WHISTLER CONFERENCE
Friday, May 6, 2016 - Whistler Hilton Resort

Adrienne Gear
Nonfiction Writing Power
Effective writing instruction

Victoria Olson
Screencasting to explain everything
Passion-based learning

Naryn Searcy
Assessing the new curriculum
Indigenous perspectives

Rome Lavrencic & Stacia Johnson
New core French curriculum

Katherine Mulski
Web applications

Photo: Mike Crane

REGISTER AT
www.bctela.ca
Adrienne Gear

is an internationally-acclaimed speaker and author who keeps herself rooted in the classroom by teaching part time in Vancouver. Her practical “power” approach to reading and writing instruction is implemented in many school districts across the country. She has presented internationally and her books have been translated into multiple languages. She is the author of four books for teachers: Reading Power (2006), Nonfiction Reading Power (2008), Writing Power (2011), and Nonfiction Writing Power (2014).

Nonfiction Writing Power: Writing in the content areas

Tired of the same old animal reports? Come to this engaging workshop with Adrienne Gear as she shares some ideas from her new latest “power” book—Nonfiction Writing Power (Pembroke, 2014). Adrienne will explain the different forms of nonfiction, including description, instruction and persuasion and the importance of teaching students intent, language and structure of each form. She will model several lessons and shares how different forms of writing can be linked to your content areas. As always, she shares many student samples and highlights favorite anchor books to support the lessons. Participants will receive a handout with some reproducible templates and a recommended list of anchor books.

Grades 5–9.

Afternoon Workshops 1:15-3:30

Effective writing instruction: Setting up for success!

What is the key to a successful writing program? How can we design explicit lessons to help our students become more confident and competent writers? In this session, Adrienne will share her ideas for setting up a successful writing program which is based on the key principles of the writing process: Plan- Draft- Revise. She will explain how she sets up her weekly writing routine which includes explicit instruction and opportunities for regular writing practice. She will give examples of effective “mini-lessons” that will help improve students’ writing techniques and, as always, link her lessons to authentic picture books. Come to this session and leave with some great ideas for refining your writing program!

Grades 4–7.

Victoria Olson

is a teacher and technology coach at West Langley Elementary. She co-founded e dhcp, EdCampVS, and the EdTech Mentorship Network. She is an Apple Distinguished Educator (2013), a Google Certified Teacher (G1AATX), and a Google Education Trainer.

Screencasting: You and your students can explain everything

Explore the potential of visible thinking and learning on the premier iPad screencasting app, Explain Everything. Learn how to import and annotate custom files to create your very own screen casted videos for presentations, explanations, or directions. Victoria will provide concrete examples of how screencasting can be used to empower authentic student learning and self-assessment skills. Get your students creating with screencasting!

Grades 4–9.

Naryn Searcy

teaches English First Peoples and is a district helping teacher in Aboriginal Education in School District 67 (Okanagan Skaha). For the past three years, Naryn has led a district team of 70 K–12 teachers in exploring non-traditional methods to teaching part time in Vancouver. Her practical “power” approach to reading and writing instruction is implemented in many school districts across the country. She has presented internationally and her books have been translated into multiple languages. She is the author of four books for teachers: Reading Power (2006), Nonfiction Reading Power (2008), Writing Power (2011), and Nonfiction Writing Power (2014).

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Grades 4–9.

Assessing the new curriculum

The new curriculum will increase opportunities for students to engage with their learning in personal, meaningful, and relevant ways; however, at the end of the day teachers are still responsible for assessing what students have learned and communicating that information to others. How do we evaluate the many unique and creative ways that students might use to demonstrate understanding? Where do the core competency profiles fit in? This session will provide specific examples, along with clear and practical recommendations for effective assessment.

Grades 4–12.

Indigenous perspectives that benefit all students

The new K–9 curriculum, set for full implementation in September 2016, integrates Aboriginal content and perspectives throughout all grade levels and subject areas. The First Peoples Principles of Learning are compatible with current curricula focuses on concept-based learning, imbeds the First Peoples Principles of Learning, and highlights the importance of one’s sense of place in the world of education. Teachers will leave with practical examples of engaging students in the learning process and place‐based learning. Teachers will leave with practical examples of engaging students in the learning process.

Grades 4–12.

Stacia Johnson

has taught high school French, Japanese, English, and ELL in urban and rural settings for the past 22 years. She has presented at the BCATML Conference, World Congress of Modern Languages, and the University of Ottawa. Currently, she is a mentor and curriculum collaboration teacher in SD 85.

Getting a grip on the new core French curriculum

Presenters: Stacia Johnson and Rome Lavrencic

In order to understand the Ministry of Education’s work on the most recent FSL curriculum draft, Stacia and Rome will highlight its significant elements. This transformative curriculum focuses on concept-based learning, imbeds the First Peoples Principles of Learning, and highlights the importance of one’s sense of place in the world of language learning. The presenters will help you put at ease by discussing the similarities and additions to the new curriculum as well as providing sample lesson ideas, hands-on activities as well as assessment and evaluation tools. Workshops will be in English with examples in French.

Grades 5–12.

Rome Lavrencic

has taught high school Core French and French Immersion for the past 20 years. He is the current president of the BCATML and a member of the Ministry’s Core French Curriculum Working Group, which is writing and revising of the new curriculum. In addition to presenting at the BCATML’s annual Conference for the past decade, he has presented at the World Congress of Modern Languages, and BCTF New Teachers’ Conference.

Passion-based learning: Genius Hour & 20% Time

Want to get students excited to come to school and create projects based upon their passions? Get ready to run Genius Hour or 20% Time including planning, implementation, and logistical tips. Leave ready to run these passion-based activities with strategies for getting past obstacles, plus loads of resources!

Grades 4–9.

Katherine Mulski

is currently a seconded teacher working as an Inservice Faculty Associate for Field Programs at Simon Fraser University. When not teaching diploma programs for teachers, you can find her assisting colleagues as a Digital Literacy Coach and teaching grade seven French Immersion in Langley. Kat advocates for purposeful leveraging of technology and fun in the classroom.

Morning Workshops 9:30-11:45

Nonfiction Writing Power: Writing in the content areas

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Grades 4–7.

Registration Rates

BCTF members $125 until April 10, $145 starting April 11.
Non-BCTF members, out-of-province and administrators $145, TTDCs, student/retired teachers, para-professionals, and SEA’s $65.
Register as a group of three or more and receive 10% off.

Whistler Hilton Resort Rates

4030 Whistler Way, V0N 1B4
604-932-1982 • 1-800-515-4050 • www.hilton.com • reservations@hiltonwhistler.com
Rate code: My Pita Conference Booking Code: MYP
$149 per night plus taxes for a double occupancy standard room with two double beds or king/queen junior suite with kitchenette. Other room options are available.

Book by April 5, 2016. Room rates are applicable from May 2–10, 2016. $20 for each adult over double occupancy. $22 per night for parking. Reservations guaranteed with credit card or advance deposit.

Register at www.bctela.ca
The Provincial Intermediate and Middle Years Teachers’ Association (myPITA) is one of BCTF’s largest Professional Specialists’ Associations. myPITA helps teachers through:

- Advocacy for Intermediate and Middle School teachers. Annual Fall Conference, to be held this year in the Lower Mainland on October 21 and 22, 2016 with over 65 workshops to choose from.
- Annual mini-conferences in Prince George, Whistler, and sometimes other locations around the province.
- Newsletters mailed to members multiple times a year; full of tips and lesson ideas.
- Password protected web resources at www.mypita.ca including
  - Classroom management including community building games
  - Drama activities and resources
  - Novel study materials including: chapter summaries and tests for over 300 novels
  - A variety of great resources specifically targeting new and developing teachers in a range of subject areas

British Columbia Teachers of English Language Arts (BCTELA) is a Provincial Specialist Association. We are made up of English Language Arts teachers from all over the province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory. As an affiliate of both NCTE and BCTF, our mandate is to provide support for our members in their practice and professional development. BCTELA is coordinated by an executive committee, but powered by each and every member educator throughout the province. We provide members with support, an award winning professional journal, a newsletter, a bookclub, as well as an annual conference.

The BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages (BCATML) represents teachers of French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Spanish and other languages at the elementary and secondary levels. We provide a wide range of services to our members:

- BCATML’s Celebrating Languages annual Fall conference offers over 35 workshops as well as a joint membership to the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) at no additional cost!
- A regional mini-conference in Whistler (May 2016) supporting elementary and intermediate teachers
- Three issues of our electronic newsletter Speak! and CASLT’s Réflexions newsletter
- Access to BCATML’s two iPad lending libraries to try in your classroom
- Requests for language specific workshops in your area of BC for you and other BCATML members
- Full access to the members’ only password protected areas of our website www.bcatml.weebly.com with lesson ideas, activities, resources, and tools to enhance your teaching