



## **Classrooms to Communities (C2C) Provincial Professional Development Conference: Connecting People, Place & Planet**

*Re-thinking K-12 Teaching and Learning in BC Schools*

**VANCOUVER, BC, OCTOBER, 2019** – Over 325 educators, including teachers, students and community members from across the province, gathered October 25-26 to explore inspiring and community-connected strategies for teaching and learning in B.C. schools.

“Place-based learning is as core foundation of the renewed K-12 curriculum in B.C.” said Patrick Robertson, Chair of the C2C Education Network, “Our provincial network aims to support teacher collaboration, leadership and professional development as we showcased at this conference, *Connecting to People, Place and Planet.*”

On location at UBC and other venues across Metro Vancouver, promising practices and approaches for transformative teaching and learning in B.C. schools were celebrated. Hosted by C2C-BC, the two-day conference modeled innovative and collaborative approaches to using the community as an extension of the classroom. It provided opportunities for professional learning, inquiry and collaboration, including:

- Over 50 engaging sessions, workshops and networking activities on campus, at parks, school gardens, local businesses and other regional learning hubs
- A full day of rich and varied community-based field experiences around the region
- Inspiring storytellers and leaders from diverse local and provincial organizations, including educators, academics, teacher educators, researchers, administrators, policy makers, graduate students and teacher candidates

Feedback from C2C 2019 Conference participants:

*“I found the C2C 2019 Conference to be one of the best Pro-D events I've ever participated in. It was wonderful to have so many networking opportunities and learn about how many other people are doing great work in B.C.”*

*“I loved the overall energy of so many passionate educators working towards making our world a more thoughtful, connected place for generations to come. I am so happy that gathering events like this exist; thank you for making it happen.”*

The C2C Education Network continues to grow as a diverse network of educators across B.C. who are passionate about connecting people, place and planet. Next year’s C2C annual conference will take place in Prince George in October 2020. The network also offers ongoing teacher professional development opportunities in regions around B.C.

For more information on the Classrooms to Communities Education Network and our teacher professional development opportunities, please visit <https://c2c-bc.org>.

### **About the C2C Education Network**

The C2C Education Network is a made-in-BC collaborative of partners committed to providing place-based educational leadership and support to B.C. teachers and school districts through a suite of strategies, events and activities across the province as we implement the new K-12 curriculum. C2C envisions a province where all students and teachers are deeply connected to place, community and planet, are able to effectively communicate their stories of connectedness, and are taking responsibility to do so. C2C is a provincial network of partners including: Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN), Environmental Educators’ Provincial Specialist Association of the BC Teachers’ Federation, Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, Kootenay Boundary Environmental Education Initiative (KBEE), Leadership Ecology Adventure Program (LEAP), Outdoor Council of Canada (OCC), Metro Vancouver and Science World.

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