

2021 Northern Alberta Educational Assistants Conference



PRESENTED BY

Dr. Ross Greene, Ariel Haulbrich, M.Ed Psych , David Bouchard, Colin Byers, Kelly Gibbs, Jane Felling, Dr. Lilian Saltel, Barb Pears, Carmen Moore , Dan Nash & Cher Brasok, Dr. Jody Carrington, Kim Barker-Kay, Kathleen Robertson, Vincent Mireau, Susan Agrios, Catherine Crowe, Les Redick, Jennifer Osborne Aldred & Jackie Ratkovic



SERIES SESSIONS

Date	Time
March 04, 2021	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
March 05, 2021	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM



LOCATION
Online

FEE

\$100.00

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us:

nrlc@arpc.ab.ca

[780-882-7988](tel:780-882-7988)

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit our website to register:

nrlc.net

Program

Welcome to the 2021 Northern Alberta Educational Assistant Professional Development Conference

Conference Registration Fees:

- 2 Day Conference **\$100.00**
- 1 Day Conference (either day) **\$65.00**

Please visit the [2021 Conference Website](#) to learn more about the keynotes, conference breakout sessions, and the speakers.

Presenters

Dr. Ross Greene

Dr. Greene is currently adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech and adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Science at the University of Technology in Sydney, Australia, after having served on the faculty at Harvard Medical School for over 20 years.

He has also been on the faculty in the Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at University of Massachusetts Medical Center and in the Department of Education at Tufts University. Dr. Greene's non-profit organization - Lives in the Balance – which aims to disseminate the CPS model through free web-based programming and to support and advocate on behalf of behaviorally challenging kids and their parents, teachers, and other caregivers is dear to his heart and is of greater importance to him than his titles.

Ariel Haulbrich, M.Ed Psych

Ariel Haulbrich works in school & community mental health as a counsellor and program manager, and also as a consultant, presenter and private practitioner with government, businesses, teams and individuals working toward personal and organizational development. She is a Certified Professional Counsellor and a registered member of the Association of Counselling Therapy of Alberta with a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology. Ariel has almost 20 years of experience as a counsellor and programming coordinator in school & community systems, and has been involved in developing and leading school division projects, crisis response teams, and program initiatives. She has written a number of journal and interest articles on various school mental health topics, and enjoys providing training, presentations and workshops provincially, nationally and internationally. Ariel loves yoga and reading to "mind her mind," and the rewards that collaboration and connection can bring to our lives and our teams. For more information on Ariel and her sessions, please visit www.knowledge-power.ca

David Bouchard

An acclaimed author of children's books, David Bouchard is also a champion of literacy. This former teacher and school principal has written more than 70 books in English, in French and in several Indigenous languages. Many combine poetry, prose and visual arts, and explore topics such as the environment, history and the traditions and cultures of Canada's Indigenous communities.

A storyteller and sought after public speaker, David has traveled across the country to promote the importance and joy of reading and writing. In his presentations to students, , parents and educators, he addresses his own struggles with dyslexia. Proud of his Métis heritage, he is a former president of the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria and continues to serve as a community leader." ~ from the investiture ceremony of the Order of Canada, 2009.

You can access his web page at www.davidbouchard.com

Colin Byers

Colin is Learning Associate with Jigsaw Learning and specializes in online, virtual, eLearning, multimedia design and instructional design. Colin has more than 20 years of education experience in k-12, post secondary, government and corporate settings. He has a passion for creating multimedia content and building with face to face, VILT, eLearning and blended courses. Over the years he has provided educators and clients with professional development

opportunities and training using the latest multimedia programs and hardware and has a passion for helping educators excel with online instruction.

Kelly Gibbs

Kelly has spent her educational career supporting students with a variety of needs and supporting staff building instructional strategies. She wanted to know more about how students learn and why they had difficulty learning...so back to school she went! As a teacher and a Reading Specialist, Kelly holds a Masters degree from the University of Alberta in the area of language and literacy development and specialized assessment. She built her knowledge of UDL through her work at the University of Manitoba. Her work as a Consultant supported teachers in building inclusive practice in all divisions. She has in-depth experience doing professional development, with a focus on instructional strategies and implementation of such strategies. She has taught pre-service teachers at the University of Alberta for the past year. Kelly's joy has been found in supporting staff in the use of research-based strategies that make teaching and learning intentional and meaningful.

Jane Felling

Jane Felling is co-author of the award winning Box Cars and One Eyed Jacks series and has been a leader in the area of games as a teaching strategy for over 25 years. She has been a featured speaker at the National ASCD and NCTM conferences as well as the ASCD Summer Conference on Teacher Excellence, hundreds of provincial and state conferences and has worked with thousands of teachers and students during her consulting career. Her research for her masters was in the area of game instruction theory and she has taught K-8 and special education as part of her contracts. She has helped implement several school-wide adoptions of the Box Cars resources and is passionate about helping teachers with brain compatible instructional strategies. Jane is known for her high energy presentation style and her engaging, informative, practical workshops.

Dr. Lilian Saltel

Dr. Lilian Saltel is the owner of Autism Directions. She completed her PhD, with major in Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). She is a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst and provides services that are in accordance with the professional and ethical standards of her licensing board.

Dr. Saltel has been working with children with autism and other disabilities for over eight years. Her expertise includes working with pre-school and school-age children.

Regarding pre-school children, she has trained staff and family members in ABA principles, programed for skill acquisition and developed behavioural plans. Dr. Saltel has also collaborated with daycares and pre-schools when necessary.

Regarding school-age children, she has worked collaboratively with schools in developing Individualized Educational Plans, trained teachers and educational assistants, and collaborated with other clinicians such as speech pathologist or occupational therapist to develop language and motor skills.

In her practice, Dr. Saltel has been teaching adaptive, academic, communication, and social skills. She has developed successful interventions to decrease problem behaviours.

Dr. Saltel's goal is to build functional skills that promote a better life quality for children with autism and their families."

Barb Pears

Barb Pears has been working as a Learning Associate with Jigsaw Learning for the past 3 years and works extensively in a number of school districts to build supportive structures to respond to the behavioural needs of students. Barb has been a teacher and administrator of students with behaviour challenges since 2000 and was instrumental in the design

and implementation of a Behaviour Support School. Barb is gifted at fostering collaborative, respectful, supportive teaching and learning environments for students, families and staff. She has worked as a Behaviour Consultant at the school division level and believes that a multi-disciplinary approach is essential to offer the best possible programming for students. Barb has always had a connection with students with behaviour challenges and loves sharing her passion and knowledge with others through direct service and workshops.

Carmen Moore

Carmen Moore is a passionate educator, parent and storyteller who has been working within the field of education for over twenty-five years. She completed two Masters of Education, spurring on a research project: Project Independence. Carmen has attained the credentials and experience to be a certified autism specialist through her continued work with the University of Kansas. She is passionate about sharing new approaches to support all students. Carmen's experience as an educator, administrator, and now parent has provided her with a unique perspective that she uses to help inform and entertain her audiences. She was most recently employed as an inclusive education coach but has now expanded to more public speaking, consulting, research, and writing. Follow more of her work at www.cmooreineducation.ca

Dan Nash

Dan is currently a Professional Learning Program Coordinator for Learning Network Educational Services, leading implementation work associated with changes to Alberta Curriculum. Dan also brings passion and experience to Education for Reconciliation. With over 40 years of classroom, school and district administration, and curriculum implementation leadership experience Dan fully subscribes to being a lifelong learner and his mantra is, " That it is generally easier to get people to act their way into a new way of thinking... than it is to get them to think their way into a new way of acting."

So, let's roll up our sleeves and get to it!--

Cher Brasok

If someone would have asked me to describe my life ten years ago, stressful is not a word I would have used. Busy - yes. I was tuned out and caught up in the busyness of my life then BOOM! I got sick - really sick and stress hormone was the culprit. Since then, I've been learning about stress from physical, emotional and neurological perspectives . One day, my daughter came home from school and said, "Mom, you know that stress stuff you teach us? You should be teaching it in schools!". My workshops are the result of her inspiration coupled with my professional background in Adult Education, Curriculum Design and Facilitation.

I have been working as a Wellness Facilitator supporting Alberta students, teachers and staff since May 2016 and am excited to share what I know ... all in the spirit of helping people develop healthy habits for their physical and emotional well-being.

Dr. Jody Carrington



Dr. Jody Carrington is a renowned psychologist sought after for her expertise, energy and approach to helping people solve their most complex human-centred challenges. Jody focuses much of her work around reconnection – the key to healthy relationships and productive teams.

A speaker, author, and leader of Carrington & Company, she uses all she has been taught in her twenty-year career as a psychologist to empower everyone she connects with. Jody has worked with kids, families, business leaders, first responders, teachers, farmers and has spoken in church basements and world-class stages; the message remains the same – our power lies in our ability to acknowledge each other first. Her approach is authentic, honest and often hilarious. She speaks passionately about resilience, mental health, leadership, burnout, grief and trauma – and how reconnection is the answer to so many of the root problems we face. Her wildly popular book, *Kids These Days*, was published in 2019 and has sold 150,000 copies worldwide. Jody's message is as simple as it is complex: we are wired to do the hard things, but we were never meant to do any of this alone.

With a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, work with major institutions and thriving clinical practice, she brings a depth of experience and insight that is unmatched in the industry.

Jody lives in small-town Olds, Alberta, with her husband and three children (she had three kids in 2 years to test her *own* resilience) and leads the amazing team at Carrington & Company.

Kim Barker-Kay

Kim Barker-Kay is currently a consultant with the Northwest Regional Learning Consortium. Previously, Kim was a teacher, principal, and researcher in northern Alberta. Her work and research evolved into a focus on building educational equity. She spent many years involved in diversity leadership training with the National Coalition Building

Institute. Additionally, Kim had the unique experience as the protege of a Cree Elder for ten years. As a principal, Kim was able to put all she learned into practice with favorable results in student achievement. She learned first hand the complexities involved in building educational equity which have led her to her current journeys with infusing Indigenous knowledge into new curriculum, as well as doing a deeper exploration into decolonization and anti-racism work.

Kathleen Robertson

As a Learning Associate with Jigsaw Learning, Kathleen Robertson has more than 20 years of teaching experience. Kathleen supports teachers and leaders through development of strategic plans, Collaborative Response practices, and coaching. Her expertise in literacy has been developed through her roles as a classroom teacher, participant as a lead teacher on a literacy committee and her role as instructional and literacy coach at the Elementary level. She has successfully led literacy and numeracy intervention, assessment and coaching.

Vincent Mireau

Vince Mireau is a Registered Provisional Psychologist in Whitecourt, AB. He became a psychologist after several years in the classroom and working as a school counsellor. In private practice, he provides counselling, consultation, and assessment. He enjoys using play based approaches. He is the Past President of the Council of School Counsellors of the ATA. He proudly rural, Franco-albertan, and enjoys helping coach the local football team.

Susan Agrios

Described as "inspirational, passionate & changing lives", Susan Agrios teaches and guides thousands of people from all corners of the world on their fitness, yoga and mindfulness journeys.

As the founder & CEO of AGRIOS MINDFITNESS (Mindfulness + Fitness), Susan gives kids, teens and adults tools to lead healthier lives. The positive physical, mental, emotional and social results are profound.

A former K-12 School teacher, Susan saw her young students were stressed and anxious. Others had problems staying focused. Some were being bullied. Her teacher colleagues were taking leaves because of burnout. Susan wanted to help. She knew she had to do something. That was the spark. From it came beKIND Mindfulness Kits, Trainings and School Assemblies for teachers and students.

Today, Susan's programs open the door for everyone to explore their mind-body connections. They learn new skills to relax, reduce stress, self-regulate thoughts and emotions and improve concentration. Susan is a multi-sport medalist. She holds world records—and has decades of experience as a fitness trainer. Susan is also one of North America's only fitness trainers to become an Internationally Certified Level 2 Kundalini Yoga teacher with advanced training in Yoga Nidra. Her approach is unique. It's holistic. And its positive impacts ripple through the communities in which she works. Her innovative beKIND Mindfulness and beGRATEFUL School Assemblies make a measurably positive difference in schools. In 2016, Susan launched the first ever in Canada beKIND Mindfitness Triathlons in Schools. beKIND turned into a Global Movement spreading across Canada into the USA, Europe, Asia and South America with over 2000 people taking her beKIND Mindfulness Trainings and over 20,000 kids, teens and adults taking the beKIND Mindfulness Challenge.

Are you next?

Catherine Crowe

I am a registered Speech-Language Pathologist with Peace Collaborative Services. I am originally from Ottawa, Ontario, but I completed my Master's degree at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I am currently living in

Peace River, which I love! this year I will be working with Peace River School Division at E.E. Oliver Elementary School, Menno Simons School, Hines Creek Composite School, and Worsley School. I am also working with Holy Family Catholic Regional Division at Glenmary School and Holy Family School.

Les Redick

For over 30 years I have taught ADHD and LD students from grades 4 through 12. In addition to my professional experience, I have personal experience as my son, daughter and I have ADHD. This combination of professional and personal experience has given me an excellent perspective on ADHD, executive functioning issues and motivation. I have been speaking professionally on the topic of ADHD for over 15 years. I recently finished my M.Ed. in Education Research with a focus on ADHD through the University of Calgary and I currently work at North Point School teaching Elementary and Junior High Math.

Jennifer Osborne Aldred

Jennifer Osborne Aldred is a District Counselor with the Grande Prairie Public School District. She works to support students from K to grade 8 at Isabel Campbell and Crystal Park. Jennifer completed her Bachelor of Social Work in 2007 and became a Registered Social Worker that same year. Jennifer then went on to work in a number of front line positions supporting children, youth, adults, seniors and families. She completed her Masters of Social Work with a specialization in Clinical Social Work Practice in 2014. Jennifer has always had a consistent yoga practice and completed her 200hr Yoga Teacher Training in 2014 becoming a Registered Yoga Teacher with Yoga Alliance. She then completed her Yoga Kids training in May 2016 to become a Registered Children's Yoga Teacher with Yoga Alliance. Jennifer enjoys teaching/practicing yoga and spin in her free time and highly values exercise as a form of self-regulation. She also brings in breathing and relaxation techniques from her yoga training into her counseling practice.

Jackie Ratkovic

Making sense of the use and abuse of concrete materials, understanding the importance of visual, spatial reasoning for the development of number sense, problem solving skills, and learning to ask good questions are four areas that greatly intrigue Jackie. Jackie currently works as an independent consultant and instructional coach to teams of teachers and staff, over the past 18 years, in a number of districts across the province. Her work is focused on unpacking the Alberta Program of Study in ways that honor and value its intent of a student centered approach to learning, which allows each student to become capable and responsible for their own learning.
