



# Leaders Connecting Leaders

**There are a lot of moving parts  
to a provincial conference:**

venues to secure, speakers and sessions to vet, activities to imagine, plus exhibitors, committees, volunteers, catering and accommodation to coordinate. All this, and your full-time gig too.

Meet the Co-Chairs and Site Chair of the October 2019 Connecting Leaders Conference in Penticton.

**2019 Co-Chair**

**Burt Bergmann**  
Principal

Nicola Canford Elementary  
SD58 Merritt

Educator: 24 years

Principal: 9 years

**2019 Co-Chair**

**Raelyn Larmet**  
Vice-Principal

Ecole Dr Knox Middle School  
SD23 Kelowna

Educator: 22 years

Vice-Principal: 16 years

## *What inspired you to volunteer for the Committee?*

**Burt:** BCPVPA Professional Development opportunities have played an important part in my own development as an administrator: as a part of this professional community I felt it was my responsibility to support where I could.

**Raelyn:** I enjoy being part of the COPVPA professional development rep team and I wanted to be part of a provincial initiative.

**Kirsten:** I've seen the role professional learning has played

in the development of teachers and school leaders. I strongly felt that being involved in Connecting Leaders would allow me to be a part of something that would benefit Principals and Vice-Principals from my region and across the province.

## *How do you make the 'Co-Chair' formula work?*

**Burt:** The Co-Chairs I work with are great team players and we support each other where needed.

**Raelyn:** I agree with Burt and we also know when to laugh and enjoy the journey.

## *Why is Penticton a great location for Connecting Leaders?*

**Kirsten:** Starting with a hotel and conference centre that sits on the shores of Okanagan Lake and ending with evening opportunities that take advantage of our wine heritage, Penticton is the place to be! We hope that attendees can also take advantage of the other things Penticton has to offer, such as great walking and hiking trails and a vibrant downtown.

## *What's it like to collaborate with different leaders on this Committee?*

**Raelyn:** I have really enjoyed connecting with a variety of leaders and diving into meaningful conversations. I have learned how unique the districts are across the province and how this diversity strengthens our committee.

**Kirsten:** I felt like I was part of a

team, building a conference that reflects our region and supports our administrators.

**Burt:** Each of us bring a unique lens to the work we are doing and serving on this committee has allowed me to make strong connections with other vibrant leaders.

## *What's your favourite moment from this project?*

**Kirsten:** Honestly, the laughter! Having an opportunity to connect with and learn from each other, and to share some levity, has been so rewarding. I feel that I have made connections that I will keep for the rest of my career.

## *Give us three reasons that BCPVPA members should attend the 2019 Connecting Leaders Conference:*

1. The combined planning with the connected districts has created a conference tailored to the needs of the area.
2. It's an opportunity to learn alongside peers and experience world-class presenters at a conference that reflects the needs of BC's school leaders.
3. The Okanagan is beautiful and provides numerous social opportunities that people will not want to miss.

Looking ahead to the 2019 BCPVPA Connecting Leaders Conference . . .



## **2019 Site Chair**

**Kirsten Odian**

**Vice-Principal**

**Giant's Head Elementary**

**SD67 Summerland**

**Educator: 20 years**

**Vice-Principal: 2 years**



## CONNECTING LEADERS

Register: [bit.ly/BCPVPA\\_CL19](http://bit.ly/BCPVPA_CL19)

# 2019 BCPVPA Connecting Leaders

## Cultivating a Climate of Leadership

Penticton Lakeside Resort and Conference Centre

**October 24 – 26, 2019**

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Peter DeWitt**

**Collaborative Leadership:  
6 Influences That Matter Most**

**Gabrielle Scrimshaw**

**Reconciliation in Education: The Role Educational  
Leadership Plays in Transforming Canada**

**John Chenoweth**

**Finding Qwemqwəmt: Re-storying Education  
For Indigenous People**

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Creating Powerful Learning Teams That Will Transform Your School
- Western Canadian Learning Network (WCLN) - Collaboration for Blended Learning
- Calm, Alert and Learning for All
- Indigenous Ways of Leading
- Ignite Sessions
- Competency Based IEP
- Better Educate: Re-Thinking School Growth Plans
- BCPVPA Leadership Standards for Principals and Vice-Principals

- Assessing Equity for Students of Aboriginal Ancestry
- Design School Structures to Enhance Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Informed Practice
- Reconciliation Hike for Wellness
- Empowering the Potential of Your School Through Human Centered Leadership Development
- Re-thinking Reporting - Our Experience with the Pilot Reporting Orders
- What is it and How do I do that?
- The Leader in Me

### Connecting Leaders 2019 Operational Committee

Burt Bergmann, SD 58 Nicola-Similkameen  
Mary-Ann Gaschnitz, SD 8 Kootenay Lake

Patrick Kinghorn, SD 20 Kootenay-Columbia  
Raelyn Larmet, SD 23 Central Okanagan

Kirsten Odian, SD 67 Okanagan / Skaha  
Chelsea Prince, SD 83 N Okanagan Shuswap

### Connecting Leaders 2019 Visionary Committee

Erin Hay, SD 5 Southeast Kootenay  
Stacy DeCosse, SD 6 Rocky Mountain  
Angela Stott, SD 6 Rocky Mountain  
Nicholas Graves, SD 10 Arrow Lakes

Michael Haworth, SD 19 Revelstoke  
Moira Manthorne, SD 22 Vernon  
Debbie Cullum, SD 22 Vernon  
Jamie Robinson, SD 23 Central Okanagan  
Marci Butler, SD 51 Boundary

Shendah Benoit, SD 53 Okan. / Similkameen  
Cale Birk, SD 73 Kamloops / Thompson  
Debbie Ralston, SD 74 Gold Trail  
Shelly Cull, SD 83 North Okanagan Shuswap