



# Leadership for 21st Century Learning

## Sessions and Speakers

Today's students need a broad range of skills and knowledge to succeed. These skills and knowledge, and the ways in which they are acquired, are collectively referred to as 21st century learning. *Leadership for 21st Century Learning*, the theme of our 48th Annual Convention, focuses on the responsibility of school boards and other educational leaders to provide the resources and conditions necessary for such skills and knowledge to flourish.

### Thursday, March 15—morning keynote

#### The World Needs Your Kid: How One Person Can Make a World of Difference

#### Craig Kielburger



**Craig Kielburger** co-founded *Free the Children* when he was 12 years old, and today he remains a passionate full-time volunteer for the organization. *Free the Children* has built more than 650 schools and school rooms in 45 countries, to the daily benefit of more than 55,000 children. Craig is also the co-founder of *Me to We*, an innovative social enterprise that focuses on helping people make better choices for a better world.

In the fall of 2011, Craig brought his message to thousands of Manitoba youth through We Day, a celebration of youth engagement and empowerment. On March 15, trustees and administrators will have a chance to share in the excitement that marked We Day through Craig's convention-opening keynote address.

### Thursday Workshops

#### A1: Community Engagement: A Work in Progress

**Session Description:** In 2010-2011 Rolling River School Division implemented a policy to ensure it initiated yearly conversations with the communities it serves. Community Partnerships, one of four divisional priorities, is well served by this strategy. The meetings provide an opportunity for the board to connect with the community and discuss on-going educational trends and requirements.

Participants in this session will be shown the steps and process that were used by the division as it developed this policy. They will also learn of the responses of Rolling River School Division communities to these division-initiated conversations, and whether the goals of these community conversations are being fulfilled. And finally, participants will have opportunity to discuss strategies for community engagement in their own divisions.

**Presenter[s]: Ken Cameron** is in his sixth year as a Rolling River School Division trustee and his sixth as the board chair. In addition to the many community organizations in which he volunteers, Mr. Cameron also serves on the Manitoba School Boards Association Provincial Executive as the Director for Region 1. **Reg Klassen** has 22 years of administrative experience and is in his fourth year as Superintendent and CEO of Rolling River School Division. Mr. Klassen currently serves on the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents Executive as Treasurer.

## A2: BOSS Guitar Works

**Session Description:** Maybe you've heard of a little junior high building fully playable electric guitars to create change in the world around them? Maybe you heard that former President Bill Clinton, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Tony Hawk, Israel Idonije, and Rush all have something in common? You'd be right – all are BOSS Guitar Works guitar signers! Come listen to some of the BOSS students and their teachers talk about how they have raised over \$52,000 in the past fourteen months for over a dozen charities including a guitar auction that netted \$32,579 for the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Doing what you can with what you have from where you are really can work! Students will recount their “best memories” and describe what being a budding philanthropist feels like, while teachers Scott Sampson and Kris Hancock will share the “secrets” of how this program can happen at your schools too! Principal Wayne Davies will discuss the overall picture and detail where the project has come from and where it is headed with specific attention paid to how BOSS Guitar Works has changed the school environment as well as the school's standing in the community and province. Actual guitars will be on hand signed by the likes of Steve Martin, Jeff Beck, Blue Rodeo, Pearl Jam, Bachman & Turner and Martin Short!

**Presenter[s]:** **Wayne Davies** is the principal of École Selkirk Junior High. **Kris Hancock** and **Scott Sampson** are teachers at École Selkirk Junior High.

## A3: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Associated Schools Network

**Session Description:** The overall mandate of UNESCO Associated Schools is to unite student voices in the pursuit of world peace. Students network across cities, provinces and countries to protect democracy, respect human rights and cultures and safeguard the environment. When students see their words and actions make for significant change in their schools and beyond, they become empowered global citizens. Their battle cry for injustices is “not in our school, UNESCO!!!”

**Presenter[s]:** As principal of Collège Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau, **Estelle Lamoureux** works alongside students and colleagues who devote countless hours educating others on social justice and human rights issues. During her tenure as president of the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties, that organization's education committee implemented the youth MARLY program which allowed high schools to research social justice issues and showcase their findings. Recently she was appointed to the University of Winnipeg Global College Advisory Board. She is the current chair of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO Human Rights Ad Hoc Committee.

## A4: Engage with the Elephant

**Session Description:** In this session, mixed method research findings collected from the first two years of the ministerial mandated Aboriginal Perspectives course for pre-service teachers at Brandon University will be discussed. The implications of these findings for existing teachers and school leaders will be explored, with a focus on enhancing and support First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

**Presenter[s]:** **Sherry Peden** describes herself as a mom, sister, auntie, friend, partner, assistant professor and researcher. She has 15 years of public school experience in Northern Manitoba and over 15 years of post-secondary teacher education experience at the community, regional and traditional on-campus settings. But most importantly, she declares, she is an Anishanabe woman who has worked to balance life that straddles the Anishanabe and the Western world.

## B1: SSMILE – Students & Seniors Mentoring in an Inter-Generational Learning Environment

**Session Description:** Seniors are the fastest growing group in our population. Walter Whyte School has tapped into the wealth of experience and wisdom of seniors and combined that with the enthusiasm and energy of youth to create an intergenerational learning experience. The SSMILE Project has provided both groups the opportunity to be both student and teacher: students are taught hands-on life skills and how to relate socially to seniors, while teaching them how to navigate the labyrinth of technology. This collaboration fosters understanding, tolerance, empathy and compassion in both groups which are long-lasting and tangible benefits to the whole community. During the fall of 2010, this program was nominated for and received provincial recognition by the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth, and Seniors of Manitoba for its inter-generational creativity and success.

**Presenter[s]:** **Bob Kovachik** is the principal of Walter Whyte School in Lord Selkirk School Division. He will be joined for this session by local senior citizens and Walter Whyte students.

## B2: Defining 21st Century School Environments

**Session Description:** In the fall of 2011 Shaftesbury High School saw the completion of a two story addition which included four new main floor classrooms and a second floor library. After receiving final approval of the project from the PSFB three years ago, the school team seized the opportunity to define 21st century education at the senior years level and to create learning environments that challenged traditional paradigms of instruction and learning.

Participants will hear and see how research and stakeholder input were used to assist in designing physical and virtual environments within the new building addition at Shaftesbury High School. The session will

link schooling environments, teaching, and learning to the broader context of social change, programming possibilities, and teaching and learning styles that augment teacher and student engagement.

**Presenter[s]:** **Iain Riffel** is currently the principal of Institut collegial Vincent Massey Collegiate in the Pembina Trails School Division. Previously, he has been the principal of Shaftesbury High School and École Charleswood School. **Stan Wiebe** is currently the principal of Shaftesbury High School in the Pembina Trails School Division. Previously, he has been the principal of Westdale School, Chapman School and Falcon Beach School.

### **B3: Teachers for Students: Changing/Improving Instruction for Learning**

**Session Description:** In an attempt to move away from lecture-orientated and teacher-centered classrooms, Rolling River School Division has initiated a project that will see 15 grades 5 to 12 teachers spending the 2011-2012 school year working at changing their teaching styles. The project has the following components.

- *Outcome:* to develop a model of inquiry teaching and learning for Rolling River School Division.
- *Purpose:* to encourage “discovery learning” in order to help students learn, think and adapt; to further develop students’ ability to learn and implement “21st Century Skills”; to move away from traditional “lecture style” teaching; to integrate technology as a tool.
- *Teachers:* will determine the elements of inquiry teaching and learning, and will implement, assess, revise and re-assess during the 2011-2012 school year.
- *Students:* will be surveyed to determine whether they were more engaged and self-directed in their learning. As well, grades will be monitored to determine if the inquiry teaching and learning model has an impact on student achievement.

This presentation will share with participants the process Rolling River School Division used to implement this project, as well as the learning that occurred, obstacles encountered, and changes/improvements to the classroom atmosphere and dynamics. Video from classrooms, teacher sessions, and personal stories will be used to share with participants the journey and transformation that is occurring.

**Presenter[s]:** **Joann Freeman** is a fifth year teacher, currently teaching in a multi-age classroom of grades five and six students at Tanner’s Crossing School. **Thomas Mathews** is in his seventh year of teaching at Erickson Collegiate Institute where he teaches Band, English, World Issues, and Psychology. **Grant Butler** has been with Rolling River School Division for 23 years, the past 20 as the division’s IT Coordinator. **Reg Klassen** has 22 years of administrative experience and is in his fourth year as Superintendent and CEO of Rolling River School Division.

### **B4: Teaching the Digitally Connected Learner**

**Session Description:** Today’s students can connect with information faster than ever before. Using their smartphones, laptops or iPads, the knowledge of the world once only stored in printed books is now virtually at their finger tips. What does it mean to be a digitally connected learner in school today? What does it mean for our schools?

**Presenter:** **John Evans** is the Media Technologies Consultant with Manitoba Education. A former teacher, administrator and technology leader, John has a passion for the infusion of technology in education and its power to engage students and teachers alike.

John curates the iPads in Education page at <http://www.scoop.it/t/ipads-in-education> and tweets regularly about all things related to educational technology at <http://twitter.com/joevans>

### **C1: “What Did You Do in School Today?” Survey to Raise the Level of Student Engagement**

**Session Description:** Seven Oaks School Division and West Kildonan Collegiate have participated in the Canadian Education Association’s What Did You Do in School Today survey since its inception five years ago. They have learned from the voices of their students and have been able to raise levels of student engagement and high school graduation rates to well above national averages. This session will focus on what we can learn from our students and what we can do to really engage them in school and have them succeed.

**Presenter[s]:** **Brian O’Leary** is the Superintendent of Seven Oaks School Division and **Gerry Corr** is the Principal of West Kildonan Collegiate.

### **C2: Canadian Museum for Human Rights**

**Session Description:** Currently under construction in the heart of Winnipeg, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) is the first Canadian national museum to be built outside of the National Capital Region and the first national museum to have been established since 1967. Student education is at the heart of the planning for the CMHR. The museum’s aim is to engage student visitors as partners in an emerging dialogue so that they may go on to inspire others. The CMHR has started the process of creating strong education programming, consulting with educators and students alike to ensure that education and public programming captures their interest and meets their curricular needs. In this session, learn more about progress to date, and plans going forward.

**Presenter[s]:** **June Creelman** has over 25 years experience developing programming in both the private and public sectors for museums, cultural and historical sites. June has played a leading role in the development of new

national institutions such as the Canadian War Museum, Founders' Hall and Pier 21: Canada's Immigration Museum. **June** is responsible for building the Learning & Development department of the CMHR and leading the team in the development and delivery of accessible and engaging programming that reflects the national mandate of the museum and promotes reflection and dialogue.

**Linda Mlodzinski** is a Manitoba educator with extensive experience in classroom teaching and involvement in provincial, national, and international education initiatives. She comes to the CMHR from the Province of Manitoba where she was a manager and social studies consultant in the Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch of Manitoba Education. She was responsible for a variety of projects, including development and implementation of the Kindergarten to Grade 12 provincial social studies curriculum. Prior to working as a provincial curriculum consultant, Linda was a classroom teacher in the Pembina Trails School Division in Winnipeg, with experience at the Early, Middle and Senior years.

### C3: The Peaceful Village Program

**Session Description:** The Peaceful Village program provides academic and social programming for 150 former refugee families who live in Winnipeg's inner city. This session will focus on how to engage families, community partners and educational organizations for the purpose of increasing the academic success of marginalized, underserved children and youth in our communities. There will be opportunities for session participants to ask questions and to share their experiences.

**Presenter: Alysha Sloane** is the Director of The Peaceful Village Program. She has worked in the village for the past three years. She is also a consultant for the Manitoba School Improvement Program where she provides consultative support to youth, parents, teachers, principals and superintendents as they embark on various school reform initiatives. She is a trained Forum and Image Theatre facilitator and uses social justice theatre to help create space for voices that are often marginalized in our school communities. She began her career as a high school Social Studies and English teacher in the Winnipeg School Division in 1999.

### C4: Sustainable Development through Fair Trade and Ethical Procurement

**Session Description:** This session will introduce participants to the ways in which the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC) has worked with schools and school divisions to develop sustainable development procurement policies. From fair trade sports balls, to creating a fair trade purchasing policy, MCIC has the tools and connections to help those ethically minded educators, administrators and trustees make sustainable development policies a reality in their school divisions. Participants will also be introduced to MCIC's public engagement programming that seeks to build a network of active global

citizens within Manitoba who are working together to build a more sustainable future for everyone.

**Presenter[s]: Janice Hamilton** has worked at MCIC since 1988 and has been the Executive Director since 2000. She has a keen interest in public engagement and enjoys finding creative ways of getting more people interested in international development, and seeing the connections between global and local issues. **Zack Gross** has been involved with MCIC as a committee and board member and, since 2004, as a staff person. Along with his work on MCIC's Manitoba Government Matching Grants Program and Fair Trade Initiative, Zack also facilitates on-line courses in International Development offered by UBC, and writes a regular column on global issues for *The Brandon Sun*.

## Saturday Workshops

### S1: Developing Leadership for Today's School Systems

**Session Description:** Rural and urban Manitoba reflect an ever increasing ethno cultural diversity. It is important that our board, superintendent, and school leadership teams take advantage of the richness, and the new ideas that come with diversity. During this session, panelists will share examples, ideas and stories about the challenges and opportunities in the following areas:

- succession planning for divisional leadership teams;
- recruitment and selection issues; and
- developing educational leadership that reflects Canadian diversity.

After brief presentations by panel members, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and share their challenges and victories.

**Presenter[s]: Robert Chartrand**, Winnipeg S.D.; **Kelly Barkman**, River East Transcona S.D.; **Duane Brothers**, Seven Oaks S.D.; **Donna Davidson**, Mountain View S.D.; **Carolyn Duhamel**, Manitoba School Boards Association

### S2: Storytelling Techniques: Developing Critical Thinking and Citizenship Skills

**Session Description:** Based on six years of inquiry into classroom and organizational uses of storytelling, this workshop will provide in-depth engagement for participants in storytelling techniques that develop critical thinking and citizenship skills, as well as open people's eyes to the benefits of building diverse communities.

**Presenter: Marc Kuly** works with teachers through the Winnipeg School Division's Inner City District Professional Learning Centre. Prior to this he was a consultant with the Manitoba School Improvement Program and a teacher at Gordon Bell High School. Marc developed the Many Voices, One World intercultural storytelling project at Gordon Bell, which is the focus of the 2009 documentary, *The Storytelling Class*. In 2008 he received the Manitoba Foundation for the Arts' Above and Beyond Award, and shared the YM-YWCA's Youth Peacemaker Award with his students.

### S3 – The Role of Apprenticeship in the Public School System

**Session Description:** In late 2011, the Manitoba Apprenticeship and Certification Board undertook consultations with community stakeholders to get feedback on apprenticeship strategic priorities for 2012/2013, one of which was Youth Involvement and Engagement. As part of these consultations, the Apprenticeship and Certification Board called together a panel of education partners for a discussion on the role of apprenticeship within the public school system. In this session, participants will hear about the findings of these consultations, and the developing role of apprenticeship in Manitoba's public schools.

**Presenter[s]:** TBA

**Saturday, March 17—closing keynote**

**Making School Matter for Students and Teachers: A Storytelling Approach**

**Marc Kuly**



One of the hallmarks of the 21st century promises to be an ever increasing degree of diverse people sharing the same spaces. Public schools bring together young people from all parts of our community. However, we sometimes act as if all the students in our schools are pretty well the same. When we do this, we do our students and ourselves a disservice. If we want rich and robust communities, our schools need to be working towards that goal. This means that we need to welcome and celebrate the diversity our students' life stories demonstrate.

For the past six years, with The Winnipeg School Division and Manitoba School Improvement Program, Marc Kuly has used storytelling to bring together diverse groups of students. By challenging them to tell their stories Marc has motivated students to take charge of their lives and education. In this presentation he will share the techniques that have worked, the stories

his students have told and the benefits of understanding the kaleidoscope of diversity our students embody. This session will feature clips from the Gemini Award winning film about Marc's work, *The Storytelling Class*.