



# Manitoba Reading Association

The provincial council of the  
International Literacy Association  
invites you to attend

## *The 5<sup>th</sup> Manitoba Adolescent Literacy Summit: Unleash the Power of Literacy*

**Thursday, April 11 – Friday, April 12, 2019**

Victoria Inn and Convention Centre  
1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, MB, Canada

Network with International, National and Provincial Literacy  
Leaders

- Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey
- David A. Robertson
- Linda Christensen
- Timothy Shanahan and Cynthia Shanahan



ADOLESCENT  
**LITERACY**  
SUMMIT

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Manitoba Reading Association

## Message from Chairpersons

Dear Educators,

Planning for the 5th Adolescent Literacy Summit began moments after the closing keynote at the last Summit in April 2017. We listened to your feedback, and we are pleased to anchor both days, once again, with keynotes from exceptional, world-renowned educators. We hope you find our program to be timely, engaging, and practical. Special thanks to our MRA Summit Committee Members, who have collectively dedicated hundreds of hours of behind-the-scenes work to make the MRA Summit a success.

Lisa Carlson and Jon Sorokowski  
5th Adolescent Literacy Summit Co-Chairs

## Featured Speakers



**Linda Christensen**, Director of the Oregon Writing Project at Lewis & Clark College, and an editor of *Rethinking Schools* magazine, taught high school language arts in Portland Public Schools for most of 40 years. Her books include: the newly revised and undated *Reading, Writing, and Rising Up: Teaching about Social Justice and the Power of the Written Word*, *Teaching for Joy and Justice: Re-Imagining the Language Arts Classroom*, and *Rhythm and Resistance: Teaching Poetry for Social Justice*. She has received numerous awards including the National Writing Project Fred Hechinger Award and the designation as the Outstanding Teacher in the Western United States.



**Douglas Fisher, Ph.D.** is Professor of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University, the immediate Past-President of the International Literacy Association, and a teacher leader at Health Sciences High & Middle College, having been an early intervention teacher and elementary school educator. He is the recipient of an International Reading Association William S. Grey citation of merit, an Exemplary Leader award from the Conference on English Leadership of NCTE, as well as a Christa McAuliffe award for excellence in teacher education. He has published numerous articles on reading and literacy, differentiated instruction, and curriculum design as well as books, such as *Visible Learning for Literacy*, *Building Equity*, and *Text Complexity: Raising Rigor in Reading*.



**Nancy Frey, Ph.D.**, is a Professor in Educational Leadership at San Diego State University and the recipient of the 2008 Early Career Achievement Award from the Literacy Research Association. Nancy has published in *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, *Principal Leadership*, *Middle School Journal*, and *Educational Leadership*. She and colleague Doug Fisher have co-authored *Visible Learning in Literacy* and *Visible Learning in Mathematics* with John Hattie. Other Corwin titles include *Rigorous Reading*, *Text Complexity* (with Diane Lapp), and *Text Dependent Questions* for grades K-5 and 6-12. Nancy is a credentialed special educator, reading specialist, and administrator in California, and is a co-founder and administrator at Health Sciences High and Middle College.



**David A. Robertson** is an award-winning writer. His books include *When We Were Alone* (Governor General's Literary Award winner, McNally Robinson Best Book for Young People winner, TD Canadian Children's Literature Award finalist), *Will I See?* (winner of the Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award Graphic Novel Category), and the YA novel *Strangers*. David educates as well as entertains through his writings about Canada's Indigenous Peoples, reflecting their cultures, histories, communities, as well as illuminating many contemporary issues. David is a member of Norway House Cree Nation. He lives in Winnipeg.



**Cynthia Shanahan** is Professor Emerita in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Formerly, she was professor of Literacy, Language and Culture, Executive Director of the Council on Teacher Education, and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). Her research and teaching interests are in adolescent and college literacy, including disciplinary literacy. She has published extensively, including the book *Learning from Text Across Conceptual Domains*. In 2017, for her work on disciplinary literacy she received the P. David Pearson Scholarly Influence Award from the Literacy Research Association.



**Timothy Shanahan** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is author/editor of more than 200 publications including the books, *Early Childhood Literacy*, and *Developing Literacy in Second-Language Learners*. His research emphasizes the connections between learning to read and learning to write, literacy in the disciplines, and improvement of reading achievement. Professor Shanahan is past president of the International Literacy Association (ILA). Dr. Shanahan received the William S. Gray Citation for Lifetime Achievement and the Albert J. Harris Award for outstanding research on reading disability from the International Literacy Association, and the P. David Pearson Scholarly Influence Award from the Literacy Research Association. For more information, visit his website: [www.shanahanonliteracy.com](http://www.shanahanonliteracy.com)



**Carol Matas** is the author of 45 books, ten of them focusing on the Holocaust. Carol's books have won over 100 awards and honours. They have been translated in over 15 languages around the world, most recently *Greater Than Angels* in Denmark and *Lisa* in France. Carol also writes science fiction, fantasy and historical novels. She resides in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



**Scott B. Henderson** works as a freelance illustrator. He is the author and illustrator of the sci-fi/fantasy graphic novels *The Chronicles of Era*. His illustration work includes *7 Generations: A Plains Cree Saga* (2013 MB Book Awards nominee), select titles from *The Tales from Big Spirit* series, *Betty: The Helen Betty Osborne Story* (2016 MB Book Awards nominee), *A Blanket of Butterflies* (2016 Eisner Award nominee), *Fire Starters*, and *A Girl Called Echo*. Scott, alongside David A. Robertson and GMB Chomichuk, are featured in the documentary *Artists by Night*, directed by Kelly-Anne Riess. In 2016, Scott received the C4 Storyteller Award. Scott is a graduate of the University of Manitoba's School of Fine Art, and currently lives in Winnipeg with his wife and two children.



**Hope Nicholson** is the Winnipeg-based owner of publishing house Bedside Press which creates graphic novels and prose fiction including the popular books *The Secret Loves of Geek Girls* and *Love Beyond Body, Space, and Time*. She's also the author of *The Spectacular Sisterhood of Superwomen*, a history book that looks at the history of female characters in comics from the 1930s through to 2010s.



**GMB Chomichuk** is an award-winning writer, illustrator and public speaker. His work has appeared in film, television, books, comics and graphic novels. He writes and/or illustrates occult suspense stories like *Midnight City* and *Underworld*, science fiction works like *Infinitum*, or inspirational all-ages adventure stories like *Cassie and Tonk* and *Snow Troll's Daughter. Will I See?*, a collaboration with Governor Generals Award winner David Alexander Robertson and Juno nominate singer-songwriter Iskwe, won the Manitoba Book Award in 2017. Look for his newest full-length graphic novel *Apocrypha: The Legend of Babymetal* due October 2018.

Manitoba Reading Association

5<sup>th</sup> Adolescent Literacy Summit: Unleash the Power of Literacy

**Daily Schedule of Events**

**Manitoba Reading Association's Adolescent Literacy Summit 2019**

**Thursday, April 11**

**8:45 Welcome and Opening Ceremonies**

Opening Remarks from Elder Arlene Mitchell

Remarks from Manitoba Education and Training

Remarks from Lisa Carlson and Jon Sorokowski - Adolescent Literacy Summit

Chairpersons

**9:15 Keynote Speakers: Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey**

***Visible Learning for Literacy***

Educators have been in search of “what works” for decades. Our collective search for better ways to reach students and ensure that they develop knowledge and skills has resulted in thousands and thousands of books, hundreds of thousands of research articles, and countless websites. The truth is, not everything works. Only a few things work at ensuring that students gain a full year’s worth of growth for a year of enrollment in school. We think it is time we focused on what works, what does not work, and what cannot hurt. We have turned to *Visible Learning* (Hattie, 2009) for help. As Hattie noted, students must develop surface-level learning if they are ever going to go deep, and we know that deep learning can facilitate transfer, which has been a goal shared by educators for as long as there have been teachers. In this interactive session, we focus on specific approaches that work at the surface level of learning and note that they are different from strategies that work at the deep and transfer levels. Importantly, we will clarify which approaches work at which phase of learning.

**10:30 Nutrition Break – Please visit the publisher displays!**

**10:45 Breakout Sessions** (Seating is on a first come, first served basis)

**AM 1: Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey**

***Assessment-Capable Learners***

We all know that collective efficacy is the new number one influence on students' learning, and there is good reason for that. In part, efficacious teachers ensure that their students are assessment-capable, which means that students understand their current level of performance and compare that with the desired level of learning. Assessment-capable learners and their teachers select direct, dialogic, and independent learning approaches they know will help attain their shared learning goals. They also seek feedback from others, provide others with feedback, and monitor their learning from acquisition through consolidation to mastery.

**AM 2: Angie Burdett, Shelley Warkentin**

***Voices from the Field: Empowering Educators and Students Through Curriculum (Please note that this session will be repeated tomorrow.)***

Join this exciting group of Manitoba educators to see how they are using the new English Language Arts curriculum to design rich learning experiences. Hear how educators' experiences transformed their teaching and leadership practices. Peer into schools and classrooms where students are empowered to interact with complex ideas about themselves, the world, and society.

**AM 3: Katya Adamov-Ferguson**

***Power in Places and Pedagogies***

Literacy is a powerful and power-filled practice. At the heart of this session is one teacher's personal response to reconciliation. Katya will share some of her art/research, which explored how language provides resistance to reconciliation in everyday educational environments. Participants will explore practical critical literacy strategies such as creating multi-modal identity texts, designing in/equity inventories, and ideas for dispelling otherness to support both teachers and learners.

**AM 4: Mike Babb, Leslie Dickson**

***Schoolwide Literacy Plans***

Our seven-year literacy journey at Elmwood High School began by supporting staff members who, through our Student Success Centre, discovered that many students' literacy skills were very low, hindering their success in acquiring course credits. Our whole-school, cross-grade journey had begun with a *Words Their Way* initiative after which a multi-disciplinary Literacy Committee was formed. The guiding philosophy was *Equity Through Literacy* and the team had the wisdom to develop different approaches for ELA classes and other subject areas. The commitment to our school-wide literacy plan by our subject area teachers is to be commended. We look forward to sharing our story and strategies for a developing a school-wide approach to fostering literacy.

**12:00 Lunch** (Provided onsite)

**1:00 Keynote Speaker: Linda Christensen**

***Disrupting Misconceptions: Unleashing a Larger Truth***

Unleashing the power of literacy means learning to read as an activist, to read to learn, but also to talk back to texts that don't tell a fuller truth about our homes, our language, our religion, our identity. In this workshop, participants will examine two views of a First Nations reserve—one from an outsider and one from a student who tells a larger truth about his home. Using stories and examples from her own classroom, Christensen will demonstrate ways she has grounded the curriculum in the lives of students, helping them pose critical questions about society, valuing the cultures of historically-oppressed groups while teaching them how to access the language and tools of power.

**2:15 Nutrition Break – Please visit the publisher displays!**

**2:30 Breakout Sessions** (Seating is on a first come, first served basis)

**PM 1: Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey**

***Engagement by Design: Creating Learning Environments Where Students Thrive***

Classroom dynamics are inherently complex, as multifaceted as the personalities in the room, so where should a teacher begin? Engagement by Design gives you a framework for making daily improvements and highlights the opportunities that will bring the greatest benefit in the least amount of time. You'll learn about *relationships*, *teacher clarity*, and *academic challenge*, including

1. How getting to know each student a little better can fundamentally change the classroom dynamics—and how to do that
2. What it means to be an “intentionally inviting” teacher, and how it gives you an advantage in creating an environment conducive to learning
3. How to bring more clarity to key aspects of your work—and how it can reap substantial academic rewards for you and your students
4. How opening the culture to student voice—listening to students—is linked to academic motivation, and how to use it to shape your day-to-day planning
5. The best ways to increase learning for your students through challenge and rigor, boosting the proportional value of their school year

Understanding engagement—and actively pursuing it—can make all the difference between forging a real connection with students and having a classroom that's simply going through the motions. Engagement by Design puts you in control of managing your classroom's success and increasing student learning, one motivated student at a time.

**PM 2: Vindra Jain and Students**

***From Composition Book to Published Book***

This session will look at the journey of Glenlawn Collegiate's own Literary Arts magazine and how teachers were transformed to coach and students to writers/editors. Students will discuss their process with selection and compilation of text, and creative writing strategies will be shared. The students will participate in the discussion and through spoken word.

**PM 3: Michelle Honeyford, Jennifer Watt and Teachers from Manitoba Writing Project**  
***Becoming Writers: The Power of Writing in our Lives, Classrooms and Communities***

How do we unleash the power of literacy? How do we create classrooms and communities where students effectively develop and use their powers as authors, multimodal composers and media makers? This session will feature a panel of teachers who have realized the power of writing in their own lives, and who have cultivated powerful writing in their classrooms with their students. With the renewed ELA curriculum as a backdrop, we'll share examples of what we are learning about the power of literacy when students have choice, when their writing is relevant to their identities and everyday lives, when they have real audiences, and when they feel their writing can make a difference in the world.

**PM 4: Brent Schmidt, GMB Chomichuk**

***The Classroom Story***

Engage your students with the Classroom Story! The Classroom Story is a hands-on, creative, and interactive instructional approach that has no acronyms, makes writing fun, is closer to play than work, and must be experienced to be understood. The teacher acts as narrator by creating a setting, inciting event, general plot, and any game elements. Students engage with the story by creating characters, and becoming authors, thinkers, and creators. Students get opportunities to write, create, mess-up, try again, work together, and move around. The end result will be a shared experience that you could never plan totally and will produce work you could have never expected!

**3:30 Author Signings, Book Draws, Publisher Displays**

## Friday, April 12, 2019

**8:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**9:00 Keynote Speakers: Timothy Shanahan, Cynthia Shanahan**

***What is Disciplinary Literacy and Why Is It Important?***

This session introduces important concepts of disciplinary literacy and contrasts them with those of content area reading. The session explores the research on disciplinary literacy and argues for an approach to subject matter literacy that is aligned with the unique practices and beliefs of each discipline.

**10:30 Nutrition Break – Please visit the publisher displays!**

**10:45 Breakout Sessions** (Seating is on a first come, first served basis)

**AM 1: Cynthia Shanahan**

***Reading and Writing in the Discipline of Science***

This session discusses the specialized nature of the reading and writing practices of scientists and how they are changing our language. This exploration will consider how to teach students the implications of these specialized practices and how to negotiate them in order to become better readers, writers, and thinkers in science.

**AM 2: Angie Burdett, Shelley Warkentin**

***Voices from the Field: Empowering Educators and Students Through Curriculum***

***(Note: This is repeat of yesterday's session.)***

Join this exciting group of Manitoba educators to see how they are using the new English Language Arts curriculum to design rich learning experiences. Hear how educators' experiences transformed their teaching and leadership practices. Peer into schools and classrooms where students are empowered to interact with complex ideas about themselves, the world, and society.

**AM 3: Kathie MacIsaac**

***Beyond the Pages: How to Use Social Media to Promote Reading***

Reading is a solitary activity, but there is a vibrant community of book lovers who use social media to connect with one another. This session will explore how to use Instagram and Twitter to find "your" book people to both enhance, and promote, your reading life.

**AM 4: Carol Matas**

***Writing and Teaching About the Holocaust***

Carol will focus on her most recent Holocaust book, *Pieces of the Past* to describe to educators an effective way to teach and to read this difficult topic. Using *Pieces of the Past*, purposefully set in Winnipeg, Carol will demonstrate how teachers can make local and Canadian history relevant to Holocaust studies.

**12:00 Lunch (provided onsite)**

**1:00 Breakout Sessions** (Seating is on a first come, first served basis)

**PM 1: David A. Robertson, Hope Nicholson, Scott Henderson, GMB Chomichuk**

***Storytelling Through Graphic Novels and Comics – Panel Discussion***

In this session, moderated by award-winning author David A. Robertson, local Manitoba authors and illustrators Scott Henderson, Hope Nicholson and GMB Chomichuk will be discussing the benefits of using graphic novels in the classroom, the process of creating comics and graphic novels, as well as their own experience in the comics industry.

**PM 2: Timothy Shanahan**

***Teaching Students to Read Complex Text***

For decades, literacy educators have been told that they must teach students to read at their instructional levels. However, research increasingly is revealing problems with this approach—particularly in content area classes. This session will explore that research, explain the nature of text complexity, and will demonstrate how instruction can enable students to read such texts successfully.

**PM 3: Tara McLauchlan**

***Book Speed Dating: Finding Your Next Book Love***

Are you struggling to make a connection and find your next great read? Looking for a way to find awesome books to put in the hands of your students? Why not try book speed dating! In this fast-paced session, you will "speed date" your way through a variety of curated texts (graphic novels, picture books, YA fiction) to connect you with the next book love of your life.

**PM 4: Cathy-Ann Winters, Kimberly Adair-Gagnon**

***Promoting a Growth Mindset through Literacy Across the Disciplines***

Are you looking to deepen student engagement with and ownership of learning? Join us to inquire about how to unleash the power of literacy to promote a growth mindset for all. Participants will walk away with high impact strategies that foster metacognitive

conversations and support our ongoing inquiry into a strength-based approach to student success.

**2:15 Nutrition Break – Please visit the publisher displays!**

**2:30 Keynote Speaker: David A. Robertson**

***The Path to Reconciliation***

The path to reconciliation is paved with story. Story is the truth part of reconciliation, the integral piece in this walk towards healing. David A. Robertson will tell stories about his own life, and that of his father, and how their journey reflects the process of reconciliation in Canada. He will also discuss the importance of voice and literacy, of encouraging the sharing and telling of truth through story in the coming generations, and how our most important role is ensuring that youth are prepared to be leaders in this long-term movement.

**3:30 Concluding Remarks and Book Draws** (must be in attendance to win)

Join ILA and plan to attend  
the upcoming International  
Literacy Association  
Conference in  
New Orleans, LA  
October 10-13, 2019.



<https://literacyworldwide.org/meetings-events/annual-conference/>

Twitter @ILAToday #ILAchat

***Don't delay! Join ILA today!***

## General Summit Information

### Summit Fees:

	<b>Early Bird Registration deadline: Feb 1, 2019 Group Rate (8 or more people at member rates)</b>				<b>Late Registration (after Feb. 1, 2019)</b>			
	Teacher Candidate		Professional		Teacher Candidate		Professional	
	Member*	Non-Member	Member*	Non-Member	Member*	Non-Member	Member*	Non-Member
<b>Thurs and Fri</b>	\$140	\$150	\$270	\$295	\$165	\$175	\$295	\$320
<b>One Day Only</b>	\$75	\$85	\$150	\$175	\$100	\$110	\$175	\$200

**\*Members:** You are considered a member if you are a current member of the International Literacy Association or one of the local councils listed below. Membership forms for local councils can be found at [www.readingmanitoba.org](http://www.readingmanitoba.org).

- International Literacy Association
- Reading Council of Greater Winnipeg
- Manitoba Council of Reading Clinicians
- Brandon Reading Council
- Pembina Escarpment Reading Council

#### A. Pre-Registration:

- ◆ **Group Registration:** Groups of 8 or more people can register at the members' rate if they are from the same school, division or organization. Payment must be sent with one cheque.
- ◆ **Early Bird deadline:** Registration postmarked after Feb. 1, 2019 will be charged a \$25 late fee.

#### B. Registration:

- ◆ To avoid disappointment, register EARLY. Registration is limited.
- ◆ **Register online** at [mrasummit.weebly.com](http://mrasummit.weebly.com)
- ◆ Pay with PayPal, Visa or cheque when registering online.
- ◆ Please make **cheques payable to: Manitoba Reading Association** (in Canadian funds).
- ◆ If paying by cheque, registration will not be confirmed until the cheque is received by Summit registrar.

#### C. Refunds:

- ◆ Refunds are available prior to March 1, 2019.
- ◆ After March 1, 2019, refunds will not be issued except in the case of illness. Requests must be submitted in writing no later than April 20, 2019 and must **include written medical documentation**.
- ◆ Refunds, less a \$25.00 cancellation fee, will be given for cancellations received in writing.
- ◆ All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing to [mrasummit@hotmail.com](mailto:mrasummit@hotmail.com).

#### D. Hotel Accommodations:

- The following hotels have a block of rooms held for April 10-12:
- ◆ Victoria Inn - \$129/night. Call 1 (204) 786-4801 and quote #838692 for discount
  - ◆ Hilton Inn and Suites - \$144/night. Call 1 (204) 786-0929 and quote "MRA Summit" for discount

#### E. Meals:

Lunch is included with registration. If you have any dietary allergies or concerns, please indicate this when registering.

#### F. Breakout Sessions:

There will be a variety of Breakout sessions held throughout the day as outlined in the conference program. These sessions will be on a first come, first served basis for seating.

#### G. Contact Information:

For questions regarding registration, please email [mrasummit@hotmail.com](mailto:mrasummit@hotmail.com), or phone 1 (204) 284-0351 (if leaving a message, please leave an [evening contact number](#))

#### H. Scent Free:

We respectfully request that you refrain from wearing perfume/cologne/scented products at the Summit. Thank you for your consideration.

#### I. Photography and Recordings:

The Manitoba Reading Association will be taking photos, as well as making video and audio recordings, of the Adolescent Literacy Summit for use in promotional and informational material. These recordings will be used on Manitoba Reading Association's website and social media accounts. **Attendance at the Summit shall constitute your consent to appear in these photos and videos.** Thank you for your participation and assistance.