



Welcome to the RSEKN Official Launch!

On behalf of our team, our school board and community partners, and the Hillcrest High School community, we would like to welcome you to unceded ancestral Anishinaabe territories of the Algonquin (Omaamiwininii) First Nations People. Welcome to the RSEKN Official Launch!

The Réseau de Savoir sur l'Équité | Equity Knowledge Network (RSEKN), hosted by the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Education and the Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services (CRECS), is a bilingual province-wide knowledge network that seeks to create, support, and mobilize educational resources that promise to challenge and disrupt the current systemic barriers, discrimination, and inequities that several marginalized communities continue to experience at school.

The launch of RSEKN also represents an opportunity for us to make a difference in the lives of students, families, teacher candidates, teachers, educators, researchers, administrators, school board personnel, policy makers, professional associations and community groups.

We would like to offer a special thanks to all our amazing local and provincial partners for helping us to facilitate the launch. Together, we will continue promoting equity and diversity as a priority in our schools and communities. We look forward to your participation and involvement during this groundbreaking day!

Noor El-Husseini, M.Ed.,
Coordonateur de Réseau / Network Coordinator
Réseau de Savoir sur l'Équité | Equity Knowledge Network (RSEKN)
rsekn@uottawa.ca
[@KNAER_RSEKN](https://twitter.com/KNAER_RSEKN)

Hosted at the Hillcrest High School
1900 Dauphin Rd, Ottawa, ON K1G 2L7
Wednesday, November 15th, 2017

Agenda:

8:30-9:00am	Registration
9:00-9:50am	Welcome
9:50-10:45am	Keynote Speaker
10:45-11:00am	Break
11:00-12:15pm	Workshop Session 1
12:15-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00-2:15pm	Workshop Session 2
2:15-2:30pm	Break
2:30-3:00pm	Large Group Discussion
3:00-3:30pm	Evaluation Activity

Taking up
diversity, equity, and
inclusive education
[@KNAER_RSEKN](https://twitter.com/KNAER_RSEKN)
[#RSEKNLaunch](https://twitter.com/RSEKNLaunch)

Lead Associate Teacher Day Workshop Program: Ta

8:30-9:00AM REGISTRATION

9:00-9:50AM WELCOME

9:00-9:15am	Verna Mcgregor, Algonquin Elder Kitigan Zibi
9:15-9:20am	Geordie Walker Hillcrest Principal
9:20-9:25	André Samson Vice-Dean Faculty of Education uOttawa
9:25-9:40am	Richard Franz Assistant Deputy Minister

POETIC INTERLUDE: Keri Cheechoo is a Cree woman from Long Lake #58 First Nation. Her arts-based autobiographical research seeks to situate and complicate her identity as an Indigenous woman, and how it intersects with themes such as -but not limited to- colonization, racism, reconciliation, and resurgence.



9:40-9:50am	Ruth Kane RSEKN Co-Director
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9:50-10:45AM KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Inclusive Schooling/ Equitable Education: Attending to the Well-being of Students

Using the framework of equity – as opposed to equality – this presentation will explore how, given the growing diversity of today's students' population, we might cultivate an inclusive schooling culture that is responsive to the experiences, needs, interests, expectations and aspirations of students and their parents. It will examine of the ways in which educational policies, programs and practices account for the persistence of inequities which operate to disadvantage marginalized students. And, it will offer approaches to schooling that might address the disengagement, under-achievements, and well-being students.

Dr. Carl James, Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community and Diaspora, Faculty of Education, York University

POETIC INTERLUDE: Noor is a multilingual poet, nomadic traveler, and social justice advocate. Her topics range from love and the power of connection and compassion to human suffering, alienation and existentialism. Her passion lies in inspiring and empowering



marginalized and disenfranchised persons and groups to find non-violent ways to resist their own oppression.

10:45-11:00AM BREAK

11:00-12:15PM WORKSHOP SESSION 1

Session 1: Workshops for Teachers and Teacher Candidates

Youth Strategy Collaborative: The Making of a Community of Practice [Room B-028]

Darlene Ciuffetelli Parker, Professor, Brock University, Jim Markovski, Superintendent, DDSB, Deb Oglivie, Coordinator of Community Partners, NPRN, NCDSB

This workshop will illuminate the ways in which ongoing research in two school systems developed into a larger collaborative and community of practice. Bringing together leadership representatives from a university setting, a school system, and a coordinator of community partnerships, the workshop will detail the workings of the youth strategy collaborative from its foregrounding research beginnings, to its current ongoing and larger community mission and planning in the development of an interactive and practice-based human rights youth strategy that focuses on systemic barriers, including but not limited to areas of: equity, socio-economic marginalization, racialization, and well-being in school settings.

What's Eminem Got To Do with It: A Hip-Hop Who? Pedagogy? [Room B-031]

Awad Ibrahim, Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa

Do you know what Hip-Hop is? Do you know how to engage it in a classroom/school context? If your answer is, "Ahhh ... 'm not sho," then you need to come to this workshop. With a heavy dose of history of Hip-Hop, this interactive workshop will give teachers and teacher educators concrete units and lesson plans on how to engage Hip-Hop. WORD!

Inclusion Promotes the Well-Being of ALL Students [Room B-033]

Jacqueline Specht, Professor, Western University

The foundation of inclusive education is a belief that ALL students belong and are valued members of their classroom and neighbourhood school communities. The purpose of inclusion is to create a better quality of life for all of our students – to bring them to a society that accepts difference. When students are segregated, the opportunity to interact with a broad range of difference and interest and understanding is lost. This workshop will focus on the research surrounding the belonging and valuing all students and present some practical strategies for achieving successful inclusion.

Understanding Gender Identity & Gender Expression [Room B-034]

Carol Ann Burrows, Ottawa Carleton District School Board. Kaeden Seburn, OCDSB Alumnus, Student & Community Leader

This interactive space welcomes K-12 educators committed to learning and well-being for all students. Join our ongoing conversation designed to engage learning about the diversity of gender identity and gender expression. Educators play an essential role supporting gender diverse children and youth socially transitioning in school and in the community. We will touch upon basic terminology, human rights protections, the spectrum of gender fluidity and gender expression, classroom and community resources.

Education for Reconciliation [Auditorium]

Marc St-Denis, Reconciliation and Research Coordinator, First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada

Reconciliation in Canada requires more than symbolic gestures, but concrete action to end systemic discrimination and make sure First Nations children and families are treated fairly. Marc St. Dennis from the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society will discuss creative ways to engage children and youth in meaningful reconciliation activities. PLUS learn about free reconciliation-based resources and events!

king up Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Education

Session 1: Workshops for Students

Constellations of Gender: Charting Experiences Through the Gender Continuum [Room B-035]

anya gwynne Rainbow Youth @PARN (Peterborough AIDS Resource Network)

This workshop starts with an interactive discussion around the concepts and limitations of gender as a construct. We will then kinesthetically explore what these stereotypes feel like in our bodies, plotting ourselves on the gender continuum. Finally, we will create “charts” that examine our own experience of gender, what others expect of us based on our assigned sex and where/how/if this intersects with the genders we are attracted to. Participants are encouraged to allow for narrative to guide the making of their personalized chart as we look at the layers that make this a much more complex question than “Are you a Boy or Girl?”

The Youth Speakers -Allies for Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice [Room B-039]

Danielle Fontaine, OCDSB, Daxton Rhead, Grade 12 and Henry Morris, Grade 11

We are a group of student activists from Ottawa who seek to end racial discrimination. We support Shannen’s Dream (inequities in education and lack of schools), Jordan’s Principle (Fair equal access to public services), and The “I am a Witness” campaign (inequitable funding and treatment in the child welfare system). We support First Nations children and communities in Canada to achieve equity with other Canadian children. Our workshops focus on Canada’s “hidden” history and how we as allies can move towards reconciliation and justice by teaching others.

Our Name is Mud: Being Cree [Room B-040]

Keri Cheechoo, Ph.D. Candidate, Faculty of Education uOttawa, Patrick Cheechoo, a Cree Artist from Constance Lake First Nation, who is currently enjoying his tenure at the Native Women’s Association of Canada as the Director of Operations.

This workshop will involve learning about FNMI identities, with a focus on what being Cree means to us as Cree artists. Come learn about art from an Indigenous perspective AND try your hand at sketching your very own creation. Oh yeah! Are

you wondering why our name is mud? Well – you’ll have to attend our workshop to find out!

12:15-1:00PM LUNCH

1:00-2:15PM WORKSHOP SESSION 2

Session 2 Workshops for Teachers and Teacher Candidates

Are we really doing DI? Planning for the Inclusion of Students with Exceptionalities through UDL and Differentiated Instruction Room [B-028]

Jess Whitley, Suzanne Gooderham, Carol Windmill, Michael Fairbrother, Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa

In this workshop, participants will explore practical approaches to planning for and teaching diverse classes, including Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction. We will also unpack the perspectives of teachers about DI – what it is and who it is for. Participants will be encouraged to share their background knowledge and experience and to contribute to discussion and group inquiry.

Understanding the Intergenerational Impacts of Trauma [Room B-031]

Romaine Mitchell, Education Officer, Ontario Ministry of Education in the Indigenous Education Office.

Participants will be guided through the historical aspects of residential schooling in Canada from an Indigenous perspective. Romaine has experienced residential schooling impacts in his lived experiences in a First Nation community. The workshop participants will have opportunities to engage in dialogue on the issue of trauma and how intergenerational trauma affects schools, communities, and people in public school systems today.

Breaking Down Barriers to Foster Learning and Well-Being in a VUCA World [Room B-033]

Jacqueline Lawrence, Ottawa Carleton District School Board

As the largest school board in the eastern Ontario region, equity and inclusion are at the heart of the OCDSB’s commitment to serve 70,000 students and 7,000 staff. Our journey has taught us that the key to unleashing potential

and harnessing possibilities of our students and staff is to understand, acknowledge, value and leverage differences of thought, experience, strength and perspective. This lesson is an important one as we navigate the VUCA world which can be volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous. Increasingly, our diversity, equity and inclusion strategies and priorities are guiding us to generate creative and innovative ways to fulfill our mission to educate for success, inspire learning and build citizenship through the other lens of the VUCA world: vision, understanding, clarity, and agility.

Developing Strategies for Antiracist Education [Room B-034]

Tim Stanley, Professor University of Ottawa
The workshop will assist participants in identifying racisms and understanding their effects. It will also identify starting points for developing antiracist approaches. It presents an analysis of racisms as being of many different kinds, each involving racialization (the social imaging of fixed differences), exclusion and consequence. Through a series of case studies, it then looks at how to develop antiracist responses around each of the elements.

Session 2: Workshops for Students

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Lead Associate Teacher Day Workshop Program

Taking up Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Education

Youth Ottawa's DILA program, Deep Learning through Civic Action [Room B-039]

Olivia Sellier, DILA Coordinator

Passionate about student-centred learning and 21st century skill development? Youth Ottawa's 8 visit program is an exciting opportunity to empower your students while learning how to decentralize teaching and learning. Youth Ottawa believes that youth can make positive changes in their communities right NOW. DILA stands for 'Day of Information for a Lifetime of Action'. In line with the Grade 10 curriculum, this program is delivered in a diversity of classes reaching over 5,000 students per year in OCDSB and OCSB schools.

Our Name is Mud: Being Cree [Room B-40]

Keri Cheechoo, Ph.D. Candidate, Faculty of Education, uOttawa, Patrick Cheechoo, a Cree Artist from Constance Lake First Nation, who is currently enjoying his tenure at the Native Women's Association of Canada as the Director of Operations.

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2:15-2:30PM BREAK

2:30-3:00PM LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

POETIC INTERLUDE Originally from the flat oasis of Northern Alberta, Blue is an Ottawa-based poet with a thing or two to say about social alienation and inclusivity. Blue is proud to have represented Ottawa on four national stages and carries their penchant for positivity and high quality skincare products with them everywhere. On the topic of poetry, Blue's only reply is "Poetry is gay, and so am I."



POETIC INTERLUDE Jamaal Jackson Rogers is an award winning Poet Laureate, arts educator, creative entrepreneur, and performance artist. He makes intimate connections with participants during performance sets on topics from emotional maturity to social justice, from parenting to the human condition. He resides in Ottawa, Canada, using the capital and his performance studio, THE ORIGIN ARTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE as his launch pad to teach, mentor and advocate for the arts.



3:00-3:15PM EVALUATION ACTIVITY

<https://goo.gl/y6yEMT>

Important Note: The RSEKN Launch and all activities related to the RSEKN Launch will involve photography, filming and media presence that may be used on the RSEKN website and various social media accounts. By attending and participating in the RSEKN launch and activities, you accept and understand that it is your responsibility to indicate if you refuse being filmed or photographed.



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