

ACE 2025

The Adult Centred Education Conference is a curated conference intended for anyone who considers themselves an Adult Educator. Do you teach, instruct, profess, educate or otherwise engage adult learners? Join us at ACE!

MAY 15-16

EXECUTIVE PLAZA, COQUITLAM

Conference Schedule		
Thursday, MAY 15		
8:15 a.m.	Coffee/Tea	Foyer
9:00 a.m.	Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Opening Remarks	Ballroom B/C
9:15 a.m.	Keynote Presentation by General Romeo Dallaire	
10:45 a.m.	Coffee Break	
11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions:	Aspen
Concurrent A	<i>Laurel Aasen – Bridging the Gap: Cognitive and Neuroscience Tools to Navigate Conflict</i>	
Concurrent B	<i>Fuat Ramazanov – Teaching for Creativity in the Postplagiarism World</i>	
Concurrent C	<i>Roberta Power-Drama in the EAL Classroom</i>	Cypress
12:15 p.m.	Lunch	Ballroom B/C
1:15 p.m.	Session 1 – Harrison Mooney: Invisible Boy: Adoption, Identity and the road from the fog to the self.	Ballroom B/C
2:15 p.m.	Coffee Break	Ballroom B/C
2:30 p.m.	Roundtable discussions: Literacy Foundations, LINC, HSC, Corrections, Careers and Job Training, Admin, Support Staff	
3:45 p.m.	Session 2 – David "Slangman" Burke: Idioms and Slang	
5:00 p.m.	Break/Cash Bar Opens/Student art showcase:	Foyer/Ballroom A
5:30 p.m.	Dinner/prize draws	Ballroom B/C

FULL CONFERENCE EARLY BIRD SPECIAL: JUST \$449!
(REGULAR RATE: \$499)

ALL MEALS/SNACKS PROVIDED!

THURSDAY OR FRIDAY ONLY EARLY BIRD RATE: JUST \$299!
(REGULAR RATE: \$349)

THURSDAY KEYNOTE ONLY
FEATURING ROMEO DALLAIRE: \$149

SPECIAL OFFER



WWW.ACECONFERENCE.NET

IN PERSON

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

KEYNOTE: ROMÉO DALLAIRE

Leadership and Crisis Management Expert,
International champion of human rights,
mental health advocate



FUAT RAMAZANOV

Fuat Ramazanov is an educator and a doctoral candidate at the Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary. He focuses on integrating creativity and generative generative artificial intelligence in higher education. His research investigates how students perceive the interplay between human and artificial creativity in the creative process.



HARRISON MOONEY

HARRISON MOONEY is the best-selling author of Invisible Boy, winner of the 2023 Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writer Prize for nonfiction. His work has also appeared in the Tyee, the Vancouver Sun, the Guardian, and Maclean's. He lives in East Vancouver with his family.



"SLANGMAN" DAVID BURKE

Meet David Burke, aka "Slangman," a renowned author and media personality dedicated to making language learning fun and culturally relevant. With over 30 books on idioms and slang, his expertise is trusted by top institutions like UCLA and the US State Department. David also hosts the popular podcast "SLINGING THE SLANG!" and regularly appears on major media outlets.



ROBERTA POWER

An ESL and LINC Instructor for 20 years, Roberta is now the Educational Consultant in Canada for Pro Literacy's publishing division, New Readers Press. Additionally, Roberta has lived out her passion for the English language and the human psyche by creating self-help videos on local TV and humorous skits with and for her students.; currently, she offers a forum for the incarcerated community through Canada's educational podcast network, voicEd Radio.



LAUREL AASEN

Laurel is a Registered Clinical Counsellor devoted to promoting community literacy on Trauma-Informed practice and emotional regulation. Her passion is translating clinical literature and interventions from neuropsychology to empower clientele in modulating their nervous system and co-regulate with others.



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Conference Sponsors

BC School District Continuing Education Directors Association



Friday, MAY 16

8:00 a.m.	Welcome Refreshments	Foyer
8:45 a.m.	Welcome/Intro/Keynote Address by Allison J. Bran	Ballroom B/C
10:00 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
10:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions:	
Concurrent D	<i>Fuat Ramazanov-Facilitating Learning and Thinking with LEGO® in Adult Education</i>	Ballroom A
Concurrent E	<i>Annelies Bertsch and Josselin Brain--Prem Rawat and Corrections Education</i>	Aspen
Concurrent F	<i>Trevor Blades: Vocabulary Games for Every Subject: Hands-On with Knoword</i>	Cypress
11:15 a.m.	Break	
11:30 a.m.	Concurrent sessions:	
Concurrent G	<i>David Burke- Slang and idioms for classroom use</i>	Ballroom A
Concurrent H	<i>Natella Isazada-Embracing Creativity in Critical Thinking for Effective Problem Solving</i>	Aspen
Concurrent I	<i>TBD</i>	Cypress
12:30 p.m.	Buffet Lunch	Ballroom B/C
1:30 p.m.	Panel Discussion	Ballroom B/C
2:45 p.m.	Closing Remarks, Prize Draws	Ballroom B/C



FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

KEYNOTE: ALLISON J.BRAN

Allison J. Bran is the founder and CEO of The REX Agency, an internationally award-winning brand strategy and creative marketing firm based in Port Moody. With over two decades of experience in marketing and brand development, she has helped businesses across North America transform their brand narratives, stand out in crowded markets, and achieve significant growth.



ANNELIES BERTSCH

Annelies Bertsch, a retired elementary school teacher from Saskatchewan living in Victoria, BC, has volunteered with the Peace Education Program since 2013. She facilitates the program at William Head Federal Correctional Institute and supports other volunteers in North America.



TREVOR BLADES

Trevor Blades is the creator of Knoword. He's spent the last 12 years building educational websites, including Pollenize, a platform for approachable election education. Before that, he worked as a software engineer in aerospace and tech. Outside of work, he loves running and cycling.



JOSSELIN BRAIN

Josselin Brain, based in Salt Spring Island, Canada, is the Peace Education Program Support Manager at The Prem Rawat Foundation. With a background in business and international service, she leads a volunteer team that supports the program's global growth by assisting individuals and organizations in bringing it to their communities.



NATELLA ISAZADA

Natella Isazada is a Business and Communications instructor with nearly 20 years of leadership experience in a number of industries. A TEDx speaker, published author, and consultant, she had four University degrees and holds a number of certifications. She serves on Board of Directors of American Society for Quality. Natella is a doctoral student researching Leadership in Post-Secondary Education at the University of Calgary.

