

Thursday, September 13th, 2018

Black Creek Pioneer Village

8:30am - 4:00pm

Table of Contents

(Please use links below to navigate document)

[Overall Schedule](#)

[Session Descriptions + Timing](#)

[Session Leader Bio's](#)

Overall Schedule

8:30am – 9:00am	Arrival + Registration at Black Creek Pioneer Village – (light refreshments provided)
9:00am – 9:10am	Welcome + Overview of the Day
9:10am – 10:30am	Keynote Address: Tara Zupancic, Director, Habitus Research
10:30am – 10:40am	Break + transit to workshops A
10:45am - 12pm	Session A Workshops
12:00pm - 1:05pm	Lunch + Networking (register for provided lunch)
1:15pm - 2:30pm	Session B Workshops
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Break + transit to workshops C
2:45pm - 4:00pm	Session C Workshops
4:00pm	Departure

Session Descriptions and Timing

Key: EE= Environmental Educator, HE= Heritage Educator, L/S = Leadership/Strategy, CE= Community Engagement, GI= General Interest, STEP = Sustainable Technology Evaluation Program, PAIE = Professional Access into Employment

Live and learn	Voices of the past, present and future	Human's Role in Nature	Walk a mile	Voices of nature	Places, spaces and platforms
<i>Keynote Address: 9am - 10:30am</i>					
<i>Session A runs 10:45am-12:00pm</i>					
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6
<p>Supporting Wellness & Recovery Craig Currah, CAMH: The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health</p> <p>This presentation will address issues related to barriers to health, stigma, mental health awareness and Recovery. We will discuss various approaches to engaging others, how we can make our programs more equitable and how we can be aware of our own biases. Some small discussions, group work and videos will augment the open format presentation. Concepts, terminology and approaches will underscore the need for us to adapt our approach to allow for greater understanding of mental illness and how nature programs can help people who may struggle with their wellness.</p> <p>Session Cap: 40 Suggested for: Everyone</p>	<p>Voices from the Past: The Stong Family History Wendy Rowney, General Manager, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>We know that real people lived in our community in the 1800s, but who were they? What were their names? Where did they come from? What joys and trials shaped their lives? Hear the story of two immigrant families – the Fishers and the Stongs – who farmed the land on which Black Creek Pioneer Village is now located. Discover how storytelling, historical documents, and “the things they left behind” can be used to tell the story of immigrants to the Toronto Region.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: HE, GI</p>	<p>Aquatic Species as Indicators of Stream Health Kelly Mason, Ontario Biologist, Trout Unlimited Canada</p> <p>Get your feet wet and your hands dirty! Learn how to sample aquatic insects from the stream, identify the insects in the field and use them as an indicator of stream health. This is a hands-on session (rubber boots and hip waders will be provided). In the event of bad weather, this session will be moved indoors and will be more of a lecture-style/interactive format.</p> <p>Session Cap: 20 Suggested for: EE, CE, GI</p>	<p>Resilience in Storytelling Sabrina Chiefari, Environmental Educator, Kortright Centre for Conservation, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>Outdoor/Environmental Education uses storytelling in unique and special ways. Resilience is a key message in preparing for Climate Change. How may we work the latter into the tried and true traditions of the former?</p> <p>This workshop aims to explore how we as Educators began to learn the stories we tell, how we teach with them, and how we share them with others as a conduit for learning. And how all that changes as our natural world changes around us.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: EE, CE, HE, GI</p>	<p>Braiding Land-based Learning and Indigenous Knowledge to Support Holistic Well-being Jane New, Enabling Garden Coordinator, Riverwood Conservancy & Vivian Recollet, Anishinaabe Grandmother, Turtle Clan, Wikwemikong Unceded territory</p> <p>This experiential workshop will take place outdoors and will include hands-on plant-based activities. It will explore the ways in which Indigenous knowledge can be respectfully combined with land-based learning to promote emotional, spiritual and physical well-being. The workshop will invite conversations about Indigenous vs settler perspectives of the land and how we can work together to support mother earth.</p> <p>Session Cap: 30 Suggested for: EE, CE, HE, GI, LS</p>	<p>Urban Activity Zones: Panel Discussion Darryl Gray, Elizabeth Wren, Colin Love, Daniela Macleod, + community members</p> <p>What's an Urban Activity Zone (UAZ)? Who determines them and who lives in them? Where are they? Why do they matter? What can I, or my organization do to get involved?</p> <p>Are you asking yourself any of these questions? Perhaps you have other questions about the UAZs? This session is for you! Join our full panel including the Director of TRCA Education, Darryl Gray, our Geographic Information System (GIS) expert Daniela McLeod, regional education supervisors, Liz Wren (Peel) and Colin Love (Toronto) and of course members of the communities that make up the UAZs as they discuss this new TRCA venture and answer the questions posed above (and many more!).</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: Everyone</p>

Lunch: 12:00pm – 1:05pm

Session B runs 1:15pm – 2:30pm

B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
<p>The Blanket Exercise</p> <p>Pamala Awaga, Curriculum Coordinator for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, York Region District School Board & Andrew McConnell, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Teacher Advisor, York Region District School Board</p> <p>We will engage the participants in an interactive re-enactment of our true history through the Kairos Blanket Exercise. This is an interactive session with an opportunity for reflection and discussion at the end. Participants will be required to support the activity by reading scripts and moving through the space.</p> <p>Session Cap: minimum 30 Suggested for: EE, CE, HE, GI, LS</p>	<p>Seeing Your City in the Park</p> <p>Robert Burley, Professor, Ryerson University & Jane Weninger, Senior Planner, City of Toronto</p> <p>Over the last century, Toronto’s extensive ravines have been adapted as flood plains, used as infrastructure corridors and simultaneously embraced as parks. In a period of massive growth and urbanization these fragile natural parklands now play an increasingly important role in the Toronto’s future sustainability and livability. Over a 4-year period photographer Robert Burley and City Environmental Planner, Jane Weninger, worked to create an overview of this subject in the book, An Enduring Wilderness: Toronto’s Natural Parklands. See: http://enduringwilderness.robertburley.com</p> <p>Burley and Weninger (also a contributing author) will do a joint presentation on this project and its relationship to the City’s Ravine Strategy.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: STEP, LS, CE, GI</p>	<p>Citizen Science in Outdoor Education</p> <p>Dana Buchbinder, Citizen Science Coordinator, Eco Spark</p> <p>This interactive workshop will include outdoor projects! Participants will learn how to lead citizen science activities outside with students; from conducting water quality assessments to plant and wildlife surveys - students love engaging in real science that makes a difference. We will be focusing on grades 6-12, but some materials can be modified for younger students. Have fun trying out citizen science activities with EcoSpark!</p> <p>Session Cap: 35 Suggested for: EE, CE, GI</p>	<p>Celebrating and Supporting LGBTQ+ Identities</p> <p>TK Pritchard, Public Educator</p> <p>This workshop will provide an opportunity to learn about LGBTQ+ identities and how to support visitors as well as fellow staff members. We will look at how to move from basic knowledge to true inclusion. Participants will leave with an understanding of terminology, how to use gender affirming language and how to incorporate inclusive practices in to day to day activities. There will also be an opportunity to ask anonymous questions and troubleshoot concerns.</p> <p>Session Cap: None Suggested for: Everyone</p>	<p>Building Capacity in Nature-based Early Learning</p> <p>Diane Kashin, York Region Nature Collaborative</p> <p>Outdoor play in the early years sets the stage for future environmental stewards. There is a case to be made for expanding environmental education to embrace the early years. The brain is most flexible early in life to accommodate a wide range of environments and interactions but early learners lack opportunities to play in and with nature. Supporting nature-based early learning must involve building the capacity of early childhood educators. Come prepared to play as we explore how to create meaningful and developmentally appropriate environmental experiences for our youngest learners in a way that leads to greater access to nature.</p> <p>Session Cap: 30 Suggested for: EE, CE, GI</p>	<p>Beyond Awareness: The Art of Saying “Yes”</p> <p>Dave Sora</p> <p>Everyone wants to enjoy our great outdoor spaces. However, people with disabilities face many barriers that can limit or prevent them from experiencing the joy associated with doing even the simple, everyday things in life – walking, hiking, riding, playing. While efforts to improve accessibility, increase awareness and champion inclusion are helpful, unfortunately, people with disabilities continue to hear “no, sorry” far too often – sorry, no program, no staff, no facilities, no funds, no policies, no accommodations, etc.</p> <p>Join a panel of thought leaders and discover what’s going on in the World of accessible recreation as they reflect on their experiences in making sports, recreation, leisure and play more accessible and inclusive, share success stories and their thoughts on opportunities to increase access to, and enjoyment of, our incredible land resources and assets. This is beyond barriers and awareness – this is about the fine art of “saying Yes”.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: EE, CE, HE, STEP, GI</p>

Session C Runs 2:45pm – 4:00pm					
C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
<p>Introduction to Tai Chi and Qi Gong May Rahnama, Owner & Instructor, Ji Hong Tai Chi</p> <p>The session will start with a 20-minute warm-up Qi Gong exercise: "Eight Sections Brocade". Qi Gong is an ancient Chinese health practice with a history of over 4 thousand years. The next 20 minutes we will learn and practice some Basic Tai Chi exercises. The last 20 minutes is a more in-depth discovery of Tai Chi using 1-2 of the Tai Chi basic exercises practiced earlier. The session will finish with a short demonstration of Yang Style Tai Chi and Chen Style Tai Chi.</p> <p>Session Cap: 35 Suggested for: GI</p>	<p>Agenda Game: A Look at the Complex Negotiations Between Indigenous People and Canada Andrew McConnell, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Teacher Advisor, York Region District School Board</p> <p>In this session participants will explore the complex issues that surround modern day negotiations between Indigenous people and Canada through a game approach. Attendees will be able to explore some of the competing agendas and barriers that make negotiating change for Indigenous people so difficult.</p> <p>Session Cap: 20 Suggested for: Everyone</p>	<p>Energy Efficiency: Importance, Benefits, Challenges and What Can Be Done Peter Love, Adjunct Professor, York University & Chair Governing Council, Ontario Climate Consortium</p> <p>This presentation will highlight the importance of energy efficiency in combating climate change (noting that production & use of energy responsible for 81% of anthropogenic GHG emissions), its enormous potential (currently 2/3 wasted in conversion), its benefits (to employment and the economy as well as the environment), and its challenges (hard to see, hard to measure and requires all in). It will conclude with what can be done by governments, businesses, organizations (such as schools), and individuals. It is based on the recently published free on-line textbook Fundamentals of Energy Efficiency.</p> <p>Session cap: none Suggested for: STEP, EE, CE, PAIE, GI</p>	<p>Removing Barriers: Making your Organization 2SLGBTQ Friendly Haran Vijayanathan, Rainbow Health Ontario</p> <p>This interactive workshop provides an overview of 2SLGBTQ+ in North America and a global perspective. The session will examine the social context and history of 2SLGBTQ+, exploring the differences between sex and gender, sexual behavior versus sexual orientation and exploring gender identity and gender expressions.</p> <p>Removing Barriers uses an anti-oppression/anti-racism framework to examine the process of developing organizational sensitivity and responsiveness to diverse 2SLGBTQ+ communities. The session addresses creating a positive and welcoming work environment for both 2SLGBTQ+ staff and clients. The workshop will explore various strategies such as specific programs, HR policies, Intake forms, signage, brochures, and online images. We will view various samples of inclusive practices and forms to make the organizational space more 2SLGBTQ+ friendly.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: Everyone</p>	<p>Birds of the GTA: hidden wonders at our doorstep Emily Rondel, Community Engagement Coordinator, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>This workshop will reveal the often overlooked avian diversity of the Greater Toronto Area, as well as some of the ways that educators can engage their participants with it. We will cover some basic information about the types of birds that share our space, how the cast of characters' changes with the seasons, and how to get people excited about watching and learning about them.</p> <p>Session Cap: 20 Suggested for: EE, CE, GI</p>	<p>Connected with Ontario Extend Terry Greene, Program Manager, eCampusOntario</p> <p>Ontario Extend is a capacity-building initiative that is grounded in the belief that the impact on learning should be the primary motivator for creating technology-enabled and online learning experiences. It aims to empower educators to explore a range of emerging technologies and pedagogical practices for effective online and technology-enabled teaching and learning. The framework for these resources is grounded in the model for the Anatomy of 21st Century Educators as described by Simon Bates (2014) and is supported by six modules and a Domain of One's Own project. These modules include: Teacher for Learning, Technologist, Collaborator, Curator, Experimenter, and Scholar.</p> <p>This session will provide an overview of the program and extend an invitation to join the ongoing community of open and technology-enabled educators and to hopefully inspire Environmental Educators to begin their own similar community. We will begin to outfit willing participants with the tools and skills they need to participate in this open community of educators sharing their pedagogy through technology.</p> <p>Session Cap: none Suggested for: PAIE, STEP, LS, CE</p>
4:00pm - End of Day					

Key: EE= Environmental Educator, HE= Heritage Educator, L/S = Leadership/Strategy, CE= Community Engagement, GI= General Interest, STEP = Sustainable Technology Evaluation Program, PAIE = Professional Access into Employment

Session Leader & Keynote Biographies

Tara Zupancic, Director, Habitus Research, *The Nature of Equity: building healthy places & spaces for all*

Tara is the Director of Habitus Research where she works both locally and internationally to advance equity in environmental health and climate change policy. For over 15 years, Tara has focused on the relationship between the environment and human health with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities and child wellbeing. Her recent reports for the David Suzuki Foundation and Toronto Public Health, in collaboration with EcoHealth Ontario, led to the Toronto Board of Health's recommendation to significantly increase the city's urban green space, particularly in historically under-served neighbourhoods. Tara is co-founder of the Centre for Environmental Health Equity, based at Queen's University, where she served as Associate Director. Tara holds a Master of Public Health from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine. She lives on a small farm in Caledon with her family, and a growing gang of rescue pets.

www.habitusresearch.ca

A1 Craig Currah, CAMH: The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, *Supporting Wellness & Recovery*

Craig Currah attended York University to complete an honour's degree in Fine Art. While working at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) researching violence in bars, Craig had the chance to learn about therapeutic recreation. He then completed two certificates in horticultural therapy at the Royal Botanical Gardens and his post graduate studies in Therapeutic Recreation through a partnership between Georgian College and Sunnybrook hospital. After finishing a placement at CAMH, Craig then transitioned to his current role as recreation therapist and caseworker in the Partial Hospitalization Program there. Craig has presented on the provincial level, was keynote speaker at the Royal Ottawa Hospital, has been interviewed by the Toronto Star and Global News, has been on advisory committees for the development of CAMH, and was the recipient of the Edward Tremain Award for clinical excellence at CAMH in 2014. Craig has recently presented to the Toronto Police College, various high schools and has acted as Mental Health Ambassador providing mental health education to various social agencies in the GTA through the Local Immigration Partnership. He continues to lead Beyond the Cuckoo's Nest, CAMH's oldest education outreach program speaking to high school student across Ontario about mental health issues, personal wellness and stigma. Craig enjoys nature, growing his own vegetables, and sick beats on his headphones.

A2 Wendy Rowney, General Manager, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, *Voice from the Past: The Stong Family History*

Wendy Rowney manages heritage operations and visitor experiences at Black Creek Pioneer Village. After completing a degree in History and English at Huron College, she received a MA in History from Western University and a Masters in Museum Studies from the University of Toronto. Her professional expertise lies in the development and delivery of engaging history-based programs for a wide range of museum audiences.

A3 Kelly Mason, Ontario Biologist, Trout Unlimited Canada, *Aquatic Species as Indicators of Stream Health*

Kelly Mason is the Ontario Biologist for Trout Unlimited Canada. She has over 8 years in the environmental industry in both the private and not-for-profit sectors. She is skilled in fish identification, electrofishing, aquatic assessments and monitoring. She is responsible for management and implementation of stream rehabilitation projects across Ontario. Currently she is involved several projects aimed at reconnecting streams by removing barriers to fish migration, water flow and sediment transport.

A4 Sabrina Chiefari, TRCA, *Resilience in Storytelling*

Sabrina is a York U FES graduate (BES) with 11 years' practice working as an Environmental Educator. She is a recently published author with Alternatives Journal and workshop presenter at 2 COEO conferences.

A5 Jane New, Enabling Garden Coordinator, Riverwood Conservancy and Vivian Recollet, *Braiding Land-based Learning and Indigenous Knowledge to Support Holistic Well-being*

Jane New is the Enabling Garden Coordinator at the Riverwood Conservancy. She is a certified teacher and trauma counsellor as well as a Horticultural therapist and landscape designer. She has coordinated the Horticultural Therapy programs at Riverwood since the Enabling Garden's inception providing therapeutic land-based programs for people of all ages and abilities.

Vivian Recollet is an Anishinaabe Grandmother whose spirit name is “Bigasohn Kwe” and she is Turtle Clan from Wikwemikong Unceded territory located on Manitoulin Island, Ontario. She is a helper to the Elders, providing teachings and embracing every facet of the Anishinaabe culture to keep well, including helping with the care taking of Mother Earth.

A6 Darryl Gray, Director of Education, Training and Outreach, TRCA; Colin Love, Supervisor, Education & Community Engagement – Toronto, TRCA; Elizabeth Wren Supervisor, Education & Community Engagement – Peel; Daniela Macleod, Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist, TRCA; *Urban Activity Zones: Panel Discussion*

Darryl Gray

Darryl is the Director of Education, Training and Outreach, providing leadership to a diverse team that supports TRCA’s vision for The Living City and focuses on improving access to learning opportunities for all throughout our jurisdiction. These initiatives include school programs, community outreach, stewardship, youth employment and mentorship, professional training for new Canadians and industry practitioners, sustainable technology performance evaluation and TRCA’s accessibility program.

Colin Love

Colin has been a leader in the environmental education field within the Greater Toronto Area for over a decade. He currently leads Toronto and Region Conservation Authority’s Education and Community Engagement team in Toronto, including the animation of Tommy Thompson Park. Colin is the former chair of the Flavelle Foundation and co-founder of Secondhand Sunday, a community reuse initiative hosted throughout Toronto. Colin is a husband and father of two who, big surprise, loves to spend time outdoors with his family and friends.

Elizabeth Wren

Elizabeth is a Supervisor in the Education, Training and Outreach Division within the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Throughout her career she has been involved in community engagement and education working for a number of organizations with varied approaches to learning. Teaching overseas and participating in exchange programs has added to her understanding of the needs and perspectives of the populations we work with, leading to the development of community driven programs. Elizabeth has worked for the TRCA for over 10 years, starting out as a Residential Assistant at Claremont and then staying on as a weekend staff person. She has been in her current role since 2016 and draws inspiration from creative collaborations with colleagues and community partners.

Daniela Macleod

Daniela is a Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist with TRCA’s Information Technology Management Group. She joined the TRCA in 2004, following the completion of a Masters in Spatial Analysis. Over the years, Daniela has worked with almost every business unit at TRCA and currently provides GIS leadership to the Source Water Protection program, Education, Watershed Planning, and Environmental Monitoring teams. As a senior member of the ITM team she also helps manage, organize and plan all things GIS at TRCA. Daniela is passionate about educating people of the wonders of GIS technology, and developing web mapping products.

+ local panelists from the region!

B1 Pamala Awaga, Curriculum Coordinator for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, York Region District School Board and Andrew McConnell, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Teacher Advisor, York Region District School Board, *The Blanket Exercise*

Pamala Awaga is Anishinaabe-kwe from Batchewana First Nation. She is a mother, a coach, an educator and a lifelong learner. Pamala has been an educator for 19 years in various roles, most recently as the Curriculum Coordinator for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education. Her interests are focused on supporting decolonizing instructional practice to create amazing spaces for learning for all, especially Indigenous youth.

Andrew McConnell is Anishinaabe of Nipissing First Nation. He grew up in the south and currently lives in Toronto where he works as a teacher advisor on Indigenous education for the York Public board.

B2 Robert Burley, Professor, Ryerson University and Jane Weninger, Senior Planner, City of Toronto, *Seeing your City in the Park*

Robert Burley - As an artist working in photography, Robert has sought to describe and interpret the built environment in which he lives. His work often explores the transition between city and country and over a forty-year career, he has undertaken numerous urban landscape projects including explorations of the urban shorelines of the Great Lakes, Chicago's O'Hare Airfield and, as part of the larger commission Viewing Olmsted, New York City's Central Park.

His work is collected by museums around the globe and his publications include: *An Enduring Wilderness: Toronto's Natural Parklands* (2017), *The Disappearance of Darkness: Photography at the End of the Analog Era* (2012), and *Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander and Geoffrey James* (1996). He currently lives in Toronto and teaches at The School of Image Arts, Ryerson University.

Jane Weninger is a senior planner with Toronto City Planning where she is responsible for greenspace and environmental planning policy. Jane develops and implements policy to protect greenspace and natural heritage in Toronto, including designation of Environmentally Significant Areas and the Toronto Ravine Strategy. She has worked extensively with watershed and provincial policies including the Greenbelt Plan and the Growth Plan. Jane also represents the City of Toronto in the establishment of the Rouge National Urban Park.

Jane and Robert collaborated on the *Enduring Wilderness* book project which was commissioned by the City of Toronto. Part of the impetus for the book was her work on environmentally significant areas and wanting to celebrate and communicate the importance of natural parkland areas within the City of Toronto.

B3 Dana Buchbinder, Citizen Science Coordinator, EcoSpark, *Citizen Science in Outdoor Education*

As an active member of the international Citizen Science Association, Dana is excited to bring her citizen scientist expertise to EcoSpark. She has contributed citizen science projects across North America including the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas, community air sensors in North Carolina, and Delaware StreamWatch. Dana graduated as a Master of Environmental Management: for her research she loved buzzing with bumblebees in the field.

B4 TK Pritchard, Public Educator, Celebrating and Supporting LGBTQ+ Identities

TK is the Public Education Manager at the Sexual Assault Support Centre of Waterloo Region and is an openly trans identified person. TK enjoys guiding meaningful conversations with people of all ages about masculinity, gender, healthy relationships, consent and more, using engaging activities and evidence-based practices. He is passionate about queer and trans issues, intersectional feminism, body positivity, and ending gender-based violence. Previously, TK has worked as a Sexual Health Educator for SHORE Centre (Planned Parenthood) and a Chapter Coordinator for a national mental health charity. Currently, he volunteers on the board for the Waterloo Region Rainbow Coalition.

B5 Diane Kashin, York Region Nature Collaborative, *Building Capacity in Nature-based Early Learning*

Diane is a registered early childhood educator in Ontario. Diane obtained her Doctorate of Education in 2007 and has been teaching early childhood education at both the degree and the diploma level for almost three decades. She is the co-author three early childhood education textbooks including *Outdoor and Nature Play in Early Childhood Education* (2018). Diane is the current chair of the York Region Nature Collaborative and is passionate about nature based early learning and outdoor play. Diane writes a blog: <http://tecribresearch.wordpress.com> and presents workshops and keynote addresses in Ontario, across Canada and internationally.

B6 Dave Sora, *Beyond Awareness: The Art of Saying "Yes"*

Dave Sora is a former City of Toronto social policy officer and human rights consultant and is currently program lead of the All Abilities Program, Academy for Accessible Sports, Pickering Soccer, lead of a collective impact project aimed at increasing participation rates of children with disabilities in recreation, co-lead of the Grassroots participation pathway of the Ontario Parasport Strategy, Jooy Ambassador (Ontario) and Advisor, School for Social Entrepreneurs – Ontario.

C1 May Rahnema, Owner & Instructor, Ji Hong Tai Chi, *Introduction to Tai Chi and Qi Gong*

May started learning Tai Chi in 1990 and has been teaching it since 2004. Following her love for Tai Chi and passion for teaching, she is now co-owner and primary instructor at the Ji Hong Tai Chi school in Mississauga.

C2 Andrew McConnell, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Teacher Advisor, York Region District School Board, *Agenda Game: A Look at the Complex Negotiations Between Indigenous People and Canada*

Andrew McConnell is Anishinaabe of Nipissing First Nation. He grew up in the south and currently lives in Toronto where he works as a teacher advisor on Indigenous education for the York Public board.

C3 Peter Love, Adjunct Professor, York University & Chair Governing Council, Ontario Climate Consortium, *Energy Efficiency: Importance, Benefits, Challenges and What Can Be Done*

Peter Love is an Adjunct Professor at York University where he teaches courses on energy efficiency and sustainability. He has recently written a free on-line text book on energy efficiency policy and programs. He also serves on several corporate and non-profit boards including Energy Efficiency Alberta, Ontario Climate Consortium (Chair Governing Council), Toronto 2030 District (Chair Advisory Committee), Royal Canadian Institute for Science (Chair) and Rethink Sustainability. Previous roles have included Chief Energy Conservation Officer of Ontario and member of the team at Pollution Probe in the 70's that developed the 3 R's: reduce, reuse, recycle.

C4 Haran Vijayanathan, Rainbow Health Ontario, *Removing Barriers: Making your Organization 2SLGBTQ Friendly*

Born in Sri Lanka, raised in Winnipeg, Haran is an openly proud gay Tamil man who has been worked in the HIV and LGBTQ sector over the last 18 years. He has lived and worked in many communities across Ontario, and brings with him the lived experience to ensure a cultural sensitive lens is applied to address issues such as HIV, 2SLGBTQ+ community concerns, and diversity within these communities through his work as an

educator with Rainbow Health Ontario. He is the founder of My House: Rainbow Resources of York Region and the Executive Director of the Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention (ASAAP). Haran is committed to ensuring that access to essential services is available to those who identify as 2SLGBTQ+ and others from traditionally marginalized communities. In his current leadership role, Haran has most recently been a critical thought leader in national media, addressing systemic racism, homophobia and classism as it relates to missing persons and families/friends of LGBTQ community impacted by the serial killings in Toronto.

C5 Emily Rondel, Community Engagement Coordinator, TRCA, *Birds of the GTA: hidden wonders at our doorstep*

Emily has been birding for 15 years and has worked with birds in the field for 9 years. She has surveyed and studied birds all over Ontario, from the Arctic coast to the Lake Erie shore. In her spare time, she is the Records Councillor of the Toronto Ornithological Club, and maintains the official bird checklist for the Greater Toronto Region. There aren't many days that she isn't looking at birds, reading about them, teaching people about them, or (at the very least) thinking about them! Her main interest is the diversity of avian life seen within the GTA itself, an incredible phenomenon that is often overlooked.

C6 Terry Greene, Program Manager, eCampusOntario, *Connected with Ontario Extend*

Terry Greene is a Program Manager at eCampusOntario, on secondment from Fleming College, where he is a Learning Technology Specialist. He holds a B.Ed. in Elementary Education from the University of Alberta and a M.Sc. in Instructional Design & Technology from the University of North Dakota. He is interested in both the cutting and trailing edges of uses for technology in education. Especially those that increase the human element in technology-enabled learning.