

Volume 1 | Issue 1
Fall 2017



TEACHERS of
Inclusive Education
British Columbia



- tiebcpublication@gmail.com
- <http://www.tiebc.com>

TIE- BC President's Report

With the arrival of daylight savings time, winter seems just around the corner. I hope everyone is taking steps to stay healthy as the days get shorter. There is so much information out there that points to the importance of teachers maintaining their health in order to manage healthy learning environments. Attending sessions by Gabor Mate and Gordon Neufeld at the PSA Superconference reminded me of the importance of relationship building and staying focused on providing support for our diverse population of learners.

In keeping with the idea of relationship building, this year the TIE-BC executive has chosen Kim Barthel as the keynote speaker for our annual Crosscurrents conference. Kim will be speaking on Trauma informed practice: Relationships matter. The significance that trauma has on the brain, on relationships and on learning will be explored. Kim will focus on the science behind behavior, stress, regulation and learning. As teachers we are in a position to support our students learning and help them in other aspects of their lives. Understanding how trauma impacts our students and learning about effective strategies will give us valuable information.

The Crosscurrents conference will be held on February 22 and 23, 2018 at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond BC. There are many other speakers including Terry Small, Leyton Schnellert, Kristin Wiens and Colleen Politano. They will be addressing a variety of topics such as neuroscience, sensory issues, behaviours and relationships, ADST and technology and learning strategies. The link will take you to our brochure where you can learn more and connect to the registration. <http://www.tiebcbrochure.com/>. I look forward to seeing you at Crosscurrents.

TIE-BC also participated in the PSA Superconference. What an amazing conference it was. We sponsored workshops by Kristin Buhr on Anxiety, Kristin



Debra, Bethany and Kirsten



Bethany and Kirsten Weins

and Bethany Wiens on Mindset in the classroom and Colleen Politano on self-regulation. The keynote speakers we were involved with were Gabor Mate, Gordon Neufeld, Shelley Moore and Leyton Schnellert. There were so many topics to choose from! Listening to Gabor Mate and Gordon Neufeld, experienced presenters that I have heard speak for over 20 years, reaffirmed for me the importance of the work we do as educators. Check out their websites for more resources. <http://neufeldinstitute.org/> <https://drgabormate.com/>

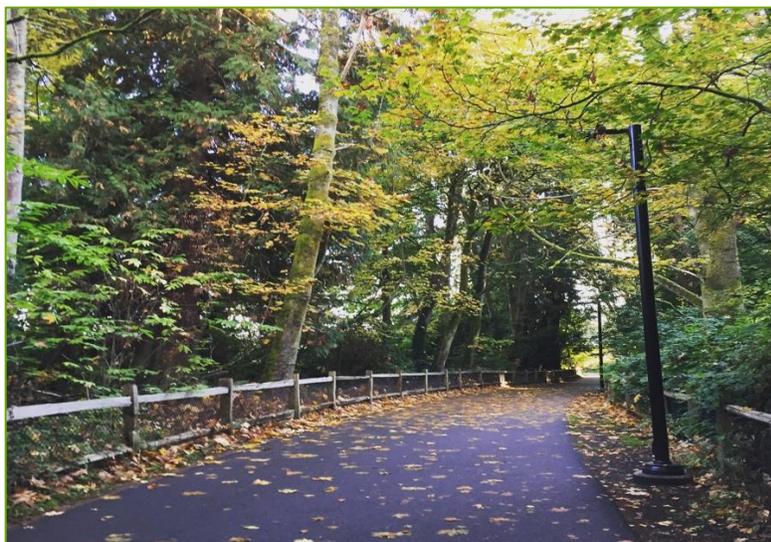
The Superconference planning committee did an outstanding job of organizing this large conference. Hours of volunteer time went into this endeavor. I want to thank everyone who was involved, especially Graham Rainey, Heather Daly, Greg Van Vugt, Paula Aquino and Sophie Bergeron. There were others who shared in the efforts to make the Superconference a huge success. I really enjoyed the social at Science World and dancing to Delhi to Dublin too. Tie-BC offers other forms of professional development for members. If chapters want to hold a conference or other event, please email me to learn more about what funding is available. Check out the bookstudy options Sarah Brooks is offering at <http://tiebcmembers.edublogs.org/>.

As we cruise towards winter break, I want to thank you for all you do to support your students, especially those with diverse learning needs. Take care of yourselves so you can care for others.

Warm Regards

Debra Swain

TIE-BC president





*Delhi to Dublin at
Telus Science World*

Super Conference 2017

This Provincial Specialist's Professional Development Day I had the opportunity to be a volunteer at the Super Conference. This sold out professional development opportunity was such an incredible two days of learning, networking and socializing! I was able to hear Gayle Bailey, president of LATA, speak on the ABCs of Reading and learned what to watch for and where to go with my struggling readers. I had the pleasure of listening to Dr. Kristin Buhr discuss the different forms of anxiety and some approaches to take with the anxious students in my life. I was also given the opportunity to hear Dr. Gordon Neufeld talk about how to help children flourish, something that is very important to me not only as a teacher, but also as a mother of two wonderful boys. Saturday morning was chalk-full of strategies given by Faye Brownlie, many of which I look forward to trying out with my groups on Monday morning!

Friday night the Super Conference committee had planned a wonderful social event at Telus World of Science. The evening was so much fun! Great food, great entertainment by Delhi to Dublin, great company and of course an opportunity to play with all of the wonderful exhibits made for an excellent end to a very busy day of learning.

The huge number of exhibitors rounded out the weekend. I was able to learn about 3D printing from the exhibitors at Tinkerine U-I even got a really neat 3D printed, working whistle! I got to network with an exhibitor at the Classroom Garden booth and got more information about the robots our school has purchase at the Spectrum and Robotix Education booths. There was really something there for everyone.

A huge thank you goes out to the Super Conference Committee for making such a wonder opportunity for all to learn!

Sarah Brooks

The 43rd Cross Currents Conference

Feb 22 - 23, 2018

Richmond, BC

<http://www.tiebcbrochure.com>

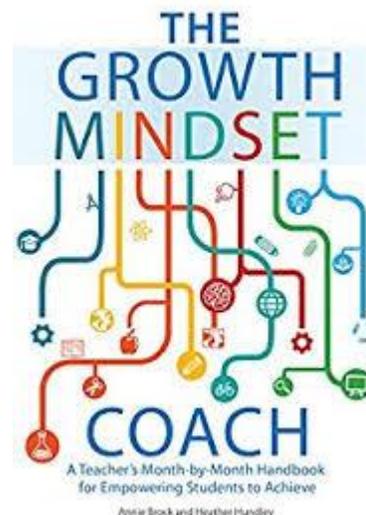
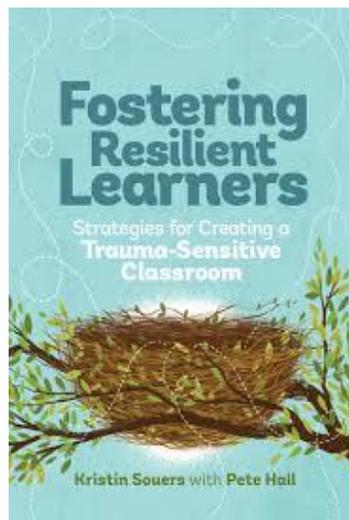


We have a wonderful line-up of speakers. Kim Barthel, our keynote speaker, will be talking about working with students with trauma. Returning speakers, Colleen Pollitano and Leyton Schnellert, will be sharing information on self-regulation. There will be sessions on everything from reading, to technology, self-regulation to growth mindsets. There will be something for everyone! Registration is open.

Book Study

This year, TIE-BC has been offering two book studies. The first book, Growth Mindset Coach by Annie Brock and Heather Hundley, began on August 15th and posts are added monthly in accordance with the structure of the book. This wonderful book takes readers on a journey through teaching students about growth mindset, challenging teachers to also develop or further develop their own growth mindsets. The second book, Fostering Resilient Learners: Strategies for a Trauma Sensitive Classroom by Kristin Souers, gives readers an understanding of the prevalence of trauma in today's schools. It discusses the challenges of working with students who have experienced trauma and gives many strategies for how to work with these students. Another important concept Fostering Resilient Learners discusses is that of self-care and how crucial it is to take care of one's self, especially when working in a field of caring for others.

To become a part of these or future book studies, please contact the Professional Learning Coordinator, Sarah Brooks (tiebcmembers@gmail.com)



Gregg Loo, M.A.,
R.C.C. Clinical
Supervisor, Child and
Youth Mental Health
teaching us about
Trauma.

President's Day

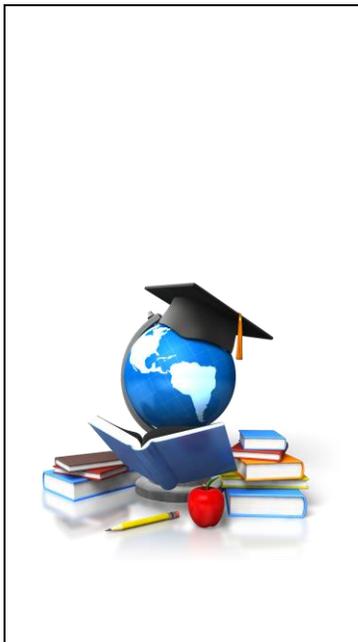
This year's Chapter President's Day was December 1, 2017. We had some great events. There was a welcoming of members, discussions around LSAs, and a Presentation on Trauma by Gregg Loo M.A., R.C.C. Clinical Supervisor, Child and Youth Mental Health speaking about the basics of trauma, recognizing signs of trauma, strategies and conversation time. Then we had time to collaborate about Curriculum Implementation. Thanks to Sarah for all her organizing of the great day!



The TIEBC executive and Presidents of LSA's altogether.



Collaboration time



Teachers of Inclusive Education British Columbia (TIE-BC)

Professional Development Scholarship

The Inclusive Education Professional Scholarship was developed to promote the specialist training of practicing teachers currently working in the field. Two \$1000 scholarships will be available each year for someone enrolled in inclusive/special education courses. The awards will be for attendance in a course(s) taken in a semester, summer session, or intercession during the year dated from July 1st to June 30th.

Rationale:

- to increase the pool of qualified inclusive/special education teachers
- for teachers who wish to upgrade and/or increase their qualifications in the field of inclusive/special education
- to assist practicing teachers who are returning to university
- to assist regular education teachers who in the process of changing their teaching component or specialty to inclusive/special education

Criteria for Selection:

The applicant must:

- a. be currently enrolled in diploma, or graduate level courses in inclusive/special education at a university.
- b. be a member of BCTF; preference will be given to a member of TIE-BC
- c. be a practicing teacher in a B.C. public school
- d. submit a letter detailing:
 - program of study
 - current teaching position
 - personal experience which demonstrates interest in and commitment to working with children with diverse needs.
 - future goals related to working in the field of inclusive/special education.
 - relevance of course work to achieving future goals.
- e. submit a letter of support from an instructor of inclusive/special education course.
- f. submit all documents to the TIE-BC President by **January 5th** of the year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

TIE-BC Executive Committee members are not eligible for this award during their term of office

Contact: TIE-BC
President
Email:
tiebcpresident@gmail.com

Nominations must be received by e-mail by the **January 5th** closure date. Late nominations will not be considered.

* In 2016, the Special Education Association of British Columbia (SEA) was renamed Teachers of Inclusive Education British Columbia (TIE-BC) to reflect changing attitudes and language related to our profession.

Marg Csapo Student Scholarship



The Marg Csapo Student Scholarship was established to honour Marg Csapo, a long-standing Special Education Association* (SEA) executive member, to recognize her accomplishments in special education as a faculty member with the University of British Columbia and as editor of the BC Journal of Special Education. The \$2000 scholarship may be presented at the annual TIE-BC Crosscurrents Conference to a student or teacher taking training at a senior level in special / inclusive education at a university in British Columbia.

Criteria for Selection:

The applicant must:

- a. be currently enrolled in 4th year, 5th year, or graduate level courses in special education at a university in British Columbia.
- b. submit a letter detailing:
 - personal experience which demonstrates interest in and commitment to working with children with special needs.
 - future goals related to working in the field of special education.
 - relevance of course work to achieving future goals.
- c. submit letter(s) of support verifying exceptional performance from one or more of the following:
 - a school-based sponsor teacher
 - school district administrator of special education
 - a professor of special education
- d. submit all documents to the TIE-BC President by **January 5th** of the year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

Contact: TIE-BC
President
Email:
tiebcpresident@g
mail.com

Nominations must be received by e-mail by the **January 5th** closure date. Late nominations will not be considered.

TIE-BC Executive Committee members are not eligible for this award during their term of office.

Contact: TIE-BC President
Email: tiebcpresident@gmail.com

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Teachers of Inclusive Education British Columbia (TIE-BC)*

Student Scholarships

The goal of these scholarships is to help BC public school students with Ministry of Education designations achieve their dreams of higher education.

Value: \$500

Number of awards: 4

Application Deadline: June 1st

Successful applicants must:

- have attended a BC public school;
- have a Ministry of Education designation and experience challenges that can impede academic success; and
- be entering or be enrolled in a full-time post-secondary program at a recognized Canadian institution.

Contact: TIE-BC
President
Email:
tiebcpresident@g
mail.com

Application procedures:

Submit the following documents:

- a letter from your high school case manager (Special/Inclusive Education teacher) confirming your Ministry designation;
- a short essay outlining academic and/or financial challenges and post-secondary goals; and
- a copy of your letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution.

Scholarship winners will be chosen by committee and scholarships will be granted based on a combination of factors such as challenges faced, financial need, community involvement, academic excellence and/or career objectives.

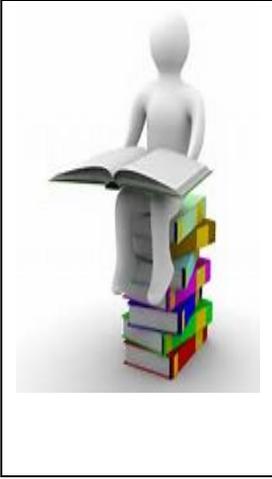
Please submit applications to the President of the Teachers of Inclusive Education British Columbia tiebcpresident@gmail.com

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TIEBC Newsletter Article

Anne Hales, Senior Researcher, BCTF (November 29, 2017)



TITLE: Exploring the professional development of specialist educators in BC

Recent media coverage of the current BC teacher shortage has brought particular focus on inclusive education in our public school system. There has been much discussion (and public debate) about what inclusive education actually looks like, the types of work specialist teachers do and how to best address the complex range of supports students need. In Spring 2017, the BCTF Research Division and Professional and Social Issues Division (PSID) launched a research project to document the experiences of new (and new to role) specialist educators. In particular, the project is documenting the teacher education, work experiences and professional development available to new(er) specialist teachers as they navigate the complex world of inclusive education models and practices.

BACKGROUND

In November 2016, the BCTF successfully challenged government interventions in public education governance when the Supreme Court of Canada (SCOC) ended a fourteen-year legal battle with the Province of British Columbia. The SCOC ruled that the Province had violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms when it legislated the removal of class size and composition protections from collective agreements in a compromised bargaining process.

An unexpectedly swift and rare ruling ‘from the bench’ led to the rapid negotiation of a “memorandum of agreement” by January 2017, which required immediate restoration of lower class sizes and specialist teacher/student ratios with the promise of approximately one thousand new teaching positions by the end of the 2016-17 school year.

In anticipation of increased staffing and potential specialist teacher shortages, the BCTF Research Department launched an action research project in collaboration with TIEBC, with the aim of documenting 1) teachers’ lived experiences of inclusive education and 2) their perspectives on professional development.

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

To date, the research team has completed focus groups and individual interviews with teachers across numerous districts in BC, representing urban and rural teaching communities, a range of public elementary and secondary schools, and diverse teaching conditions and roles. The focus groups and interviews were facilitated by TIEBC executive committee leads and/or a BCTF Senior Researcher.



Getting to know your Executive 2017-18

Where they work, what kinds of jobs they do, experience and interests:



Debra Swain

President

4 years on the Executive of TIEBC

SD61- Greater Victoria

Reading Recovery and Learning Support Teacher

30 years of teaching experience

Interested in swimming, gardening, and working with teachers



Cindy Blackmore

Treasurer

6 years on the Executive

SD71 Comox Valley

Learning Support Teacher

Over 30 years of teaching experience

Interested in running, hiking and biking



Sarah Brooks

Membership/Chapter support and Professional Learning

3 years on the Executive

SD85 Vancouver Island North

Learning Assistance Resource Teacher

11 years of teaching experience

Interested in biking, camping, scrapbooking, fishing, hunting, karate, kayaking



Rae Perry

Secretary

7 years on the Executive

SD 27 Cariboo- Chilcotin

Learning Support Teacher/ Reading Recovery Teacher

Interested in travelling, reading, Toast Masters, and scrapbooking



Jo Cornthwaite

Conference Chair

New to the Executive

School District 68

Grade 1 Teacher

18 years of teaching experience

Interests: being a Mom to two incredible boys, Educational Research and Teacher Professional development, Dragon Boating, Kayaking, Hiking, Writing Poetry, Playing Piano, Singing in a choir, Musical Theatre, Drama, Quilting and Blanket making



Elaine McEachern

Vice-President and Conference Brochure

Conference program

First year on Executive

SD Fort St. John

Teacher librarian/ Learning assistance teacher/

Kindergarten- gr. 1

Teaching for 21 years

Interested in gardening, loves her Saint Bernard and snowboarding



Gail Wolanski
 Exhibitors
 First year on the Executive
 SD22 Vernon
 Resource teacher
 21 years of teaching
 Interested in gardening, swimming, boats and travelling



Maureen Maclachlan

Registrar
 First year on the Executive
 SD22 Vernon
 Resource Teacher
 12 years of teaching experience
 Interested in walking her dogs and spending time with her family.

Laurie Robinson



Speakers
 Executive for 2 years
 SD 22 Vernon
 School Based Resource Teacher
 Over 25 years of teaching experience
 Interested in painting, golfing and singing-
 sometimes together



Laurie MacHale

Publication
 First year on Executive
 SD46- Sunshine Coast
 First year on the executive
 20 years of teaching experience
 Interested in travelling, gardening, outdoor activities, crafts

**We at TIEBC wish you and your families all the best
as we move into the Winter and Holiday season!**



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Inclusive Education
British Columbia

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