

Christian Deeper Learning

A Pre-Conference Event Facilitated by
the CSC Standing Committee of Learning



September 21, 2016
at the Banff Centre
from 11:00 to 5:00

Christian Schools Canada's Standing Committee of Learning invites all conference attendees to participate in a ***Celebration of Christian Deeper Learning*** on the day before the CSC conference. Building on engagements in previous years in Boston and Chicago, the CSC conference this fall in Banff is a perfect time and place to host the next ***Christian Deeper Learning*** gathering.

We will use structured protocols to examine and celebrate our learning in action. Attendees are urged to come with resources that illustrate the shifts in education we are discussing. By the end of the day, all attendees will have had a chance to examine the best educational practices from across Christian Schools Canada, to hear from leaders responsible for those innovative designs, and to support each other in bringing one or more of those innovations back to their own schools.

Fee: 75.00 per attendee (includes lunch)

Register: www.eventbrite.ca/e/christian-deeper-learning-tickets-26153963208

The Backstory

Education reform has been a hot topic in Canada and beyond for many years. Given the deluge of information and content that is at anyone's fingertips, what should a teacher teach? And, just as importantly, how should a teacher teach? As Jamie Smith highlighted at our last Christian Schools Canada convention, we are not just "brains on a stick."

As part of this education reform movement, a number of leading organizations in education formed a movement known as ***Deeper Learning***. Some schools and leaders affiliated with Christian Schools Canada have participated in these conversations and many of us are committed to this shift in education.

Some might argue that it isn't a shift at all. For decades we have had meaningful discussions about what Christ-centred education for responsive discipleship and wisdom can look like. At the core of this discussion is our desire for the children of our schools to flourish. We want them to experience Christ's love, to understand the times, and with hope and competence find their purpose and place in God's unfolding story of the universe revealed through both Scripture and creation.

Christian Schools Canada



A Celebration of Learning is much more than just a conversation. It is a sharing of beautiful work. Together, we'll create a gallery of our schools' learning designs in action. Throughout the day, we'll examine each other's designs for Christian Deeper Learning in the following areas:

The Shift in Student Learning:	What's in the Gallery?
From scheduling isolated <i>subjects</i> to integrating <i>blocks</i> of time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily/weekly schedules • Integrated block course designs
From <i>units</i> to <i>FLExes, projects, expeditions...</i> including a shift: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from <i>field trips</i> to <i>fieldwork</i> • from <i>compliance</i> to <i>engagement</i> • from <i>grade acquisition</i> to <i>authentic purpose</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project posters • Beautiful student work • Special emphasis projects • Celebrations of Learning brochures • Learning protocols
The Shift in Professional Learning:	What's in the Gallery?
From passive ProD to active design academies and residencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residency planning tools and schedules • Year-long ProD initiatives
From a few <i>isolated</i> teachers to full staffs committed to deeper learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Learning Work Plans • Professional coaching structures • Learning protocols
The Shift in Learning Spaces	What's in the Gallery?
From <i>factory model</i> buildings to <i>innovative multi-use learning spaces</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building designs • Furniture • School as <i>base camp</i>: getting out of the building • Case study of the actual Banff Centre? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School architectural drawings • The gallery itself: <i>The Banff Learning Centre</i>
<p>In each of the topics above, participants will have a chance to post their designs in the gallery, and we'll use structured protocols to examine the contributions of other schools.</p> <p>As a theme running throughout would be these three questions for us to ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What leadership action led to this specific example of deeper learning to be realized?" • What clarifying questions do I need to ask to understand it more fully? • What learning designs do I want to copy, combine, or transform for my own school or district? • Who can I connect with more deeply in my network of innovative Christian schools? 	

Questions? Contact any Standing Committee of Learning member for support and clarification:

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