

Program Chair Report  
 December 1, 2023  
 Program Chair: Alison England  
[program@pdtca.org](mailto:program@pdtca.org)

**WORK COMPLETED: THE PROGRAM. IT'S COMPLETED. THE END.**

**NEW TIMES AND STRUCTURES:**

- 9:00am-3:20pm both days.
- 60-minute sessions with 20 minutes in between
- Keynotes: In EX Hall beside exhibits. Keynotes will go on at the same time as sessions. Keynotes will still present twice.

**KEYNOTES:**

- Catriona Le May Doan: Thursday morning, 9:00-10:00am and 10:20-11:20am
- Renée Michaud: Thursday morning, 10:20-11:20am
- Jared Cooney-Horvath: Thursday afternoon, 1:00-2:00pm and 2:20-3:20pm
- Phyllis Webstad: Friday morning, 9:00-10:00am and 10:20-11:20am

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**

- Vanessa Vakharia The Math Guru: Friday Morning
- Dr. David Naylor, Astrophysicist: Friday Morning
- Dr. Jared Cooney-Horvath, Educational Neuroscientist: Friday Morning
- Mr. Jason Schilling, ATA President: Friday Morning

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

<b>OFF-SITE SESSIONS: 21 sessions (Pre registration is required)</b>	<b>FUN FACTS</b>
<u>Airdrie:</u> Cooking, Sewing, Autism information <u>Chestermere:</u> Cake Decorating, Planning for subs in Foods. Classes <u>High River:</u> Wood-working <u>Okotoks:</u> Curling, Fly-tying <u>Calgary Fish Creek:</u> New curriculum outside <u>Calgary Stampede</u> (Pick up in a trolley at Convention Centre), Touring new sites <u>Nose Hill Park:</u> Grasslands, Outdoor education <u>Calgary Zoo:</u> Nature journaling, Adapting, biodiversity, extinction, conservation <u>Calgary Telus Spark:</u> New science curriculum tours	-449 proposals. -259 sessions have been booked. -86 sessions are being presented by teachers from Palliser District Convention. -32 sessions have pre-registration (21 of those are off-site).

ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SESSIONS	
Agriculture for Life AHS Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC) Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE), Alberta Provincial Government Alberta Retired Teachers' Association (ARTA) Alberta School Councils ASEBP ATA Alberta Teachers Retirement Fund (ATRF) Alberta Tomorrow Calgary Regional Consortium (CRC) Calgary Stampede Calgary Zoo Canadian Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association (CIAAA)	Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) Central Alberta FASD Network Centre for Sexuality Everactive Schools ExploreLearning Health and Physical Education Council (HPEC) Inside Education Luna Child and Youth Advocacy Centre Rupertsland Institute Sinneave Family Foundation Telus SPARK Telus World of Science University of Calgary Poster Series Valour Canada

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

- Just requested 12 ATA workshops, waiting to find out how many we get, and putting them into program.
- Continuing to make changes to program based on updates (cancellations, etc)

**NEW BUSINESS**

- During Fall Convention Meeting in November: I talked with other program chairs regarding strategies to get people to stay at Convention throughout whole time
- Talked with other program chairs to see how they efficiently vet and book sessions. Based on these discussions, I would like to set up a better way to have board members help with vetting:

**Changes**

**1. Hosting an in person vetting session with volunteer board members at the end of July.** This would have to happen after the website link closes. I would want to have proposals printed and pre-organized to give to volunteers to pick best ones out of the topics they feel like they have experience with. It would be a full day. It would start with being "Trained" on things to look for before making decisions. We would want to have people who are able to help vet all areas of programming.

**Objective:** Better vetting and programming choices in a more timely manner: one day verses all summer (for the most part)

**\*\*\*Save the Date:** Please consider spending a day with me (Subway lunch, free room hopefully, 10-4 to accommodate travelers\*\*\* This date will hopefully be finalized in the coming weeks, but will be a week day during the last week of July.

**2. a. Provide detailed information to each board member for how to submit sessions** so they have better information to provide people on how to submit sessions. I will make some sort of a "business card" that you will be able to provide to potential speakers.

**Objective:** A collective responsibility with finding speakers where there may be holes in the program.

**\*\*\*This would hopefully create a more of a team approach when picking sessions: More US, less ME. ☺**

In case anybody wants some more detailed info on keynotes:

KEYNOTES	FEATURED SPEAKERS
<p><b><u>Catriona Le May Doan:</u></b>            Two time Olympic Champion, 4xOlympian,            Officer of the Order of Canada, CSHOF, Chef de            Mission 2022, speaker, volunteer, MUM            -Instagram: @catrionald            -X (Formerly Twitter): @catrionald</p>	<p><b><u>Vanessa Vakharia</u></b> <u>The Math Guru: Teacher, Math            Therapist, Tutor, Speaker, Author</u>            -Website: Themathguru.ca            -Podcast: Math Therapy            -Instagram: @Themathguru</p>
<p><b><u>Renée Michaud:</u></b>            Renée Michaud est consultante en            mathématiques, professeure            - <a href="http://rlmconsulting.ca/">http://rlmconsulting.ca/</a></p>	<p><b><u>Dr. David Naylor,</u></b> <u>Astrophysicist University of            Lethbridge</u></p>
<p><b><u>Jared Cooney-Horvath:</u></b>            Educational Neuroscientist: Serving teachers,            educators &amp; students through applied brain            science            - <a href="https://www.lmeglobal.net/">https://www.lmeglobal.net/</a>            -Instagram: @jared.cooney.horvath            -Youtube:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/JaredCooney">https://www.youtube.com/c/JaredCooney</a></p>	<p><b><u>Jared Cooney-Horvath</u></b> (See Keynotes for further  <u>details)</u></p>
<p><b><u>Phyllis Webstad:</u></b>            Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) from the            Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation (Canoe Creek            Indian Band)            Founder and Ambassador of Orange Shirt Day;            Author, First Nations residential school survivor.            - <a href="https://orangeshirtday.org/">https://orangeshirtday.org/</a></p>	<p><b><u>Mr. Jason Schilling,</u></b> <u>ATA President</u>            -X (Formerly Twitter): @Schill_dawg</p>