

**SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES OF  
STUDENTS IN CARE SYMPOSIUM**

**May 19, 2016**

**International Plaza Hotel**

**AGENDA**

8:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** (*foyer*)

9:00 a.m. **INTRODUCTION** (*International Ballroom*)

Sandra Bickford

Director, Student Success Policy Branch, Ministry of Education

Hélène Grégoire

Manager, French-Language Continued Learning Unit, French-Language  
Education Policy and Programs Branch, Ministry of Education and  
Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities

9:05 a.m. **OPENING REMARKS**

*Ministry of Education*

Cathy Montreuil

Chief Student Achievement Officer of Ontario, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Student Achievement Division

George Zegarac Deputy Minister

*Ministry of Children and Youth Services*

Alexander Bezzina

Deputy Minister

9:30 a.m.                    **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
Irwin Elman, Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth of Ontario

10:15 a.m.                   **STUDENT PANEL**  
Feathers of Hope

11:00 a.m.                   **Break** (*foyer*)

11:15 a.m.                   **MORNING WORKSHOPS**

*Participants attend one of the following workshops*

1. Innovative Education Programs in French School Boards\*\*/Room-Montreal A (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
(workshop in French)  
Program leaders and Ministry of Education
2. Summer JK/SK School Readiness and Transition/Room Montreal B (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
to School Project \*\*  
Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care  
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
3. Community Connected Experiential Learning Consultation\*\*/Room-Toronto A (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
Student Success Policy Branch, Ministry of Education

\*\*These three workshops are only offered in the morning.

4. Mindful or Mind Full?/Room- Mississauga A  
Carmen Maggisano, Certified Professional CoActive Coach
5. “Got Collaboration?” Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA)/Mississauga B  
from Creation to Implementation, Toni Nanne-Little, JPSA Facilitator
6. Trauma Informed Care/Room-Mississauga C  
Maya Chacaby, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
7. Nu Steel and Youth and Expecting Parent Programs/Room-Paris  
Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care  
Nu Steel and Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
8. The Ogden Way: Creating and Maintaining Shared Responsibility/Room-New York  
for All of Our Kids, Lakehead District School Board

12:00 p.m.                    **BUFFET LUNCH** – *Foyer/Seating – International Ballroom*

1:00 p.m.                    **AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS**

1. Provincial Data-Collection\*\*\*/Room-Montreal A (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
Education Statistics and Analysis Branch, Ministry of Education
2. School Meets Summer Camp\*\*\*/Room-Montreal B (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care  
Greater Essex County District School Board
3. Ontario’s Well-Being Strategy for Education\*\*\*/Room-Toronto A (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
Safe Schools and Student Well-Being Branch, Ministry of Education

\*\*\*These three workshops are only offered in the afternoon

4. Mindful or Mind Full?/Room-Mississauga A  
Carmen Maggisano, Certified Professional CoActive Coach
5. “Got Collaboration?” Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) Toni Nanne-Little,  
Room-Mississauga B
6. Trauma Informed Care/Room-Mississauga C  
Maya Chacaby, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
7. Nu Steel and Youth and Expecting Parent Programs/Room-Paris  
Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care  
Nu Steel and Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
8. The Ogden Way: Creating and Maintaining Shared Responsibility  
for All of Our Kids, Lakehead District School Board/Room-New York

2:00 p.m.                    **PLENARY SESSION** (*International Ballroom*)  
*Collaboration and Partnerships - Where we are and where we want to be*

Sandra Bickford  
Director, Student Success Policy Branch, Ministry of Education

Hélène Grégoire  
Manager, French-Language Continued Learning Unit, French-Language  
Education Policy and Programs Branch, Ministry of Education and  
Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities

2:50 p.m. **CLOSING REMARKS** -The Honourable Liz Sandals

Minister of Education

**Keynote Address – Irwin Elman**      **Presenter:** Irwin Elman, Provincial Advocate for  
Children and Youth of Ontario

### **Student Panel – Feathers of Hope**

The panel speakers will include Laura Arndt, Director Advocacy Services, PACY and the youth serving as Youth Amplifiers. Details to follow.

**Moderator:** Laura Arndt, Director Advocacy Services, Lead for Feathers of Hope Initiative

### **Workshops in Alphabetical Order of Title**

- **Community Connected Experiential Learning Consultation**

The Ministry of Education is expanding experiential learning to provide students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 with a broader range of learning opportunities that are “connected to the community.” This is learning that takes place both inside and outside the classroom, and in partnership with local, national and international community organizations and businesses. The draft document Community-Connected Experiential Learning. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in a consultation about the future of experiential learning.

**Presenters: Melissa Nantais, Education Officer; and Audrey Cartile, Manager, Student Success Policy Branch, Ministry of Education**

▪ **“Got Collaboration?” Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) from Creation to Implementation**

The Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) offers an opportunity for optimizing communication and collaboration between educators and CAS personnel, to support the best outcomes for children and youth in care.....but existence of a protocol by itself won't make the difference; IMPLEMENTATION will! This presentation will describe the essential pieces of the collaboration puzzle that helped build and strengthen relationships as JPSAs were created, approved and shared with those involved in supporting children and youth in care.

**Presenter: Toni Nanne-Little, former educator and current JPSA facilitator for Sudbury-Manitoulin, North Bay-Parry Sound, and Algoma regions**

▪ **Innovative Education Programs in French School Boards**

French-language boards that have participated in the innovative education program initiative will discuss the design of their programs, the obstacles they faced and the lessons learned and results achieved after three years, as well as the supports they offer to elementary school students. French-language boards will then have an opportunity to discuss their specific environment and issues and to share best practices and resources. This workshop will be conducted in French.

**Presenters: Program leaders from Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO) and Centre d'apprentissage du Nord de l'Ontario (CANO), Geneviève Brouyaux, Education Officer, Ministry of Education.**

▪ **Nu Steel and Youth and Expecting Parent Programs, Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care**

Hamilton Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) has created educational environments through project based-learning programs that have shown success in re-engaging and retaining in-risk students. Key learnings will be shared through the lens of two creative programs offered at HWDSB, the Young and Expecting Parent Program and Nu Steel, regarding:

- positive impact this type of programming is having on student wellbeing, achievement and school attendance;
- the benefits of embedding multiple course curriculum into one integrated program;

- assessing and evaluating work through triangulation of data using products, conversations and observations;
- enhancing programs through community partnerships;
- managing challenges with regards to funding these programs.

**Presenters: Michelle Gibson and Matt McInnis, Nu Steel; and Cassandra Dockery, Young and Expecting Parent Program, Hamilton Wentworth District School Board**

▪ **Ontario’s Well-Being Strategy for Education**

Building on the renewed goals in *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario*, the Ministry of Education has recently released Ontario’s Well-Being Strategy for Education. Elevating well-being as a goal for education recognizes its fundamental importance to our learners and their futures. This workshop will explore the Well-Being Strategy, including discussing the key factors that promote and support well-being, and how we can measure progress.

**Presenter: Christopher Kotz, Senior Policy Coordinator, Safe Schools and Student Well-Being Branch, Ministry of Education**

▪ **Provincial Data-Collection**

This presentation will provide an overview of the strategy for the province-wide collection and reporting of aggregate achievement data on Crown and society wards which includes data sharing agreements between the Ministry of Education and Children’s Aid Societies.

**Presenter: Claire Corinthos, Senior Manager, Data Collections & Acquisitions Unit, Education Statistics and Analysis Branch, Ministry of Education.**

▪ **Summer JK/SK School Readiness and Transition to School Project, Innovative Education Program for Children and Youth In Care**

The workshop is an overview of the Transition to School collaborative project that Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC) undertook last summer in partnership with the Near North District School Board, Children’s Aid Society of Nipissing Parry Sound Muskoka, and One Kids Place Treatment Centre.

The presentation will highlight the pilot design, challenges and successes related to improving outcomes for our early learners as they enter kindergarten. Over an eight week program children gained self-regulation skills as taught through the lens of our board-wide

Tools for Life social emotional learning program. The children were also exposed to a typical school day, including transportation via bus, in an effort to improve their ability to transition into a successful year of junior kindergarten or to teach lagging skills that interrupted their junior kindergarten year.

**Presenters: Trish Tessier, System Student Success Team, Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board; and Dr. Mike Parr, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education, Schulich School of Education**

▪ **The Ogden Way: Creating and Maintaining Shared Responsibility for All of Our Kids**

The Ogden Way is the story of the journey a small, elementary school in an impoverished and marginalized area of Thunder Bay took to support their students' mental health, well-being, and achievement. What began as a Ministry supported Teachers' Leadership and Learning Project (TLLP) to investigate trauma and its effects on students, community and achievement, grew into a supportive community building culture based on relationships. Relationship Based Education at Ogden has yielded significant results in reducing behaviours, creating a truly inclusive equitable culture, supporting students' well-being and achievement and building a strong community hub. The practices, research, and pedagogy developed at Ogden has continued and offers insight into how we might achieve the well-being, achievement, and community goals for education in Ontario.

**Presenter: Christy L. Radbourne, Principal, Ogden Community School, Lakehead District School Board**

▪ **Trauma Informed Care**

Culturally competent practices that address the unique needs of Indigenous people are key to improving outcomes across the range of social determinants of health. This workshop will assist participants in acquiring historical and cultural information in order to enhance the quality of consultation and engagement with Indigenous people, organizations, and communities. Throughout the session participants have the opportunity to build a shared understanding of historic trauma, contemporary priorities, holistic healing, and the importance of using a trauma-informed lens to infuse cultural competencies throughout organizational practices.

**Presenter: Maya Chacaby, Senior Researcher, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)**

- **Mindful or Mind Full?**

This workshop will provide participants with an introduction to mindfulness meditation. Participants will understand how the practice of mindfulness can decrease personal and student stress, while increasing attention, learning, and compassion. The workshop will include experiential exercises, opportunities for discussion, an overview of the relevant research and suggestions for incorporating mindfulness into daily school life.

**Presenter: Carmen Maggisano, Certified Professional CoActive Coach (CPCC) and Advisory Committee member of the Education Stream, Applied Mindfulness Certificate Program, Factor Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto.**

- **School meets summer camp** for four, five and six year olds! For three weeks in 2015, these students in care engaged in socio-emotional learning, literacy and numeracy activities, and recreational activities. We found that our students improved in their academics and were taught socio emotional strategies through Sunshine Circles, mindfulness, music therapy and art therapy. Learn about our planning, our program, our findings, and the feedback from all involved in addition to our 2016 planning. The GECDsB are proud to work with colleagues from the Windsor Essex Children's Aid Society and the Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare Regional Children's Centre.

**Presenter: Dr. Sharon Pyke, Supervisory Officer and Educator, Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDsB)**

## **PLENARY SESSION**

### **Collaboration and Partnerships - Where we are and where we want to be**

This plenary session is designed to facilitate table discussions and brainstorming around what we, in the education and child protection sectors together, want our collective impact to be and how to achieve it.

**Facilitators: Sandra Bickford, Director Student Success Policy Branch, Ministry of Education; and H el ene Gr egoire, Manager, French-Language Continued Learning Unit,**

## **French-Language Education Policy and Programs Branch, Ministries of Education and Training Colleges and Universities.**

### **Keynote Biography: Irwin Elman, Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth of Ontario**

Irwin Elman holds an extensive background as an educator, counsellor, youth worker, program manager, policy developer and child and youth advocate. In working with young people in our systems of care, he has carried out these roles with respect — borrowing from the courage and hope of the young people he served to create innovative approaches for youth in Ontario, Jamaica, Hungary, and Japan.

For over 20 years, Irwin was the Manager of the Pape Adolescent Resource Centre in Toronto, a program of the Children's Aid Society of Toronto and the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto. Later, he was the Director of Client Service at Central Toronto Youth Services, an innovative children's mental health centre.

As Ontario's first independent Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth Irwin works to partner with children and youth in elevating their voices to create positive change. He is building an Office that has its foundation rooted in the strength and wisdom of the children and youth it serves, an Office driven by the efforts of talented and passionate staff who, every day, strive to improve the lives of children and youth in Ontario.

### **The Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth**

The "Advocate's Office" is an independent voice for Ontario's children and youth who are either "in care" or on the margins of government care. Reporting directly to the Legislature, the Provincial Advocate partners with children and youth to elevate their voices and promote action on their issues.

The children and youth who fall within the mandate of the Advocate's Office include those who are seeking or receiving services from the children's services sector in areas such as child welfare, youth justice, children's mental health, developmental services and children's treatment services. The jurisdiction of the Office also includes students of the provincial and

demonstration schools, youth in court holding cells or being transported to and from court holding cells, First Nations children and youth, and children and youth with special needs.

The Provincial Advocate derives authority from the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth Act, 2007. In response to a request, a complaint, or on its own initiative, the Provincial Advocate acts on behalf of concerns of individuals or groups of children or youth and can undertake reviews, make recommendations, and provide advice to governments, facilities, systems, agencies, or service providers. Guided by the principles of the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the right to be heard, the Provincial Advocate strives to be a model of meaningful child and youth participation in every aspect of its work.