

research  **ED**
symposium
Halifax 2022

**Working Out
What Works**

#rEDHalifax22



Lead sponsor:



**Saint Mary's
University**

Saturday, November 12, 2022
Xerox Theatre, Sobeys Building
930 Robie Street
Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

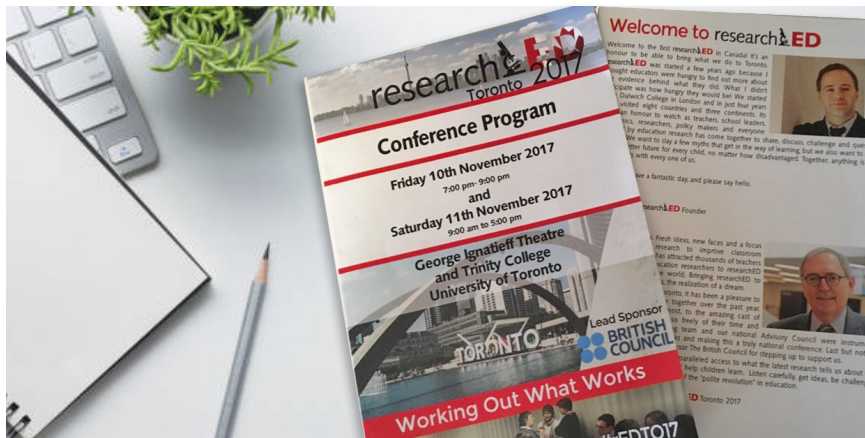
What is researchED?

The goal of researchED, founded in London, UK, in 2013, is to bridge the gap between research and practice in education. Researchers, teachers, and policy makers come together for a day of education myth-busting, information-sharing, and networking.

We aim to bring together everyone affected by educational research – teachers, academics, researchers, policy makers, teacher-trainers – in order to establish healthy and productive relationships where the latest knowledge and best teaching practice is presented, debated, and exchanged by means of conferences.

Since September 2013, researchED events have been held around world spanning 13 different countries on six continents. Thousands of educators have flocked to Saturday conferences in London, Amsterdam, Philadelphia, Toronto, Dublin, Melbourne, Cape Town, Chile, Dubai, Geneva and many more cities!

Five years after the founding of researchED Canada, November 10-11, 2017 in Toronto, we're expanding into the Maritimes with this Live Event in Halifax accessible online to supporters across Canada and far beyond.



Flaskback: The first Canadian Conference program, Trinity College, Toronto, Nov. 10-11, 2017

Overview

8:30 am

**Registration and Refreshments
Book Display and Sale**

9:30 am

Official Welcome/ Greetings

9:35 am

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

9:40 am

Opening Address:

Tom Bennett: *Student Behaviour/Running the Room*

10:20 am

Presentation:

Jamie Metsala: *The Right to Read - Lessons from the Inquiry*

11:00 am

Short Break

Book Signing: James Morrison, *Right to Read (2022)*

11:20 am

Panel:

Learning to Read - *What the Research Tells Us*

12:00 pm

Panel:

Inclusive Education and Classroom Culture

12:50 pm

Future Plans: *researchED in Canada*

Event Sponsors:

Saint Mary's University/Faculty of Education, EllisDon Corporation, Halifax Learning, Schoolhouse Consulting, John Catt Education, Nimbus Publishing



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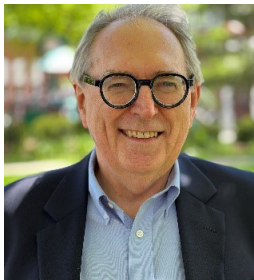
Welcome



Welcome to the researchED Symposium, the first of its kind in Canada! Since we held our first Canadian conference five years ago, our movement to advance evidence-based research and practice has grown by leaps and bounds. We never thought when researchED began in the UK nine years ago that it would expand far and wide across the world. It's great to see researchED Canada back after the pandemic interruption. We're stronger than ever, but there's still work to do. Education as an evidence-based profession needs constant attention, thought, discourse and debate about what we know, what we do not, and how we reconcile this for the benefit of students and the staff who surround them. Many thanks to our Canadian team for making it happen. You are now part of the 'polite revolution' in education. Enjoy the Symposium.

Tom Bennett, OBE, Founder and Director of researchED

Follow: @tombennett71



What a delight it is to witness the return of researchED to Canada! Five years ago, almost to the day, we convened the first researchED Canada conference, held at Trinity College, University of Toronto. Change was in the air. Fresh ideas flowed, new faces appeared and the focus was on teacher-driven research to improve classroom practice. Two more conferences (Ontario April 2018 and Vancouver May 2019) happened before the Pandemic struck. Today, we're back

bringing together some of the brightest minds and committed evidence-informed researchers in Atlantic Canada and beyond.

Paul W. Bennett, Chair, researchED Halifax 2022, founder researchED Canada @Educhatter

Student Behaviour and Learning to Read

Registration and Refreshments: Open at 8:30 am in Entrance Foyer, Sobeys Building, SMU

Session One: (9:30 am-10:15 am) Xerox Theatre, Sobeys 255, SMU

Words of Welcome: Paul W. Bennett and Heather Cumming, ResearchED Canada

Official Welcome: Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, President and Vice-Chancellor, Saint Mary's University

Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Paul W. Bennett, Coordinator, researchED Canada, Adjunct Professor of Education, Saint Mary's University

Keynote Speaker: Tom Bennett, Founder, ResearchED UK – *Creating a Culture of Student Behaviour*, based upon, *Running the Room: A Teacher Guide to Student Behaviour* (2021)

Open Forum: Questions and Answers

Session Two: (10:20 am to 11:00 am)

Introduction of Featured Speaker: Heather Cumming, Resource Teacher, Halifax

Featured Speaker: Dr. Jamie Metsala, Ph.D. *Meeting Students' Right to Read: Lessons from the OHRC Public Inquiry*

Short Break and Book Signing: (11:00 am to 11:20 am)

Guest Author: James Morrison, *Right to Read: The Frontier College Story* (2022) and Refreshments in Entrance Foyer, Sobey Building, Saint Mary's University

Session Three (11:20 am to 12:00 pm)

Panel - Learning to Read - What the Research Tells Us About Implementation

Moderator:

Dr. Jamie Metsala, Professor, Mount Saint Vincent University

Panelists:

Alicia Smith, Executive Director, Dyslexia Canada, former President, IDA Canada (Ontario)
Erin Schryer, PhD., founder and CEO, Origins Early Learning and Origins Academy/The Woods, Quispamsis, NB
Sarah Arnold, Founder, Halifax Learning, leading Spell Read literacy program providers, Halifax, NS

Session Four (12:00 pm to 12:50 pm)

Panel - Inclusive Education and Classroom Culture

Moderator:

Sylvia Parris-Drummond, CEO, Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute

Panelists:

Heather Cumming, Ed.D., Resource Teacher, Halifax Regional Centre for Education
DeRico Symonds, Senior Advisor, Nova Scotia Department of Equity and Anti-Racism
Paul W. Bennett, Ed.D., Adjunct Professor of Education, Saint Mary's University

Closing Remarks (12:50 pm to 1:00 pm):

Recognitions and Future Plans - researchED in Canada

Paul W. Bennett and Heather Cumming, researchED Canada

Acknowledgments

Research ED Canada 2022 Planning Committee

Co-Chair: Tom Bennett OBE, founder of researchED UK, Scotland
Co-Chair: Paul W. Bennett, National Coordinator, researchED Canada

Core Planning Committee, researchED Halifax 2022:

Chair: Paul W. Bennett, Ed.D., Director, Schoolhouse Institute, Halifax, NS
Vice-Chair: Heather Cumming, Ed.D., Resource Teacher, Halifax, NS
Operations Manager: Jennifer Van Dommelen, Science Instructor, Dalhousie University
Treasurer: John Munro, Reading Consultant, formerly Manager, Frontier College

Program Committee, researchED Halifax 2022

Paul W. Bennett, Ed.D., Director, Schoolhouse Institute, Halifax, NS
Heather Cumming, Ed.D., Resource Teacher, Halifax, NS
Sarah Arnold, founder, Halifax Learning/Spell Read Nova Scotia
Erica Baker, PhD., Child Psychologist, former SAC Chair, Halifax
David Margolian, Teacher, Annapolis Valley School District, Nova Scotia
Jamie Metsala, Ph.D., Faculty of Education, Mount Saint Vincent University
Sylvia Parris-Drummond, CEO, Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute
Erin Schryer, Ph.D., Early Learning Centre operator, Quispamsis, NB
Mahdi Ramezani, MA, TEFL, MEd, EAL Instructor/Teaching Assistant, SMU

Advisory Council, researchED Canada

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Jim Christopher, Ed.D., former School Head, North Vancouver, BC
Jodi DeVries, PhD., Literacy Researcher, Teacher, Calgary, Alberta
Sachin Maharaj, PhD., Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa
John Mighton, founder JUMP Math, Toronto, Ontario
Alicia Smith, Executive Director, IDA Canada, Tiny, Ontario
Doretta Wilson, former Executive Director, SQE Canada

Featured Speakers



Tom Bennett, OBE

Tom Bennett, OBE, is founder of researchED and author of *Running the Room: The Teacher's Guide to Behaviour* (2020). After managing clubs in London's Soho District, Tom taught high school in the East End of London for 13 years. From 2006 to 2016, he wrote a weekly education column for TES and served as a Teaching Fellow at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University. His first

book, *Teacher Proof* (2013) tackled prevailing myths in education policy and teaching practice and in September of 2013 he co-founded researchED UK. In 2015, Tom was appointed as Behaviour Advisor to the UK Department for Education and in March 2017 he published his report, *Creating a Culture*, an independent review of student behaviour and leadership in schools. Under Tom's leadership, researchED has expanded globally to 13 different countries on six continents. He's also the General Editor of the researchED series (John Catt Education) of teacher research resource books.



Jamie Metsala

Jamie Metsala, PhD., is Gail and Stephen Jarislowky Chair in Learning Disabilities and Professor of Education, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, NS. From 2020 to 2022, Dr. Metsala served as Senior Academic Advisor to the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read Public Inquiry which released its ground-breaking report in April 2022. She is a recognized expert on

the science of reading and has worked collaboratively with teachers and schools in Nova Scotia on projects incorporating evidence-based research in early literacy classrooms. She has been a supporter of researchED Canada since its inception five years ago.

Panel Presentation

Learning to Read - What the Research Tells Us

The release of the Ontario Human Rights Commission report on The Right to Read Public Inquiry in April 2022 sent shock waves across Canadian education. While the Ontario government embraced the recommendations and moved to introduce the Science of Reading (SoR) through more structured literacy programs, implementing those changes in reading instruction continues to face challenges. This panel will review the evidence-based research and tackle the question of implementation in elementary classrooms. Our three panelists – from Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia – are all early literacy experts versed on the research, committed to effective programs, attuned to the missteps, and dedicated to overcoming the barriers and obstacles facing education authorities and classroom teachers. We will be discussing how to overcome the barriers preventing far too many children from realizing their 'right to read.'

Moderator

Our Moderator is **Jamie Metsala**, PhD., Gail and Stephen Jarislowky Chair in Learning Disabilities and Professor of Education, Mount Saint Vincent University. @jamiemetsala

Panelists



Alicia Smith

Alicia Craig Smith is Executive Director of Dyslexia Canada. From her home base in Ontario's Tiny Township, Alicia has been a passionate advocate for children with dyslexia. Most recently, she served the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) as Ontario Branch's President. In this role, Alicia led IDA Ontario in a great period of growth. With the support of our board members and volunteers,

Alicia helped to create the Literacy Alliance, worked closely with the Ministry of Education, provided guidance to the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read Inquiry, released 'Lifting the Curtain on EQAO Scores', and organized a multitude of webinars and workshops, including the Literacy Leaders Series, among many others. @AliciafromTiny



Erin Schryer

Dr. Erin Schryer is founder and CEO of Origins Natural Learning Childcare, one of New Brunswick's largest early learning and childcare operations. She is also founder and Head of Origins Academy and The Woods in Quispamsis, NB. Erin obtained her PhD in 2014 from the Faculty of Education at the University of New Brunswick focusing her dissertation in the area of early language, literacy

and reading development. Since entering the field of early learning, she has been a community leader in the field of language and literacy research and program development in New Brunswick, her home province. In April 2018, she was a presenter at researchED Ontario. @ErinSchryer



Sarah Arnold

Sarah Arnold is the founder of Halifax Learning Centres. Starting out in Charlottetown, PEI, as a struggling reader herself, Sarah learned, first hand, what the Spell Read program could do to turn you into a confident, fluent and effective reader. She learned the program from its founder, Dr. Kay MacPhee, a young mother determined to meet the needs of her struggling child. With support and

encouragement of Dr. MacPhee, she brought Spell Read to Halifax and, in 1999, founded her own tutoring service, Halifax Learning. Sarah and Halifax Learning work with families to provide evidence-based tutoring support informed by the science of reading. In April 2022, Halifax Learning's Spell Read program was recognized for its effectiveness by the Ontario Human Rights Commission in the Right to Read report. @SarahAHLIC

Panel Presentation

Inclusion, Student Behaviour, and School Culture

Inclusive Education -- what is it and how do we make it successful in today's schools? Over the years, IE has broadened in conceptualization to include an equitable lens that focuses on all students, particularly marginalized students. Despite modernizing and broadening the definition, challenges still exist in advancing an inclusive education system. Our three panelists each provide different perspectives on inclusion, student behaviour and classroom culture.

What are the obstacles to inclusion of all children and what form of inclusion works best? Creating a culture of positive and mutually respectful behaviour is easier said than done in today's classrooms. What makes for an effective and productive school where everyone thrives? How can we overcome systemic barriers facing marginalized students, particularly those from African Nova Scotian and Indigenous communities? Where does "restorative justice" fit in to the equation? Is "trauma-informed" education the best way forward? If not, what approach might work better?

Moderator



Sylvia Parris-Drummond

Sylvia Parris-Drummond is the CEO of the Delmore "Buddy" Daye Learning Institute. Her extensive work in education and the community is rooted in core Africentric Principles. Ms. Parris-Drummond knows what it takes to conduct policy analysis, oversee publishing projects, and develop and implement education, multicultural and diversity programs. Her active engagements in child and youth services

include Akoma Family Centre and Holdings, the NS Early Childhood Intervention Services, and the NS Mass Choir. Ms. Parris-Drummond holds a Masters of Arts in Life Long Learning – Africentricity (MSVU), an M.Ed. – Curriculum (Saint Mary's) and a B.Sc., Home Economics / Education (St. Francis Xavier University). She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Gorsebrook Research Institute, Saint Mary's University.



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Panelists



Heather Cumming

Dr. Heather Cumming is an elementary school teacher in the Halifax Regional Municipality. She completed an M.Ed. in special education at Lesley University near Boston, MA., and recently completing her Ed.D. in inclusive education at University of Glasgow in Scotland. Her research interests include inclusive education, teacher support, and equitable education. She has been involved in ResearchED Canada since 2017 and is super excited to see it back in person.



DeRico Symonds

DeRico Symonds is a Halifax advocate for youth with a deep commitment to equity and anti-racism. He is currently the Senior Executive Advisor to the Deputy Minister with the Province of Nova Scotia in the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism. DeRico has over 15 years' experience working with at-risk youth and communities. He is a founding member of two non-profit organizations in Halifax, ACCE HFX, GameChangers902. A former varsity athlete, DeRico holds a B.A. in Child & Youth Study (MSVU, 2012) and completed his M.Ed. in Counselling through Acadia University (2018). @DeRicoSymonds



Paul W. Bennett

Paul W. Bennett, Ed.D., is Director of Schoolhouse Institute and Adjunct Professor of Education at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS. Over four decades, he taught high school history, wrote textbooks, developed faculty growth programs, and headed schools. Since 2009, Dr. Bennett has emerged, born again, as a well-known author and commentator in Canadian K-12 education. He is curator of Educhatter, the top ranked Canadian education Blog in 2018 and 2022. He was instrumental in the founding of researchED Canada and is the author of 10 books, including *The State of the System: A Reality Check on Canada's Schools* (2020). @Educhatter

Special Guests



Robert Summerby-Murray

Robert Summerby-Murray, PhD., is President and Vice Chancellor of Saint Mary's University. Our conference host was named the 34th president of SMU in July, 2015. Dr. Summerby-Murray is a director on the board of Universities Canada. Originally from New Zealand, Dr. Summerby-Murray came to Canada in 1986 to complete his PhD at the University of Toronto. Prior to his current appointment, he was Dean of Arts at Dalhousie University. His specialty is Geography with a special interest in Canadian Studies.



James H. Morrison

James H. Morrison is author of *The Right to Read: Social Justice, Literacy and the Creation of Frontier College* (2022) and Professor Emeritus of History, Saint Mary's University. Born in Nova Scotia, Jim Morrison completed his Doctorate in African History at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in 1976. He worked with Parks Canada for 3 years and then served as Executive Director of the International Education Centre at Saint Mary's University from 1979 to 1983. In 1983 he became Dean of Arts at Saint Mary's University and also filled a number of executive positions over the next 30 years. In 2009, he was awarded the Order of Canada for his pioneering efforts in the field of oral history and oral tradition.

Scrapbook
Fleeting Images – of past researchED Canada Events



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Halifax Learning™

Results you can read.™

Halifax Learning was established by Sarah Arnold, an entrepreneur from Prince Edward Island, in 1999. Today, Halifax Learning has helped thousands of students discover the joy of learning with our expertly designed and delivered literacy intervention programs. We are best known for our Gold-Standard Reading Remediation program, SpellRead, identified as an effective program in the Ontario Right to Read report.

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**Halifax Learning Is Proud to Be Locally Grown,
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researchED symposium

Halifax 2022

Shoring Up the Foundations Student Behaviour & Learning to Read

Featured Speakers



Tom Bennett OBE
Founder of researchED
& author of *Running the Room* (2020)



Dr. Jamie Metsala
MSVU Education,
Academic Advisor, Ontario
Right to Read Inquiry
(2020-22)

Panelists - Learning to Read

Alicia Smith, IDA Canada (Ontario)
Dr. Erin Schryer (Origins Learning)
Sarah Arnold (Halifax Learning)

Panelists - Inclusion & School Culture

Sylvia Parris-Drummond (Delmore "Buddy"
Daye Learning Institute)
Dr. Heather Cumming (Halifax Teacher)
DeRico Symonds (NS Office of Equity)
Dr. Paul W. Bennett (Schoolhouse Institute)

Book Signing

James Morrison (SMU History) *The Right to Read* (Nimbus, 2022)



Saturday, November 12, 2022

9:30 am to 1:00 pm (AT)



Saint Mary's University

Xerox Theatre, Sobey School, 930 Robie Street, Halifax, NS



\$10.00 (online, outside the Maritimes)



\$20.00 (in person)



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