Ben Grebinski
Panel Member



Director of Education,
Prairie Valley School
Division,
Saskatchewan

Amanda Guthrie
Panel Member



Youth and Education
Coordinator,
Out Saskatchewan,
Saskatchewan

STUDENT VOICE – Prairie Valley School Division

■ Congress-at-a-Glance

Sunday, March 20th, 2016

Pre-Congress Workshops 1 & 2 – 2:00 - 4:30 pm

Registration – 2:00 - 7:00 pm – TCU Place

Congress Opening and Keynote Address

A Vision for Success: Unlocking Your Full Potential

Karl Subban – 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Reception – 8:30 - 9:30 pm

Monday, March 21st, 2016

Breakfast – 7:30 am

Keynote Presentation

Embracing Change in a Digital World: Possibilities for

Learning in Rural Schools

Alec Couros – 8:30 - 9:30 am

Concurrent Sessions – 10:00 am - 12:15 pm

Lunch – 12:15 - 1:15 pm

Concurrent Sessions – 1:15 - 3:45 pm

Banquet

Reception – 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Dinner and Entertainment – 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Tuesday, March 22nd, 2016

Breakfast – 7:30 am

Concurrent Sessions – 8:30 - 10:45 am

Keynote Presentation

Inspiring Aboriginal Youth

Waneek Horn-Miller – 11:00 am - 12:00 noon

Noon Lunch and Door Prizes – 12:00 - 12:45 pm

Keynote Presenters ■



KARL SUBBAN ► *A Vision for Success: Unlocking Your Full Potential*

Karl Subban is a former principal in one of Toronto's toughest neighbourhoods where he dedicated his life to helping others reach their full potential. In his thirty years of teaching, coaching, parenting and leading he has learned to inspire others. This keynote explores teamwork and leadership while offering a fresh take on what it means to succeed. Through stories and powerful metaphors Karl Subban speaks of vision, perseverance and teamwork as the formula for success.

Karl is originally from Jamaica and came to Canada with his family as a young boy. He has worked as a teacher and principal for the past 30 years in the Toronto area. He and his wife, Marie, have five children: two girls and three boys. Both daughters are teachers, one a university basketball star and the other an acclaimed visual artist. Although Karl never played hockey himself, all three boys pursued their dreams to be NHL hockey players. Two are aspiring NHLers with the Boston and Vancouver organizations while his eldest son, PK, is one of the brightest stars in the NHL playing with the Montreal Canadiens. PK has recently been highlighted in the news for his \$10,000,000 donation to the Montreal Children's Hospital.



WANEK HORN-MILLER ► *Inspiring Aboriginal Youth*

Waneek Horn-Miller's presentation tells a story of overcoming discrimination, self doubt and an infamous incident of violence to emerge as one of North America's most inspiring speakers. Horn-Miller, a Mohawk from the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory near Montreal, was behind the lines during the Oka crisis in 1990 when she was stabbed and seriously injured. Instead of recoiling from this near death experience she became stronger than ever. Through her inter-generational work, she has built relationships

between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people through social and political change.

Waneek has worked tirelessly to encourage aboriginal youth to enter higher education by building self-esteem and emphasizing a balance between education and sport. Last year, she was the Assistant Chef de Mission for Team Canada at the Pan-Am Games and she launched a fitness and healthy-eating initiative with the Aboriginal Peoples' Television Network. She serves as an ambassador for Manitobah Mukluks, a world famous Canadian footwear brand worn by numerous celebrities such as Kate Moss and Megan Fox. Waneek was recently named one of Canada's most influential women by the Canadian Association for Advancement of Women and Sport and has been highlighted in Time Magazine as a role model for Aboriginal youth.



DR. ALEC COUROS ► *Embracing Change in a Digital World: Possibilities for Rural Schools*

Dr. Couros is a Professor of Educational Technology and Media at the Faculty of Education, University of Regina. He has given hundreds of workshops and presentations nationally and internationally on topics such as openness in education, networked learning, social media in education, digital citizenship and critical media literacy.

Dr. Couros's keynote will stimulate thinking about the digital world and digital tools that support improved learning opportunities for students in rural schools. He will address how these rapid changes in technology and media continue to have a profound effect on schooling and the importance of gaining educators' acceptance of these tools for classroom use. As well, he will provide insights into the development of social networks based on kindness, transparency, sharing and collaboration and the importance of digital citizenship.

HIGHLIGHTS!

- E-journalism - Presenting Real Life Learning Experiences
- Over 50 breakout sessions - Something for Everyone
- Exhibition and Displays of Educational Resources
- Important Conversations about Rural and Remote Schools
- Networking: Meeting People with Common Interests
- Socialize at Reception and Banquet

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Imagine THE POSSIBILITIES...
Important Conversations about Rural Schools

REGISTRATION

Registration includes:

- Sunday 7:00 pm opening and reception;
- Two breakfasts and luncheons (Monday and Tuesday);
- Banquet on Monday evening and entertainment;
- Three keynote presentations;
- Over 50 concurrent sessions on important issues in rural schools; and
- Important conversations about rural education.

_____ Early Bird Registration (Before February 1, 2016)	\$375.00 + \$18.75 GST = \$393.75
_____ After February 1, 2016 Registration	\$400.00 + \$20.00 GST = \$420.00
_____ Students	\$275.00 + \$13.75 GST = \$288.75
_____ Presenters	\$275.00 + \$13.75 GST = \$288.75
_____ School and Community Council (SCC) Member	\$275.00 + \$13.75 GST = \$288.75
_____ (3 SCC Members Bundle)	\$675.00 + \$33.75 GST = \$708.75
_____ Pre-Congress Workshop	\$ 70.00 + \$ 3.50 GST = \$ 73.50
_____ Extra Banquet Tickets	\$ 40.00 + \$ 2.00 GST = \$ 40.00

THE REGISTRATION AND CALL FOR PRESENTATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE RURAL EDUCATION WEBSITE:

<http://www.usask.ca/education/ruraled>

Please note: Congress will receive breakout session applications until January 13, 2016

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Delta Bessborough	\$149.00 Single/Double
Phone: (306) 244-5521 Toll Free: 1-800-268-1133 Fax: (306) 655-7262	
Hilton Garden Inn	\$189.00 2 Queens / 1 King
Phone: (306) 244-2311 Toll Free: 1-877-782-9444 Fax: (306) 244-0621	
http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/reservations/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=YXESDGI&spec_plan=SELU03&spec_plan_desc=CONGRESS+ON+RURAL+ED	
Park Town	\$149.00 Single Queen / \$164.00 Double Queen
Phone: (306) 244-5564 Toll Free: 1-800-667-3999 Fax: (306) 665-8698	
reservations@parktownhotel.com Block #195881	
Radisson Hotel	\$169.00 Single/Double/Corner
Phone: (306) 665-3322 Toll Free: 1-800-333-3333 Fax: (306) 665-5531	
http://www.radisson.com/reservation/itineraryEntrance.do?hotelcode=SKSASKAT&promotionalCode=NATI&startDate=today&startDateOffsetDays=1&numberNights=1	

Please advise the hotel you are registering with the National Congress on Rural Education in Canada to receive the above rates.

Presented by:

Saskatchewan Educational Leadership Unit (SELU) in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, Saskatchewan School Boards Association, Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF), League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents (LEADS), Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials (SASBO), Saskatchewan Professional Development Unit (SPDU), Saskatoon Tribal Council (STC), University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan.