

ALBERTA CORRECTIONAL
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2024 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



GROWTH
and
CONNECTION

MARCH 7, 2024

Conference Program



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Message from the President

Greetings!

We are over the moon to share our virtual conference with such an enthusiastic audience. After months of planning, coordinating, and strategizing, we are ready to join our colleagues from across Alberta, Canada and from beyond our borders. We could not be happier to have you along for the ride!

This year's theme, "Growth and Connection", mirrors the experiences of those of us serving the corrections and correctional education community. Indeed it is a global movement with correctional colleagues participating in 'Growth' experiences to serve the continuous evolving needs of our students and clients. Additionally, the digital and technological age is hitting the correctional environment faster than I have seen it in the last 25 years. This means increased opportunities and preparedness for our students, which is fantastic! It also means that we as educators and administrators are learning to connect with technology within the complex and secure environment of corrections.

It is truly an exciting time for us and at the ACEA we have risen to the challenge of increased professional learning. We have formed several subcommittees within our Board to explore and offer professional experiences. The topics of these sub-committees include Provincial and National PD Scope, Conference Presenters, Communication, Supplementary PD, and Bylaw update. Under the leadership of Trent, Courtney, Ashley, Elizabeth, and myself, the sub-committees have worked incredibly hard throughout the year to bring you professional learning opportunities; starting with this conference and the Peace Education Program tomorrow as well as more opportunities that you will hear about at this conference. As the president of this dedicated and expert Board I am honoured and grateful to be working with such a fantastic team.

We understand that attending a virtual conference means a great deal of sitting. We encourage you to take movement breaks, stand up and walk around your space while listening to our speakers, and even try a little yoga during the breaks. Otherwise, grab your favorite drink and your most comfy chair and join us in this wonderful journey.

We are eager to see you all online!

Dr. Christina White Prosser

Alberta Correctional Education Association



<https://acea86.ca/>
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sponsors

The ACEA would like to thank the following sponsors for their contribution to our 2024 Conference:



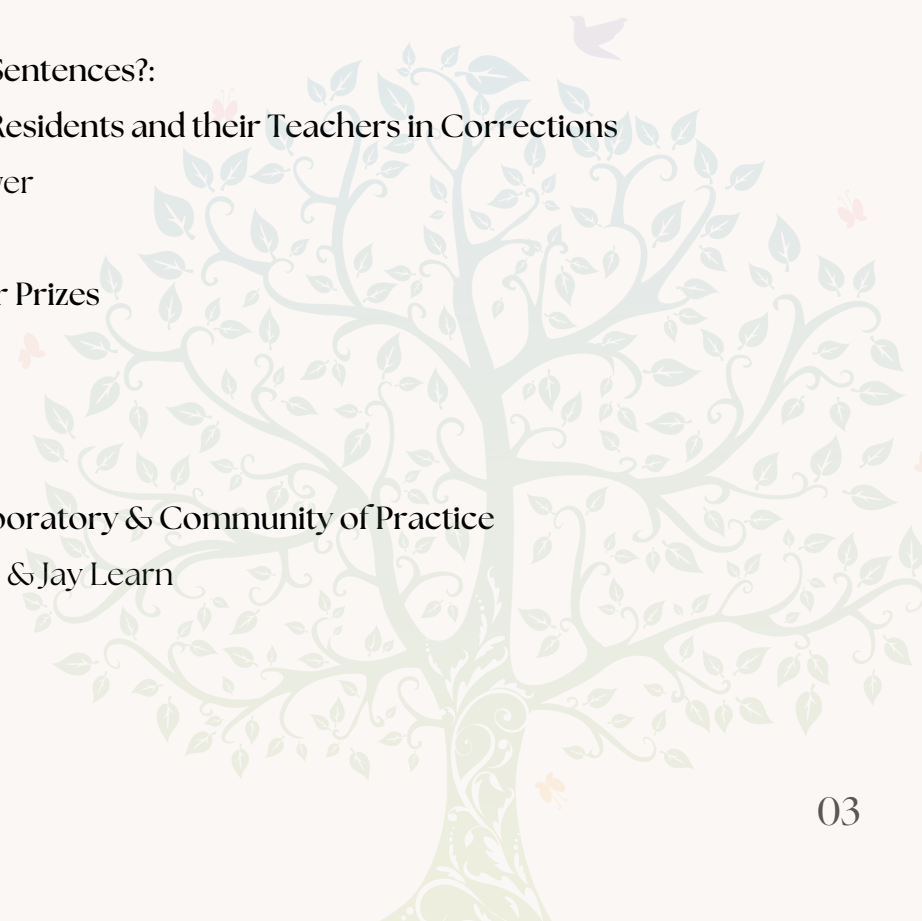
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Schedule

THURSDAY MARCH 7, 2024

9:00 - 9:15	Welcome speech and introductions
9:15 - 10:15	Enhancing Student Learning with Assistive Technology: Curriculum Integration Christina White Prosser & Karen Cook-Newbury
10:15 - 10:30	BREAK
10:30 - 11:30	Therapeutic Living Units Paul Sobey, Elizabeth Loudon & Kris Liber
11:30 - 12:00	Irlen Syndrome & Screening Trent Gillespie & Nola Stigings
12:00 - 1:00	LUNCH - Join us for a lunchtime social game-
1:00 - 2:00	Meaningful Sentences?: A Voice for Residents and their Teachers in Corrections Roberta Power
2:00 - 2:45	AGM & Door Prizes
2:45 - 3:00	BREAK
3:00 - 3:30	ACEA Collaboratory & Community of Practice Nicole Patrie & Jay Learn
3:30 - 4:00	Closing



Speaker Info

Enhancing Student Learning with Assistive Technology: Curriculum Integration

This session explores the basic steps of technology integration into adult correctional environments. As part of an ongoing research study within provincial and federal corrections, experiences to-date will outline key aspects of our research. We will walk through the complexity of designing curriculum and instructional design for this unique environment and share experiences of training correctional educators who have been integrating assistive technology, specifically the Reader Pen Secure, in correctional centers in Western Canada over the past year. After teaching several tech enhanced courses, specific case studies of working with individuals who are neurodiverse, and literacy learners will provide examples of instructor and learner experiences.



Christina White Prosser

Dr. Christina White Prosser is an adult learning specialist, experienced educator, adult learning researcher, and proven leader in educational administration. She has been working in correctional education since 1999. Her professional experience includes various non-profit organizations and over 24 years in postsecondary education. Christina's broad area of research explores the effects of transformational learning and self-perception in adults as they adapt to and adopt change later in life. She is currently researching the impact of technology-assisted literacy and language learning in incarcerated adults and the effects of policing and crime prevention education programs on youth.



Karen Cook-Newbury

Karen Cook-Newbury is a certified educator in Alberta, an academic leader, and an accomplished researcher. She has over a decade of teaching and has spent the last eleven years teaching academic upgrading in correctional education with NorQuest College. Her specializations include academic upgrading, literacy, adult education, supporting lifelong learning and assisting adults to transform their lives.

Speaker Info

Therapeutic Living Units – The Community As Method Model and Their Role in the Alberta Model.

The presenters will provide an overview of the Therapeutic Community (TC) model and its essential components and outcomes. They will speak more in depth to the unique model employed in selecting and training both newly hired RSG staff and correctional service workers to effectively launch and maintain the Therapeutic Living Units (TLU – TC modified for jails) environment and provide maximal benefit to its members. They will speak to the daily TLU routine, programming, case management and aftercare planning to clarify mechanisms by which this model effectively creates social capital and motivates behavior change in incarcerated individuals with severe substance use disorders.



Paul Sobey

Dr. Sobey is an owner and Chief Program Officer with ROSC Solutions Group (RSG). His background is in family practice and addiction medicine. RSG has contracts with the Government of Alberta to assist in building out the Recovery Oriented System of Care.



Kris Liber

Kris Liber is the Director, Projects for the Correctional Services Division overseeing the implementation and operationalization of the Therapeutic Living Units. Kris has worked in Corrections since 2002 at the Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Centre, Edmonton Remand Centre, Red Deer Remand Centre and Calgary Young Offender Centre and Adult Female Annex. Kris has held the positions of Correctional Peace Officer, Correctional Services Worker, Assistant Deputy Director, Deputy Director, Operations and Centre Director. Kris has the pleasure of working with RSG and the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction in the operationalization of TLUs.



Elizabeth Loudon

Elizabeth Loudon currently holds the position of Clinical Director of Corrections with RSG. She has had a lengthy career working in the field of treatment of addiction and recovery, often in a leadership position in private and public treatment centers.

Irlen Syndrome & Screening

The Irlen Method is the only research-based colour method backed by over 4,000 US school districts and well-known in most countries of the world. Used by educators since 1983, this patented method and colour-based technology was discovered by Helen Irlen, MA, LMFT, a leading expert in perceptually-based reading and learning difficulties.

The Irlen Method is a non-invasive, patented technology that uses Irlen Coloured Overlays and Irlen Spectral Filters worn as glasses or contact lenses to remove light waves specific to each individual, which interfere with the brain's processing of visual information. It is the only method scientifically proven to successfully correct the processing differences associated with Irlen Syndrome. This technology can improve reading fluency, comfort, comprehension, attention, and concentration while reducing light sensitivity. This is not a method of reading instruction. It is a colour-based technology that filters out offensive light waves, so the brain can accurately process visual information.



Trent Gillespie

Trent Gillespie is a Correctional Educator with CSC, working at Saskatchewan Penitentiary since 2011. He was recently certified as an official Irlen Syndrome Screener. His passions include educational adaptation, math, movies, and acting. Fun Fact: Trent was born at a young age on the tropical island of Newfoundland, but barely has an accent.



Nola Stigings

Nola Stigings started her career as an RN in the 1970s. She learned of Irlen Syndrome in the late 1990s and that has been her passion ever since. She has been a Certified Irlen Diagnostician/Certified Irlen Screener since 1999, and currently has an office in Innisfail, Alberta where she conducts:

- Seminars & public meetings educating about Irlen Syndrome
- Workshops at schools & teacher's conventions to increase awareness of Irlen symptoms so teachers can identify students with problems
- Reading & vision skills testing & working with students to improve reading skills.

lunchtime social

Join Trent for some lunchtime fun, playing Jackbox game Quiplash 3!

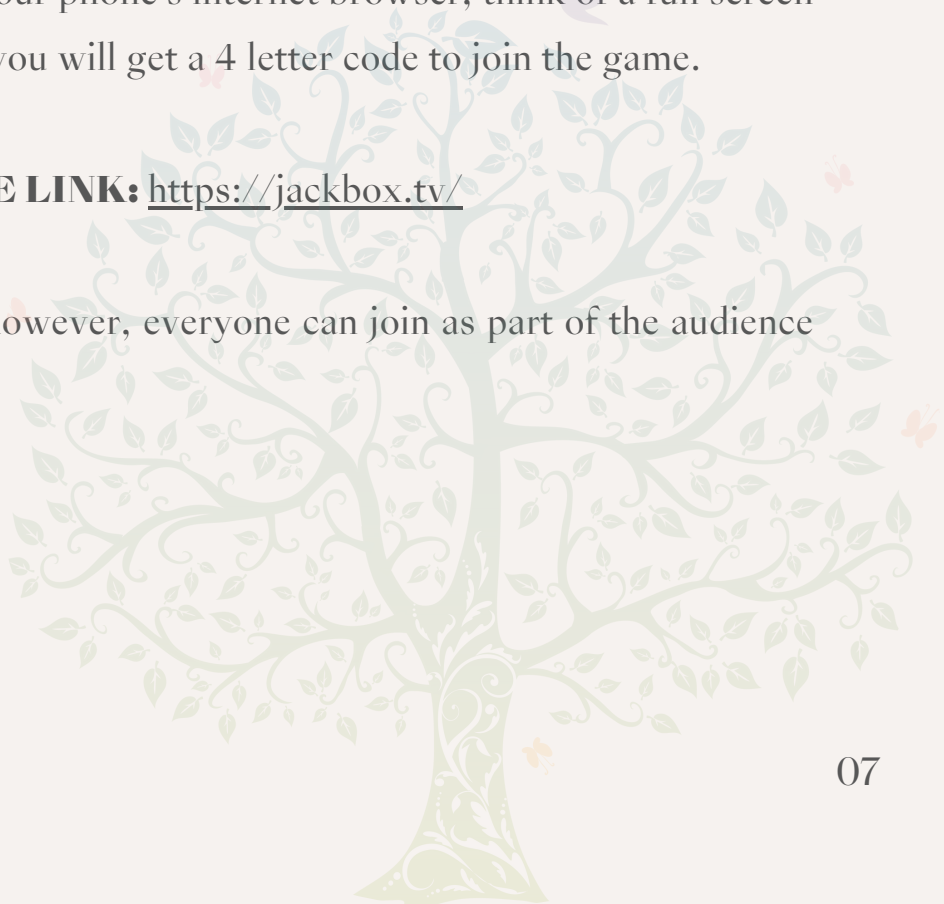
"Players enter a head-to-head battle of the wits by answering a comedic prompt and letting the other players (and the audience) decide which they like best!"

All you need is your cellphone with internet access.

Bookmark Jackbox.tv on your phone's internet browser, think of a fun screen name, and when we start, you will get a 4 letter code to join the game.

CLICK HERE FOR THE LINK: <https://jackbox.tv/>

Max 8 players per game, however, everyone can join as part of the audience and vote as well!



Speaker Info

Meaningful Sentences?: A Voice for Residents and their Teachers in Corrections

Is our educational programming meaningful and relevant to our students' lives and futures? Roberta will discuss the content and play clips of interviews from “Meaningful Sentences?”, a new podcast for incarcerated students and their instructors. She will share her radio guests' knowledge and also ask attendees about engaging resources, how to incorporate Indigenous and cultural perspectives as well as boost motivation, self esteem, literacy, digital skills, community-mindedness and mental health. She hopes to walk away with ideas for future podcasts and answers to the following questions: What's needed in the future of correctional education? What changes are we excited about now and in the pipeline? How can we set students up for success upon re-entry?



Roberta Power

Roberta is a longtime English Instructor. Now, she is the educational consultant in Canada for New Readers Press, a not-for-profit publishing organization that designs and supplies adult literacy resources for schools, colleges, charities, workplaces and correctional facilities. Two years ago, she asked if she could be their Canadian representative after using their books in her ESL/LINC classes and witnessing how much her learners appreciated them. Additionally, Roberta has a love of the English language and the human psyche; she spreads her delight in both, making videos, plays, and expressive art on her own and with her students. Recently, she started a podcast on Canada's educational network voicED radio, where she speaks to incarcerated students and their teachers in corrections.

[Link to Podcast](#)

Speaker Info

Introducing the Collaboratory and the ACEA Community of Practice

People teaching or working in support positions in correctional environments often discuss a lack of opportunity for professional development. In addition, they point to a need for additional support, as well as a desire to grow their knowledge to best serve the populations with which they work. Two of the key barriers to accessing any available professional learning are (1) knowing a course, training, or conference exists, and (2) having the funding to attend or access the resource. In our presentation, we will discuss recent research and developments related to professional development or professional learning around correctional education. The Collaboratory is intended to be a living online repository where people working in/around the justice system can share relevant resources that helped in their professional learning. These might include conferences, books, online courses, workshops, teaching resources and more. We will also introduce a Community of Practice, which will be regular online meetings open to any ACEA member who wishes to connect and explore professional development related to their work.



Nicole Patrie

Nicole is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Safety and Justice Studies at MacEwan University, and a PhD student at the University of Alberta. Nicole has been involved in prison education at all levels: as a teacher, administrator, and now researcher, for over 15 years. Her research is on professional development and support for prison educators, and educational spaces in prison environments.



Jay Learn

Jay is an Administrative Assistant for Lethbridge College's Lakeshore Campus in the Lethbridge Correctional Centre. During the two years they have worked at Lakeshore Campus, Jay has discovered a passion for supporting students and teachers within this setting. Jay is completing their Master of Counselling at Athabasca University. Their research is on resilience, specifically within the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Peace Education Workshop



The Prem Rawat Foundation

ACEA is proud to partner with The Prem Rawat Foundation to offer conference attendees an invitation to participate in a Peace Education Workshop on **Friday March 8 2024, 9AM-12PM MST**

A separate link will be sent out to invite you to the workshop.

Workshop Content

- 1) Overview of the Peace Education Program and Q&A
(the impact of the course & how it can be implemented in corrections in Alberta)
- 2) **“Choice”** theme from the Peace Education Program (1 hour)
- 3) **“Hope”** theme from the Peace Education Program (1 hour)
- 4) Conclusion

Presenters

Michel Klamph, of Toronto, has combined a career as a navigator, educator, and social worker with her volunteer efforts on behalf of The Prem Rawat Foundation’s Peace Education Program. With a diploma in special care counselling from Humber College, a Bachelor of Arts from Carleton University, and a certificate in Adult Education from the University of Calgary, Michel’s focus has been with those who have faced systemic barriers to community integration and participation.

Annelies Bertsch has been volunteering with the Peace Education Program since 2013. A retired elementary school teacher, currently residing in Victoria, BC, she is part of a small team facilitating the program at William Head Correctional Institution. She is also working with staff at Stony Mountain Institution in Manitoba.

[Peace Education Program Website](#)

[Video on Peace Education Workshops](#)

Current ACEA Board

The members of the ACEA board remain committed to producing a high-quality annual conference. If you have any questions regarding the ACEA, or contributions for the newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact us at albertacea@gmail.com.

For further information about the ACEA, copies of the Inside Education newsletters, or future conference plans, find us at www.acea86.ca or on

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