

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Date Submitted: August 9, 2016

Name of Conference: People for Education

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Theme (If any):

Conference Dates: November 7, 2015

Location: UofT, Toronto

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:
(Include a brief Summary)

Dr. Alan Sears - keynote

Beyond rocket science - educating citizens for a complex world
"don't worry Grace, it's not rocket science - it's just social studies"
way harder than rocket science - but a commonly held belief
vision for social studies in Ontario enable student to understand the issues in the world around you
issues in Canadian Citizenship - Niqab
NB education ministry angry after learning French and English students have been sharing a school bus -
this is being referred to the Supreme Court
Supreme Court ruling on native land claims adds to uncertainty for pipelines
Sammy Yatim's - issues in Canadian Citizenship
educational policy without asking the kids what they think
what are reasonable accommodations for diversity
how are the rights of different kinds of minority groups enshrined in law in Canada
how should we enact constitutional guarantees of minority language education rights
how do we balance fiscal responsibility and rights to education services
what does it mean to be treaty people
when is it reasonable for police officers to use force
how can we build positive relationships between Indigenous people and settlers
Complex Questions as Civic Context what are some of the rights guaranteed by charter of rights
when you consider various elements of Canadian identity - how would you rank in order
significance of Asbestos Strike for French-English relations
how did language rights affect the relationship between French & English Canada
why might language rights be more important to French Canadians than English
Canada's Honorary Citizens Nelson Mandela
Raoul Wallenberg
Dali Lama
Aung San Suu Kyi
Aga Khan
Malala Yousafzai
Lesson 1 - take citizenship seriously Volunteering = Citizenship NOT
not just any service stimulates civic engagement
40 hours of community service is one of the worst ways to learn about service
Philanthropy "emphasizes duty, voluntarism and value of altruism"
Political Education "focuses on critical reflection about social policies and the acquisition of skills to exert
influences on public affairs"
people should understand public policy not just left leaning

Lesson 2 - We should take Civic Knowledge Seriously avoiding the correct answer compromise
 focus on developing complex conceptual and procedural knowledge
 "certainly the greatest enemy of understanding is coverage - the compulsion to touch on everything in the textbook or the syllabus"
 important ideas are contested and fluid - we fight about what they mean and their meaning changes over time and across contexts
 meaning is not fixed and static but culturally constructed and changing Emyline Panchurst
 complex civic knowledge set out the critical attributes of the concept/idea
 describe how the concept/idea has been manifest across time and contexts
 describe how the concept/idea is manifest in their context
 describe the tensions, positions and possibilities for the concept/idea in their context
 articulate an informed position on how the concept should be manifest in their context
 Lesson 3 - We Need to Take Students Seriously Research on cultural universals
 research in historical thinking
 we need to engage students in our policy setting and making brophy and allerman
 barton and levstick
 chareka and sears
 Lesson 4 - We Need to Take Teaching Seriously don't assign a math teacher to teach social studies
 Canada dabbles in social studies while the rest of the world plays on
 take citizenship more seriously as a critical enterprise
 takes students seriously as knowers and actors
 take teachers and teaching seriously

COMMUNITY HUBS

services, space and synchronicity
 no single definition of what a hub is
 hub is what is needed locally
 by creating space and bringing in what people need
 libraries have started to serve as community hubs
 social return on the investment - sometimes the costs increase as a hub materializes
 however, the longer term payoffs are well worth it
 googled to find the initiatives outside of Toronto fusion youth centre
 lang's farm
 sheldon kennedy children and family centre
 no one was connecting the dots - nobody ever asked him why
 Swift Current
 Sheldon has a single focussed community hub model

Journey so Far

had a website
 received over 6,000 hits on website
 over 400 responses to online survey

Themes that they Heard

coordinated planning
 client focussed service delivery

community infrastructure/public property

Action Plan

inventory the excess space - is the belief that the Province owns building like schools? municipal buildings?
 consider realigning the boundaries within organizations that do not currently align
 financially sustainable community hubs
 Hamilton Wentworth is working together within the community to look at the future
 guidelines for community health centres

want to evaluate and monitor the outcomes

Had 27 REcommendations

to make them manageable
 worked closely with the Ministry of Education
 review of regulation 444
 selling surplus property
 planning at the same time so that the building gets sold
 need to look at school space being safe and secure
 there is a feeling of real urgency in the government

more robust discussion about community hubs
"fix our schools" - well maintained and safe

Development Charge issue for Toronto - TDSB cannot charge because they have excess space

infrastructure ontario - school boards will have access - we can view it now but have no further access
fixing Reg 444
community safety is trying to work with community safety
tell them what the barriers are so that they have a chance to change it e.g. limiters as to how this moves ahead
beyond Reg 444
What do you feel strongly about as a collective? - they have to have results by the end of the March

need recommendations that are consolidated from CODE, trustees, etc. - they are frustrated because they are getting multi suggestions from education

CANADA'S CORE CHALLENGES

VP CDHowe Craig Alexander
commodity challenge & correction
global economy is struggling
Ontario economy growing at north of 2%
globalization and technical changes are reshaping the economy
all job skills have been in the area of high skilled workers
losing jobs in the middle skill level
US class is going to be as bad as Victorian UK
Canada the difference in class is growing as well
2 million immigrants a year to continue to grow but are only bringing in 1/4 million
need to grow through productivity but we are not competitive
pace will slow to 1.5%
2 Paths Ahead slow economic growth, weak increase standard of living
deep economic reforms, rising productivity

@craigA_Eco

CAROLYN BENNETT

health prevention of diseases
need systems for health not health care
promotion of health
look at Georgian Bay West Pine
on the west side - cancer, preventable injury, kidney disease, diabetes, respiratory diseases
Sense of control is the ground
determinants goes to modifiable risks to outcomes

WHY BIG PICTURE THINKING IS CRITICAL for MANAGING RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA

Faisal from David Suzuki Foundation
16000 oil and gas sites
industrial use in one indigenous area - 4.8 x circumference of earth
2/3 of the Peace Territory is at risk
can't hunt caribou
environmental law are hard wired to fail in most of Canada
BC does not measure the impact
focus on what we need to retain in nature to sustain wildlife and sustainability

Faisal_moola

Wanda Nanibush

- the round dance is an image of unity
dances can bring down entire regimes
Idle No More is about women and youth
reshift the priorities and away from negotiating with government
finally have a generation that does not have as much shame nor fear of the government
residential schools and child welfare have robbed the children of their lives
more kids in care today than at height of residential schools
important to have access to land, culture and your people
we must honour our mother the earth

Thanksgiving Prayer

Craig Alexander

how to make a difference
education is the great enabler
we need more skilled workforce that is changing with the times
shift away from the business community to be prepared to do training
dollars in business for training as been falling
need ed system to produce max skilled employees
5 in 10 don't have literacy levels

6 in 10 don't have numeracy

PETER GARROW, FNMI EDUCATION

work on teaching
need to provide education for non native youth
seven apologies since 1986 to 2015
need to recover - rediscover
need to mourn
need to dream
need to reach consensus
need to jump into action
The Real All Americans by Sally Jenkins
Shingwauk's Vision by J. R. Miller

Inconvenient Indian

REACH EVERY STUDENT FNMI EDUCATION POLICY