

Advisors

On Draft Curriculum

Experts and Elders providing additional advice and recommendations on draft Kindergarten to Grade 6 curriculum

Dr. George Georgiou

Literacy

George Georgiou is a professor at the Department of Educational Psychology and director at the J.P. Das Centre on Developmental and Learning Disabilities at the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta. His research interests include reading development across languages, remediation of reading difficulties, executive functioning and home literacy environment. He is on the editorial board for many journals, including the Alberta Journal of Educational Research. He has received numerous awards, including the Alberta Teachers' Association Educational Research Award. For his literacy work with children in Alberta schools, he has been named to the Royal Society of Canada. He holds a PhD in philosophy, a master's degree in education and a bachelor's degree in education.

Dr. Alain Desrochers

French Language Literacy

Alain Desrochers holds a PhD in Experimental Psychology from the University of Western Ontario. He was Full Professor at the University of Ottawa until his retirement in July 2017 and then Scientific Director of the Montreal Learning Disabilities Institute until January 2019. He is now Adjunct Professor at the University of Ottawa and the Université du Québec à Montréal, and still director of the Reading Development Research Group. His area of expertise combines psycholinguistics and literacy development. Dr. Desrochers is a

preeminent Francophone scholar in the field of early childhood literacy. He is the author or editor of 8 books, the author of 22 book chapters, and has produced over 300 academic papers. His research includes investigating the historical evolution of alphabetic languages, the development of reading skills among French- and English-speaking children, the development of reading-writing assessment tools, and the development of reading-writing instruction material for teachers.

Dr. Srilata Ravi

Français (Literature)

Srilata Ravi is a professor of French and Francophone Studies, Campus Saint-Jean, University of Alberta. She completed her doctorate in comparative literature at the University of Madras, India, in 1991 and held academic positions in Singapore and Australia before accepting a position at the Campus St-Jean in Edmonton where she now teaches and researches French and Francophone literature and culture.

William French

Arts and Literature

William French is a barrister and solicitor. He is on the board of directors at The Shakespeare Company in Calgary, where he chairs its education committee and spearheads the development of education programmes, primarily emulating models learned during a three-year immersion in classical theatre in the United Kingdom. He is an independent translation professional, providing translation

services in Czech and English. He previously founded and ran a Czech NGO focussed on the reading and discussion of literature in schools. He has lectured at the Faculty of Humanities at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, and holds a juris doctor degree and a bachelor of arts.

Dr. Donna Holstine Vander Valk

Oral Communication

Donna Holstine Vander Valk is a highly skilled communicator and communications coach, and curriculum creator, operating at the 'Expert/Master' level. Among her many academic accomplishments, she holds a Doctor of Philosophy, Education (Curriculum, Teaching and Learning), from the University of Calgary, a Master of Education, Leadership Studies, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Drama.

Melissa From

Financial Literacy

Melissa From is the President and CEO, Junior Achievement of Southern Alberta. She has over 10 years of leadership and managerial experience leading multidisciplinary teams in organizations of significant size, complexity and diversity in the public, not-for-profit, voluntary, and corporate sectors. She also has progressive project management and strategic business development experience. Ms. From has 10 years of experience in educational services, with relationships and programming in 27 unique school boards in southern Alberta. She is a candidate for a Master of Public Administration at the University of Saskatchewan and holds a Non-profit Management Certification from Mount Royal University as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration.

Dr. Vladimir Troitsky

Mathematics

Vladimir Troitsky is a professor in the Faculty of Science, Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences at the University of Alberta. His research interests include functional analysis and theory of operators. He has organized conferences with the

Canadian Mathematical Society and Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences, as well as Positivity IX and the Conference on Geometric Functional Analysis at the University of Alberta. He is also a member of the editorial board for Positivity and Quaestiones Mathematicae. He holds a master of science and a PhD.

Dr. Chris Champion

Social Studies

Chris Champion is a visiting research fellow at Queen's University, Centre for International Defence Policy, and is the editor of The Dorchester Review, which he founded in 2011. At the age of 46, he joined the Canadian army reserves while he was writing his second book, Relentless Struggle: Saving the Army Reserve. He previously served as a policy advisor to the Minister of National Defence and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. While with the Government of Canada, he oversaw the production of the Discover Canada citizenship test guide. Dr. Champion holds a PhD in history, a master of philosophy in international relations and a bachelor of arts in history with international relations.

Dr. Paul W. Bennett

Social Studies

Paul W. Bennett is Director of Schoolhouse Institute and a nationally recognized Canadian historian, education researcher, and textbook author. He earned his Ed.D. at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and holds an M.A. (History) and an Hons. B.A. from York University, and completed his B.Ed. in History and Geography from the Faculty of Education, University of Toronto. Over his extensive career, he has written or co-authored ten books. He taught history in three provinces and was twice a top ten finalist for the Governor General's Award for Teaching Excellence (Ontario 1996, Quebec 1999). Paul initiated and organized the Historica Summer Institute for Secondary School History Teachers (Montreal, 2000-2003) and was honoured by the Historica Memory Project for his outstanding work commemorating Remembrance Day in schools. Over the years, he has been an active member of various organizations, including the Canadian

Historical Association (CHA), the Canadian History of Education Association (CHEA) and the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE). His history teaching workshops, curriculum guides and research presentations have been featured at many history and social studies conferences across Canada and the United States.

Dr. Cameron Macdonell

Science

Cameron Macdonell is the department chair and an associate professor in the Department of Computer Science at MacEwan University. His research interests include computing science education, operating systems and virtualization. He is also an instructor of software and data carpentry. Dr. Macdonell has publications with ACM Annual Technical Conference on Computer Science Education, ASEE Annual Conference and Exhibition and the International Computing Education Research Workshop. He has presented workshops both nationally and internationally related to digital humanities, as well as dynamic webpages, data and software carpentry. He has a PhD and a master's degree in computing science, and a bachelor's degree in science.

Dr. Annie Prud'homme-Généreux

Science

Annie Prud'Homme-Généreux is the Director, Continuing Studies and Executive Education, Capilano University, North Vancouver, BC. She was one of the founding professors at Quest University Canada, where she collaborated on the design of the innovative Bachelor of Arts and Science degree. She designed and taught dozens of life sciences courses and served as Chair of Life Sciences from 2006 to 2012. Dr. Prud'Homme-Généreux has also worked in science communication, serving as Vice President of Science at TELUS World of Science Edmonton. Now, as the head of Capilano University's lifelong learning unit, she combines her passion for and experience in formal and informal education to foster the professional and personal

development of adult learners. Among her many academic accomplishments she holds a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of British Columbia, as well as a Masters in Science Writing from John Hopkins University.

Dr. Marvin Washington

Diversity and Pluralism

Marvin Washington is the associate dean executive education with the Department of Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Management, and a full professor with the Alberta School of Business at the University of Alberta. His research interests include strategic management and organization theory. Dr. Washington has worked with government and industry leaders in Botswana and Mexico, as well as the states of Texas, Illinois, Michigan and Oregon in the US. He holds a PhD and a master's degree in organization behaviour and sociology, as well as a bachelor of science in industrial engineering and management sciences.

Dr. Onookome Okome

Diversity and Pluralism

Onookome Okome is a full professor of English at the University of Alberta. His research interests include African studies, including Anglophone African literature and African popular culture. One of his seminal publications is *Popular Culture in Africa: The Episteme of the Everyday and Research in African Literatures*. Dr. Okome has a PhD and a master's degree in cinema and theatre studies, as well as a bachelor of arts.

Dr. David Chorney

Wellness Education

David Chorney is an associate professor in the Faculty of Education – Secondary Education Department at the University of Alberta. His research focuses on physical education teacher education and curriculum theorizing in physical education. He has won several awards for teaching and research, including the Information Technology Innovation Individual Award and the Rutherford Award of Excellence in undergraduate teaching for the

University of Alberta. He has a PhD in curriculum studies, a master of education, a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of education.

Dr. Patricia McCormack

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Perspective

Patricia McCormack has studied the histories and cultures of the western Subarctic and northwestern Plains from the earliest days of contact with Europeans to the present day. She has worked for First Nations and Métis organizations in legal cases and environmental impact hearings and is considered an expert on the Alberta treaties. She retired from the Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta, in 2012, and is now Professor Emerita.

Elizabeth (Betty) Letendre

Indigenous Perspectives

Elder Betty Letendre is a traditional Cree/Metis woman from the Papaschase Band and is a direct descendant of Papastewo. She grew up in the area north-east of Lac La Biche. Her parents, her first teachers, lived off the land in a traditional way. Elder Letendre is grounded in her Cree/ Métis culture and traditions. She is a Cree speaker and proudly mentors Cree language students. As a champion for children, Elder Letendre is active in her community; she is an advocate for a just and safe society where all children, families and community are accepted and nurtured. Elder Letendre has held management positions in various organizations including Teacher-Manager of Ben Calf Robe Adult Education and Head Start Programs. In her capacity as an Elder, she provides leadership to the Council of Elders and serves as Manager of Edmonton Catholic Schools: Council of Elders. She works tirelessly with many different community agencies striving to improve the lives of families, youth and children. Elder Letendre is also a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

Roy Henry Louis

Indigenous Perspectives

Elder Roy Louis is a member of the Samson Cree Nation. He is from a family of leadership and former

President of the Indian Association of Alberta from 1988 to 1990. Elder Louis is a co-founding member of Peace Hills Trust Company in 1980 and Peace Hills General Insurance in 1982. Elder Louis helped initiate the Pe Sakastew Healing Centre in Maskwacis with former Commissioner Ole Ingstrup. In 2005, he and his wife Judy traveled to China to receive an International Award for the Healing Centre. He is the recipient of Canada's 125 Medal in 1992 and the Alberta Centennial Medal in 2005 for his continued volunteerism, multiculturalism and promotion of cultural awareness and business development for First Nations. He is also the recipient of the Queens Diamond Jubilee medal in September of 2012 for his work with Police at K-Division as an Aboriginal Advisor from 2007 to 2015. Elder Louis was a member of the Senate for the University of Alberta and a member of the Capital Health Authority Board until 1998. Elder Louis is also a member of the RCMP Commissioner's National Indigenous Advisory Committee with another re-appointment for five years. Elder Louis is an Indigenous Advisor to the Commissioner of Corrections in Ottawa. On December 3, 2013, Elder Louis received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Alberta Aboriginal Role Models. In July 2014, Elder Louis was chosen as one of Alberta's Most Influential People for his role as a Community Leader. Elder Louis and his wife Judy were finalists for the Alberta Emerald Award for their work in reviving the Water Ceremony in Maskwacis. Elder Louis is currently a board member for the Heroes and History Foundation for Alberta. He is also on the Battle River Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards for 2017 hosted by Maskwacis. Elder Louis is a participating Elder for the "Indigenous Introductory Training" for all Alberta government employees.

Judy Louis

Indigenous Perspectives

Elder Judy Louis is a highly motivated, high-energy educational consultant with a demonstrated track record for fostering learning and promoting multicultural diversity. She is a recipient of an Excellence of Teaching Award and the Alberta

Centennial Medal for innovative approaches to education and the promotion of cultural diversity. Elder Louis is from a family of nine children: four biological siblings of Scandinavian descent and five adopted from varied multicultural backgrounds. Many years later, the family learned three of the children were part of the 60's Scoop. Many commented her family looked like the United Nations. Her mom early identified that the First Nations siblings needed to learn about their heritage and so Elder Louis' journey began along with them. During that time, she was traditionally adopted into a family from the Samson Cree Nation and over time she has learned the beauty and strength of the First Nations People by actively participating in many traditional ceremonies and the teachings of Plains Cree Spiritual Leaders. Elder Louis and her husband Roy were finalists at the 2016 Emerald Awards for promoting the sacredness of water in Central Alberta that had International impact. She is an avid collector of First Nations artifacts and loves to travel. As a trained investigator for Corrections Service Canada, Elder Louis can often be found working in federal correctional facilities. As well, Elder Louis is a former board member for 16 years on the Citizens Advisory Committee at Pe Sakastew Healing Centre in Maskwacis where the goal is to successfully reintegrate the offenders into the community. She recently retired from Alberta Human Services as a committee member for Social Care Facilities. She enjoys the 14 grandchildren from her blended family with her husband Roy.

have two children, one deceased, nine grandchildren, and one great granddaughter who all call him Papa and consider him the best storyteller in the world. He graduated in 1975 from a small theological college in New York State. He has a certificate in Aboriginal Leadership, Governance and Management from the Banff Centre. He has served his people as a councillor from 1995, culminating in being their Chief from 2013 to 2016, after which he stepped aside to let the next generation take the reins. He is a well-respected elder and mentor in his community, having survived nine years of residential schooling, and overcome addictions to become a role model.

Charles (Vincent) Yellow Old Woman

Indigenous Perspectives

Vincent Yellow Old Woman is a member of the Siksika Nation, which is the second-largest land area reserve in Canada. Siksika Nation is located approximately one hour East of Calgary with 7,500 plus members, with approximately 4,000 living on the reserve. They are part of the Blackfoot confederacy, which consists of Siksika, Piikani, Kainaiwa and the Blackfeet in the State of Montana. He is married 46 years to his beloved wife, Vicki, with whom he practises a healthy lifestyle. They