

#CAFLN17

Welcome to the 4th Annual

Canadian Assessment for Learning Network Conference

As Far as the Eye Can See *What's on the Horizon with Assessment for Learning?*

University of Saskatchewan
May 5, 2017

CAFLN is a member-led, non-profit organization connecting people across Canada who are interested in the use of assessment for learning and the development of related research, policies, and practice in Education.



cafln.ca

@CAFLNetwork

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8:00 - 9:00 Marquis Hall	Registration & Breakfast Resonate – Live; A Showcase of Music Education – Prairie Spirit School Division, Sponsor Booths Open
9:00 - 9:20 Marquis Hall	Welcome Michelle Prytula - Dean, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan Chris Scribe - Director of Indian Teacher Education Program College of Education, University of Saskatchewan
9:20 - 10:20 Marquis Hall	Keynote Address: Fireside Chat - What is on the Horizon with Assessment for Learning? Damian Cooper, Lorna Earl and Ken O'Connor
10:20 - 10:45 Marquis Hall	Assessment in Saskatchewan Video montage and panel from Greater Saskatoon Catholic SD, Light of Christ SD, and Prairie Spirit SD.
10:45 - 11:15 Marquis Hall	Networking & Health Break
11:15 - 12:10	Breakout Session 1: (55 minutes)
Exeter Room A	Using Digital Evidence to Improve Learning - Damian Cooper
Exeter Room B	The Wild West - BC's Assessment and Reporting Transformation - Justin Green
Selkirk Room	Building AfL Capacity: Challenges of Professional Development and Collaborative Learning - Dany Laveault
Montcalm Stewart Room	Communicating Student Learning with Digital Portfolios - Karen Fadum
12:10 - 1:00 Marquis Hall	Lunch Provided
1:00 - 1:55	Breakout Session 2: (55 minutes)
Exeter Room A	Assessment for Learning When Percentage Grades Are Mandated – Ken O'Connor
Exeter Room B	Softening the Edges of Our Assessment Practices – Katie White
Selkirk Room	From Theory to Practice... Now, the How – Denine Laberge, Brooke Moore
Montcalm Stewart Room	#EdTechAndAfL – Leveraging Technology to Support Assessment for Learning - Kent Brewer
1:55 - 2:10	Networking & Health Break
2:10 - 2:55 Marquis Hall	Assessment for Learning from the Eyes of Teacher Candidates Melanie Wilkinson - Field Experience Coordinator, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan Courtney Crasswell, Jessie Hoffert, Skylar Brassard
2:55 – 3:15 Marquis Hall	Reflections on #CAFLN17 Aberdeen School, PSSD – Kelli White, Carter Brown, Cassidy Faverau, Chase Hogg, Max McDonald
3:15 - 3:45 Marquis Hall	Closing Address – Damian Cooper 5th Annual Conference and Symposium Announcement Door Prizes
4:00 - 6:00 University Club	Appetizers and Conversation

KEYNOTE

Fireside Chat – What is on the Horizon with Assessment for Learning?

The idea for CAfLN was born on a stormy winter Toronto night. Our founders, Damian Cooper, Lorna Earl and Ken O'Connor were talking about the fabulous AfL practices that they had seen across the county and lamenting the fact that these ground-breaking practitioners did not know about one another. The Saskatoon CAfLN town hall meeting will focus on what CAfLN is about. Each of them will bring their own history and convictions to the conversation, share their powerful stories and engage with the audience in examining the past, present and future of AfL in Canada, as a driving force to create excellence and equity for all students in Canadian schools.



Presenter: Ken O'Connor is an independent consultant on grading and reporting. A graduate of the University of Melbourne (B.A. Hon) and the University of Toronto (M. Ed), he has been a staff development presenter in 47 states in the USA, 9 provinces and one territory in Canada, and in 22 countries outside North America.

His 23 year teaching career included experience as a geography teacher and department head at 6 schools in Toronto and Melbourne (Grades 7-12) starting in 1967. Ken was a Curriculum Coordinator responsible for Student Assessment and Evaluation and Geography for the Scarborough Board of Education (and then the Toronto District School Board) from March 1990 to June 1999.

He is the author of *The School Leaders Guide to Grading*, Solution Tree, 2013, *A Repair Kit for Grading: 15 Fixes for Broken Grades*. Second Edition, Pearson, 2011, *How to Grade for Learning: Linking Grades to Standards*, Third Edition. Corwin, 2009, and *Fifteen Fixes for Broken Grades: A Repair Kit*, Pearson, Toronto, 2012.

Presenter: Lorna Earl is a retired associate professor from Ontario Institute for Studies in Education University of Toronto and currently president, Lorna Earl and Associates. She has written widely about assessment, using data for decision making, evaluation methods, knowledge mobilization, and networking for school improvement. Lorna is passionate about linking research and practice in real contexts of schools and classrooms.

Presenter: Damian Cooper is an independent education consultant who specializes in helping schools and school districts improve their instructional and assessment skills. In his varied career, Damian has been a secondary English, Special Education, and Drama teacher, a department head, a librarian, a school consultant and a curriculum developer. He has specialized in student assessment since 1986. Damian served as assessment consultant to the School Division of Nelson Education. Prior to that appointment, he was Coordinator of Assessment and Evaluation for the Halton District School Board in Burlington, Ontario.

Damian's books, *Talk About Assessment: Strategies and Tools to Improve Learning* (2007), *Talk About Assessment: High School Strategies and Tools*; (2010) and *Redefining Fair: How to Plan, Assess and Grade for Excellence in Mixed Ability Classrooms* are all best sellers. His latest project is *VOCAL: Validating Observation and Conversation when Assessing Learning* an online professional learning course for teachers.

Video Voice

Share your Assessment vision, thoughts, and/or musings with other CAFLN members by participating in a short video interview in a corner in Marquis Hall.

We would love to hear from you!

Breakout Session 1 (11:15– 12:10)

Using Digital Evidence to Improve Learning - Damian Cooper

Exeter A Room

In most classrooms I visit, teachers and students have in their hands the most powerful assessment tools for improving student learning that I have seen in 40 years as an educator - tablets and smartphones. Used wisely and appropriately, these digital devices enable teachers and students to collect dynamic evidence of developing skills and competencies, as well as evidence of students growing conceptual understanding. In this session, Damian will share some of his recent work with teachers as they embrace these innovative, powerful approaches to ongoing assessment.

Presenter: See Keynote Bio

The Wild West – BC's Assessment and Reporting Transformation – Justin Green

Exeter B Room

With the arrival of BC's Redesigned Curriculum comes a need for educators to change how they assess student learning. This session will briefly look at the Redesigned Curriculum, then delve into the fundamental change in pedagogy required from our educators: the need to embrace quality formative assessment practices; the need to refine our descriptive feedback to not only look at what learning has occurred but to also feed the learning forward; and, the need to change what we assess from a content driven lens (the "what" of learning) to a process driven lens (the "do and understand" of learning).

Presenter: Justin Green (M.Ed., B.Ed.) has been a classroom teacher for 20 years in the Nanaimo-Ladysmith School District. His teaching focus has been primarily in the intermediate grades. Currently he teaches Grade 4 part time while also being a District Coordinator - Assessment & Reporting for Grades 4-9.

Building AfL Capacity: Challenges of Professional Development and Collaborative Learning - Dany Levault

Selkirk Room

AfL necessitates the integration and mobilization of a series of skills in several domains of teaching practice. The use of artifacts to scaffold teacher professional development has been reported to be a valuable starting point but may be limiting in the long term. Acquiring a true AfL competence requires middle to long-term planning, appropriate forms of support, and collaborative work. PD stands greater chances of success if it targets skills within the teachers' zone of proximal development. This presentation will introduce a short list of recommendations based on Canadian and international experience on best PD practices to move forward in developing teachers' capacity to use AfL.

Presenter: Dany Laveault is a Professor Emeritus (2015) at the Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa. He has served as Vice Dean for Research and has also been an invited professor at Université Libre de Bruxelles. His writings in French and English have been published in over fifty scholarly journals and books and have garnered him international recognition. His research has focused on how assessment practices may be improved to develop students' self-regulation skills and on teachers' professional judgment regarding classroom assessment.

Communicating Student Learning with Digital Portfolios - Karen Fadum

Montcalm Stuart Room

There are currently more than 2000 classrooms in the Surrey School District where digital portfolios are being used in lieu of traditional paper report cards to communicate student learning. Summative term end reports are being replaced with a continuous window into the learning and meaningful conversations between teachers, students and parents. Assessment for learning is the foundation of this incredibly important shift from reporting as an event, to the ongoing communication of student learning, where the focus is on growth and reflection over products and marks. How are teachers using digital portfolios to document learning, support metacognition and engage parents in the process? What structures and tools are being offered to support professional learning and build capacity towards a common understanding of assessment and communication of learning? Karen Fadum invites you to learn more about this shift and how a tool like FreshGrade can be used to create personalized portfolios of learning that activate student voice, inform teacher practice and engage parents in their child's learning.

Presenter: Karen Fadum is a Curriculum & Innovation Helping Teacher in Surrey British Columbia. In this role she supports teachers, administrators, students and parents make the shift from reporting as an event to the ongoing communication of Student learning with digital portfolios. Karen believes in the power of formative assessment practices and meaningful communication to transform the learning experience for all students.

Breakout Session 2 (1:00 – 1:55)

#EdTechAndAfL – Leveraging Technology to Support Assessment for Learning - Kent Brewer

Montcalm Stuart Room

As schools, divisions and districts try to keep pace with EdTech, we will explore some of the seemingly endless possibilities as educators integrate today's technology tools in support of assessment for learning. Additionally, we will look into the exciting future of educational technology, "as far as the eye can see"!

Presenter: Kent Brewer is currently the K-12 Tech Integration Consultant at River East Transcona School Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Most recently, visits to Finland's School of the Future and Estonia's Ministry of Education & Research and The Innove Foundation have solidified the importance of technology integration that places an emphasis on a balanced approach to teaching, learning and assessment. In 2007, he was recognized as a World Wide Microsoft Innovative Educator, and in 2011 was selected as one of two Canadians to participate in the World Wide Global Forum Learning Institute. Kent has also been awarded the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence and in his current role, experience and certifications with Microsoft, Google and Apple have supported his endeavors in areas such as STEAM, iPads Supporting Math Pedagogy, BYOD and Office 365.

Assessment for Learning When Percentage Grades Are Mandated - Ken O'Connor

Exeter A Room

Unfortunately provincial assessment policies in all(?) provinces require percentage grades at least for high school. In this breakout how that requirement can be complied with while developing a culture of learning will be described and discussed.

Presenter: Ken O'Connor (See Keynote Bio)

Softening the Edges of our Assessment Practices – Katie White

Exeter B Room

This session explores assessment in a new way, using the analogies of hard and soft edges. Together, we will explore ways the "edges" of our assessment practices make or break relationships within a classroom setting, and the learning these relationships are intended to support. This session explores these learning relationships and the ways strong assessment design can "soften the edges" for educators and learners by attending to the needs of everyone involved in the assessment conversation.

Presenter: Katie White is Coordinator of Learning for the North East School Division in Saskatchewan, Canada. She spends her spare time working as an educational consultant, author and as assessment associate. She has served the role of classroom teacher, instructional coach, vice principal, and principal. Her passion is helping educators develop personalized understanding of connections between curriculum, assessment, and instruction in ways that meet the needs of both teachers and learners. Her book *Softening the Edges: Assessment Practices that Honor K-12 Teachers and Learners* (2017) is available from Solution Tree Press.

From Theory to Practice... Now, the How – Denine Laberge, Brooke Moore

Selkirk Room

If you believe in building success criteria with students, using peers as coaches for one another, students tracking their progress towards their goals, and feedback that moves learning forward (aka Assessment for Learning) but aren't quite sure about how to make it happen in your classroom, this is the session for you. You will leave with examples and ideas as well as something you create that you can use in your classroom.

Presenters: Brooke Moore is currently the District Principal of Inquiry and Innovation in the Delta School District, British Columbia and an instructor for Vancouver Island University's Masters of Educational Leadership program. She is passionate about how assessment can move learners forward and saw this happen in her high school and middle school classrooms over a period of ten years. Brooke believes that teachers are change agents and shares the [Networks of Inquiry and Innovation's](#) goal of 100% of students crossing the stage with dignity, purpose, and options and she'll do what she can to help make that happen.

Denine is a Math specialist in the DSFM (Division Scolaire Franco-Manitobaine). She has been working at the middle and high school level for over 20 years, with a focus on assessment for learning that helps students become engaged in and take ownership for their learning. She currently works with students who need intensive intervention in Math, and is encouraged by their progress in narrowing the gap.

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The logo for CAfLN, featuring a white stylized maple leaf icon to the left of the text "CAfLN" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, all set against a red background.



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Symposium - College of Education Main Library

8:00 - 9:00	Coffee and Conversation
9:00 - 9:10	Welcome
9:10 - 9:15	Welcome from CAFLN President – Damian Cooper
9:15 - 9:30	Inside Outside Reflections – Lori Jeschke
9:30 - 10:45	Cross Canada Round Up – Veronica Saretsky East Coast with Bernie Van Doninck Central with Jim Pai Prairie with Grant Page Western with Kim Waugh-Motoska West Coast with Justin Green
10:45 - 11:00	Health Break and Conversation
11:00 - 12:00	Connecting with Current Research – Lorna Earl & Chris DeLuca
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:45	Annual General Meeting of CAFLN
1:45 - 2:15	Seeing Our Future, The Journey of Pike Lake School and Carlton High School into a New Age of Assessment and Practice Diana Jemieff, Principal Pike Lake School - Prairie Spirit School Division Jennifer Ferguson, Vice Principal Carlton Comprehensive Public High School, Prince Albert - Saskatchewan Rivers School Division
2:15 - 2:30	Reflection and Networking Break
2:30 - 2:45	OK Sharing Activity – Veronica Saretsky & Lori Jeschke
2:45 - 3:00	Reflections on Poll Everywhere – Veronica Saretsky
3:00 – 3:15	Closing – Lorna Earl