

Superintendent's Report

November 13, 2018

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO

LEARNING

CRESTON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

ADAM ROBERTS ELEMENTARY

- Halloween Fun night presented by Ms Sonntag's grade 4/5 class (pictures included). These students created events, and games with incredible thought, preparation and presentation. It was incredibly well thought out. Students worked in teams to build the events that participants thoroughly enjoyed!!
- Fire Chief for a day was presented to Tiang Tanapimpa in Mrs. Page's grade three class. (picture attached)
- Teachers have completed or are completed parent teacher interviews to connect with all families on their child's progress.



CANYON LISTER ELEMENTARY

- UNESCO Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #2: Zero Hunger: Our student Be the Change group is doing a food drive, Scare the Hunger, to donate to our local food bank. UNESCO SDG #12: Responsible Production and Consumption: Gr 5/6 students made beeswax food wraps (reusable food wraps) to sell at the Creston Farmers' Market. UNESCO SDG #16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Students designed and painted many colourful Peace Poles (from a previous UN International Peace Day) that maintenance is just about finished mounting at the front of the school.
- WE Day trip to Vancouver: The Gr 5-7 students in our Be the Change group have been fundraising to attend WE Day in Vancouver on November 22, 2018. 18 students will be attending. For more information on the WE organization and WE Day: <https://www.we.org/>
- New clubs started: New Tech Club has started once weekly, as well as the weekly pow wow regalia making sessions.

CRESTON HOMELINKS

N/A

ERICKSON ELEMENTARY

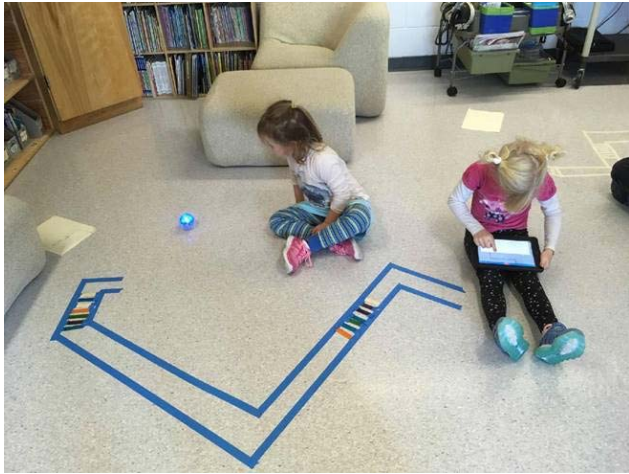
- The major work of our wetland project is complete. Seeds have been planted and straw put down for the winter. The area is much improved aesthetically.
- Our first class lead assembly occurred on Halloween lead by our grade ½ class
- On Oct 30th 4 classes got to go participate with the Kootenay Press. They learned and watch the making of apple juice from apples harvested in our valley.

PRINCE CHARLES SECONDARY

- Student -led Remembrance Day Assembly November 8th.
- Student-led fundraiser for a classmate who is on an extended absence at BC Children's Hospital November 2nd - 3rd.
- Wilderness First Aid Course November 23-25th.
- A very successful student led fundraiser has been held for a classmate and his family who are facing a long term stay at BC Children's Hospital.

WILDFLOWER CRESTON

- At Creston Wildflower the primary students (Gr. K-3) have been working on some inquiry projects involving Design Thinking and the programming of the district Spheros. The students had to first map out a course for the Sphero on paper and then transfer this course onto the classroom floor using tape. Next the students learned how to program the Spheros using draw and block programs to navigate the individual courses they had created.



- The Creston Wildflower classes invited on three candidates running for mayor in Creston to speak to the classes. Students from the upper elementary class then led a student vote for the two classes. The class also ran their own elections for class council. The students have already run their first meeting at the end of October 2018. The middle school students at Wildflower Nelson also participated in student vote this year. This was a fantastic learning experience at both Wildflower sites.

CRAWFORD BAY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

CRAWFORD BAY ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- The 3rd annual mini-RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Association) youth leadership convention took place at Crawford Bay school this Remembrance Day long weekend. 28 students from across the District participated in facilitated workshops around the leadership themes of communication, compassion, civil engagement, awareness of self and others, critical thinking and goal setting.
- Dr. Perkins and Board chair Lenora Trenamen attended CBESS' last PAC to help begin a visionary process around secondary enrolment, distance learning and creative scheduling.
- Elementary teachers are joining other teachers in the District to actively participate in the new reporting pilot Communicating Student Learning to be aligned with B.C.'s redesigned curriculum

SALMO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

SALMO ELEMENTARY

- Our student leaders created Hallowe'en Themes multi-aged stations for the afternoon of Oct. 31. It was great fun for all involved.
- Our teaching staff is taking on the book study of Powerful Understandings by Adrienne Gear to support the school and district goals.
- The educational assistance have begun to look at the Ready Bodies, Learning Minds program to support the social emotional learning and self-regulation awareness of students at Salmo.

SALMO SECONDARY

- The Falcons volleyball teams hosted 2 play days in October; the Junior girls on Oct 25 and the Sr. Boys on Oct 16. Great team play and sportsmanship from the students, thanks to Todd and Trestan for coaching and making these days happen
- The SSS Cross Country team completed a successful season of running, including hosting a meet at the Salmo Ski Hill Sept 26. To conclude the season, athletes participated at the Zone Championships Oct 24, congratulation to grade 9 athlete Jesse Boyer who qualified for the Provincial Championships Nov 3 in Nanaimo.
- The Wednesday Leadership Exploratory is hard at work on a number of projects and initiatives around the school;
 - Gathering photos, stories, and other submissions for a school yearbook, to be published in the fall
 - Organizing and running a variety of Halloween fun activities at lunchtime Oct 31
 - Planning and orchestrating the school-wide Remembrance Day assembly Thurs Nov 8
 - 2 leadership students heading to the mini-RYLA in Crawford Bay Nov 9-11
 - Offering a forum for student voice and advocacy at the school

Thanks to teacher Courtney Terhune for taking the lead with this energetic and motivated group.

KASLO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

JEWETT ELEMENTARY

J.V. HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Full day Career Education 8-12 programming
- Daily 5 literacy program & Zones of Regulation in 4/5 class
- DARE program & full outdoor learning days in 5/6 class
- Cross-grade collaboration between students and teachers (gr. 2/3 with gr. 9, gr. 2/3 with gf. 5/6, and gr. 4/5 with gr. 8)
- Primary classes singing with seniors at the Kaslo hospital
- ADST - spheros in 2/3 class & Brent's workshops in 6/7 class

SLOCAN VALLEY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BRENT KENNEDY ELEMENTARY

- Brent Kennedy PAC hosted a very successful Fall Children's Market on Saturday, October 27. The event coincided with the school's book fair, fall themed learning sequences and Halloween festivities. The Fall Children's Market was the "kick-off" to a busy and focussed fundraising year for PAC. They are working to support winter activities programming, swimming lessons, a home reading program, and working with an artist in the Community to explore pottery skills.
- Work and learning is well underway using the Draft K-9 Reporting Policy. The first Point of Progress opportunity for students, parents and teachers will be in November. Teachers are organizing student led

conferences, portfolio reviews, goal setting, and core competency self assessments either on the early dismissal days or on the "Exploration of Learning" night on November 22.

- Students participated in the annual Kootenay Savings Calendar competition. KSCU received almost 1,750 submissions this year celebrating the amazing animals on planet earth! Brent Kennedy student Galadriel Cormie's work (Grade 5) was selected as a contest winner and will be featured in the KSCU 2019 calendar.

MT. SENTINEL SECONDARY

- Orange Shirt Day Assembly - Was a student led Presentation that had ABED students share information about the significance of this day, it also involved including students from Brent Kennedy Elementary School in a song/dance performance.
- We hosted a PSI (Post-Secondary Institutions) Fair for all of our Gr. 9-12 students on Oct. 18th
- We hosted a Parent Night for our Kootenay Region featuring Dr. David Burns speaking on the topic of "Transforming Education in BC".

W.E. GRAHAM ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- WEG - Awesome Halloween Stations put on by our Grade 7/8's for our Elementary students.
- Golden Spurtle Porridge Contest!
- VWP mountain biking out-trip. Christina Lake was base camp for a variety of biking day trips.
- OELP - Overnight camping trip at Evan's Creek. 3 hour hike in.....3 ½ hour hike out. Pouring Rain!
- POP - Primary hike to Springer Creek

WINLAW ELEMENTARY

- Outdoor Classroom near completion!!!! Winlaw School is building an Outdoor Timber Frame Classroom next to the Garden space. Over the past two weekends footings have been poured and the roof structure assembled. The Outdoor Classroom "Barn Raising" will be taking place on Nov 10th with an official opening to follow. The wood was sourced from a Winlaw parent's property and was milled and framed by parents. All work has been volunteer.
- Halloween Howler. Winlaw's annual Halloween event was a huge success. Our PAC did an incredible job organizing and running the event.
- MultiAge Wednesdays: On Wednesday afternoons, we split our school into seven K-6 groups. Students choose from a variety of courses including Pottery, Destination Imagination, Trash Wars - student create using recycled products, building Go - Karts and Aboriginal Art. Students spend 8 weeks in a group before choosing a new activity. There will be an exhibition of their learning at the Christmas concert in Dec.

NELSON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BLEWETT ELEMENTARY

- Blewett School held another successful Blewett Community Halloween Party on October 26, 2018. Students, staff, parents and community members all came together for a Spook-tacular event!
- Grade 4/5 students will be presenting a special Remembrance Day Service on Thursday, November 8, at 10:45am.

- Blewett school Grade 4 students worked extremely hard on the Foundation Skills Assessment this month. We are very proud of the diligent work habits of our Grade 4 students!

HUME ELEMENTARY

- Fourth annual Halloween for Hunger happened at Hume School this year. The food bank people told us with the donations we collected, they would have enough to last until Christmas.
- The PAC is having it's first annual Craft Fair in the gym on Saturday, December 1st. As well as local vendors, the students will be working in their multi-age groups to create seasonal arts and crafts to sell. This should be a fun event at the school including a Gingerbread House competition.
- Local Elder Marilyn James comes to Hume School this week to tell the grade 3 students the Sinixt creation story. We're very excited she's coming to Hume!

L.V. ROGERS SECONDARY

- Several LV Rogers extra-curricular athletics program teams have qualified for provincials including the following: Sr Boys Soccer Team, Sr Girls Field Hockey Team, X-Country Running Team, and the LVR Swim Team—we wish them well, and thank you to volunteer coaches!
- LV Rogers hosted the afternoon keynote session with Dr. David Burns, of Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Dr. Burns spoke to the emergence of competencies as a more effective measure of transferable skills to post-secondary learning. Several LV Rogers students spoke at the afternoon keynote reflection.
- LV Rogers International students, Aboriginal Education Program students, and LV Rogers Intercultural Ambassadors had an excellent time at Kokanee Glacier Park at their beginning of year camp out. The students engaged in team building activities, storytelling, cultural immersion, and simply getting acquainted while welcoming students from Korea, China, Germany, Japan, Spain, and Mexico!

Attached please find the LV Rogers Secondary REACH Fall 2018 Newsletter **App. F2**.

REDFISH ELEMENTARY

- We had the Balfour Fire Department at Redfish for the afternoon. There were 4 stations where we learned all about what first responders do, equipment that search and rescue uses, how to create a fire safety plan for our homes and what happens when the fire department comes to put out a fire. It was exciting for our students to see former students, parents and grandparents among those who respond to emergencies in our area.
- Our Kokanee egg tank is working beautifully thanks to a former teacher volunteer who comes weekly to mind the tank and work with student leaders to monitor the temperature and progress when he is not there. We are eagerly awaiting our first eyed eggs and will report on their progress.
- This week we are having our first visioning meeting with parents in preparation for adding grades six and seven.
- We are starting a small group of student leaders to learn basic accounting. They will do the PAC financial accounting and reporting, with the oversight of our PAC treasurer. All students in grades three to five will learn the basics, and then the small group will learn more advanced skills and share out to the school ways that PAC supports us financially.

ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY

- Staff and students participated in a beautiful Remembrance Day assembly and ended the assembly by planting decorative poppies in the school yard followed by a moment of silence.
- All staff and EAs participated in an extra staff meeting to discuss school wide approaches to supporting all learners. Thanks to Ailis Lawrence, Sandy Boscarior and Ben Eaton for guiding us through this process.
- Rosemont staff and students completed our annual Halloween for Hunger food drive. Costumed students gathered food donations from the neighbourhood. In the end, several hundred pounds of food were donated to the Nelson Community Food Centre.

SOUTH NELSON ELEMENTARY

- South Nelson Elementary students are participating in the Canada wide CBC Elementary Schools Music Competition for the third year in a row. They performed Joni Mitchell's Big Yellow Taxi outside on our beautiful new natural playground. Joni Mitchell tweeted when she saw the video- "If this does not warm our hearts in these troubled times, nothing will!"
- Students and staff were so inspired by the Hallowe'en for Hunger event last year that they continued again this year. Students worked together to collect food for our local Nelson Community Food Centre.
- Our South Nelson Choir is gearing up for a number of holiday performances at our seniors' center Broader Horizons and the mall on December 7th and during our annual Christmas Concert on December 18th at the Capitol Theatre.

TRAFALGAR MIDDLE

- The Gr. 8 Girls Thunder Volley ball team won first place in the South Okanagan tournament hosted in Oliver this October. They were named Team of the Week by Mallard's Source for Sports. Congratulations to all the team members for their hard work and dedication.
- All classes participated in the Student Vote during the municipal elections. Students conducted research into candidates, held debates and discussions, and participated in a very successful school election.
- The first school dance of the year was a great success! We had over 250 students come out for an evening of great fun. There was dancing, pizza, and the LLE jewellery making class sold and auctioned off custom jewellery.

WILDFLOWER NELSON

- Congratulations to the Wildflower debate team for their fantastic showing at the Pumpkin Classic tournament in Trail this past weekend. Kailash Sanjivi finished tied for second in the Grade 7/8 division. And special recognition goes to Skyla Jones and Hazel Hofmann as Grade 5 and 6 students, debated in the Grade 7/8 category holding their own against the older students. Grade 7 student, Bea Kelly, and her partner from JL Crowe Secondary, combined as a team and finished second overall! The entire team will be back in action in December in Castlegar.
- On October 30th, the Wildflower Nelson students participated in the 8th annual performance of Michael Jacksons "Thriller". During the performance the students shut down one block of Baker street and perform "Thriller" for the public. This year we had beautiful fall weather and received great applause from spectators. The performance is done in the name of fun, performance and coming together as a school community.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

- ABED (both Gail Higginbottom and Danica Weager) the Yaqan Nukiy Chief and Council Meeting - a positive experience overall! We are discussing how to bring knowledge keepers into schools, and asking for advice on how best to do this.
- Creston Aboriginal Enhancement Meeting was held on Thursday, October 25. We had a diverse turnout, and some excellent feedback from community to renew our 2019 AEA.
- Metis Awareness Month: October 16-November 16th - across the district projects include Metis guest speakers, traditional Metis storytelling and Metis crafts.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

- Our outgoing student exchange trip to Rishikul Vidyapeeth in Sonapat, Haryana, India, school takes place in one month as students from around the district PCSS, LVR, MSS will depart of India on Dec 1 and return Dec 14, 2018. Preparations are full swing with the application of visas, immunizations, interculturalization training and problem solving - excitement is mounting. There are 11 students on the trip and 2 chaperones. Our Indian friends will visit us in June of 2019 for 2 weeks.
- This year we have international students from 12 different countries: Argentina = 1 student, Australia = 2 students, Austria = 1 student, Brazil = 7 students, Germany = 29 students, Italy = 1 student, Japan = 14 students, Mexico = 2 students, China = 11 students, Korea = 24 students, Spain = 19 students, and Switzerland = 1 student.
- Total number of students in the district is 112 headcount which calculates into an FTE of 78.81 and which points to the heroic actions of homestay families who care for these students in their homes. The enrollment this year is a forced declined enrollment for the district from last year due to restricted enrolment to 54 FTE at LVR from 67 the previous year. In order to counter this, the program is building up enrollments in other high schools in the district with some success.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- Therapeutic Riding - a 5 week session with some of our students with complex needs was wrapped up. It was very successful and had excellent feedback from school staff and parents. It provided the opportunity to work collaboratively in goal setting and community participation.
- WJ IV training for over 25 teachers and principals. Each Family of Schools has a WJ IV kit and has trained staff to administer these tests.
- A lot of positive feedback was received from our professional education session on teaching students with Down Syndrome.

INNOVATIVE LEARNING SERVICES

- Congratulations to Janene Bate Stein: recognized for her outstanding contribution to Environmental Education when she was Principal at Redfish School.
- October 19 Provincial Professional Development Day: All SD8 staff were involved in professional learning across the province. SD8, in collaboration with SD10, SD20 and Selkirk College hosted a full day of learning with the focus on "K-16: Working Together to Support the Changing Learner". Over 200 participants including Education Assistants, Teachers, PVP and Post-Secondary educators attended. Guest speakers included Dr. David Burns, Dr. Linda Kaser, and Dr. Judy Halbert, along with 2 teachers from SD8: Brent Firkser and Curtis Bendig.

- November 5: SD8 hosted a Regional Early Years Framework Sharing Session in Creston. 50 people from SD 5, 6, 8, 10, 20 and 51 and the Yaqan Nuky School participated. The session was facilitated by Maureen Dockendorf from the BC Ministry of Education.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

SECRETARY-TREASURER

- 2018-2019 Budgets have been Reviewed, Modified and Reconciled to Budget ByLaw, and then Uploaded into the Accounting System.
- Via Accounting Web Accesses have been created and Departmental Expenditure Reports have been updated. These new Accesses have been sent out to all Program/Department Heads & Budget users. This is the largest internal control improvement that we will accomplish this year - giving real-time access to budgets and expenditures to all those with budgetary responsibilities.
- Samara Shaw, Comptroller has been onboarded into new role. She has already begun several major Accounting & Control upgrade projects, including helping the ST with the District Financial Model building and a comprehensive GL Chart of Accounts review.
- Long-range Facilities Planning Meetings are Scheduled (12 meetings, 2 in each family of schools, starting January)
- 2019-2020 Budgets Process Meetings are Scheduled (14 meetings, starting with Nov 27 F&O Committee Meeting)

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

- 1701's, SADE, Class Organization report, CEF report, 1530's, and Remedy report were all completed by Human Resources in October. These reports help provide the Ministry with information about enrolment, staffing, class size and composition, and additional staffing requirements from the MOA/LOU 17 (restored language).
- Human Resources posted approximately 50 positions in October. Most of these were Education Assistant positions due to additional student designations being approved by Inclusive Education this fall.
- Human Resources and the KLTF co-hosted a very successful New Teacher Orientation in October for newly hired teachers. HR appreciates the efforts of the union to co-present this very important event for our new teaching staff.

OPERATIONS

- On the Oct 19/18 pro-d day, 70+ custodians and bus drivers from the Operations Department attended the annual bus Rodeo held in Salmo. Sessions were held on safety, ergonomics, equipment care and a driver skills/knowledge competition. Superintendent Perkins and ST McLellan attended a portion of the day and rumor has it that ST McLellan is considering recruiting and entering a team next year.
- With the addition of eight new school buses to the district fleet, six surplus buses have been sold
- Members of the transportation department are attending sites and doing school wide bus evacuations. These evacuations provide the training and experience to staff and students who do not ride the bus on a regular basis but may on field trips.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Draft Project Plan for district network upgrades completed.
- Reimage of MSSS lab with new imaging solution completed.
- Piloting password reset portal.

ENGAGEMENT & RELATIONSHIPS

BCSSA - SD 8 was well represented as Director of Inclusion, Ben Eaton and Ministry of Child and Youth Mental Health, Javier Gonzalez presented on Mental Fitness in Schools at Fall BCSSA Conference.

BCPSEA - Director Holitski, Trustee Lang, and Superintendent Perkins attended BCPSEA where the discussion and learning was focused on HR, Media and upcoming Bargaining for CUPE and KLTF.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - We are pleased to welcome our new Board of Education elected on October 20, 2018:

Trustees Elected by Voting:

Susan Chew, Salmo, Taghum & Blewett
Cody Beebe, South Rural Zone, Creston
Allan Gribbin, South Rural Zone, Creston

Trustees Elected by Acclamation:

William Maslechko, City of Nelson / Bealby Point
Sheri Walsh, City of Nelson / Bealby Point
Sharon Nazaroff, Slocan Valley / Bonnington
Lenora Trenaman, Crawford Bay, East Shore & North Shore
Becky Coons, Town of Creston
Dawn Lang, Village of Kaslo & North Rural Zone-Area D

CUPE - The annual BUS RODEO along with excellent CUPE Professional development took place in Salmo. We want to thank all who turned out and the organizers for making this day a huge success.

DEEPER LEARNING DOZEN - Our district, along with three other Districts from BC (Vancouver, Abbotsford, and Cowichan), has been invited to participate in a three-year study on "District Transformation". Harvard University picks up ¾ of the cost over the three years and researchers will visit SD8 at some point throughout the project. Representing SD8 are LVR Principal, Tamara Malloff, Wildflower Principal, Sacha Kalabis, District Principal of Indigenous Education, Gail Higginbottom, and Superintendent Perkins.

DIRECTORS & SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM - Team is working on PVP evaluations, and all Fall projects re: completion of CEC, installation of tech upgrades; budgets for schools, data re: enrollment; Fall Pro-D, Early Learning, presentations for BCSSA, and plans for China.

DIRECTORS COLLEGE - The Superintendent is involved in a five-part professional development program to increase capacity with the Board. Recent programming involved Strategy and Board Leadership. The Superintendent will be involved in on-boarding the New Board of Education on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. This will involve legal and fiduciary responsibilities of all Board members.

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY - Superintendent Perkins sits on the BC Education Advisory Board of Gonzaga University (Spokane). Discussion involved the new BC Curriculum, changes at Gonzaga, and the Teacher Regulation Branch. Many teachers and Administrators in BC have attended graduate programs at Gonzaga.

LEADERSHIP TEAM (PVPs) - PVP group met at W.E. Graham School and had an excellent day which featured all things outdoors re: Valhalla Wilderness Program (Principal Hurley and all the students were brilliant!) and a heartfelt presentation on vulnerability at Winlaw School by Principal Francis. PVP began working on school data.

Many of our PVP group are involved in a professional development program led by the BCPVPA entitled, *Leading a Culture of Learning* - an eight-month learning experience supporting leading learning through focused dialogue that is grounded in a clear vision - all to enhance a culture of learning in your school. The 5 day-long sessions offer an opportunity to build instructional leadership capacity through a peer coaching model with embedded practice and reflection.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - We are working with Ministry on plans for Mental Health Fitness programs and Superintendent attending the Deputy Ministers' Superintendent Conference. Discussion revolved around Grad Program. More announcements to come shortly.

PARENTS (PACs) AND DPAC - Superintendent presented at DPAC and attended DPAC presentation of Dr. David Burn at Mt. Sentinel School and PAC at LVR. Topics included communication, Grad program and strategic Plan and vision of District.

SUPERINTENDENT TOURS AT - Trafalgar Haunted House, Rosemont, Hume Inclusion meeting, Blewett Elementary, LVR, Wildflower, REACH, South Nelson, Nelson Homelinks, and Redfish.

SELKIRK COLLEGE - We were pleased to present our October Professional Development Day in collaboration with surrounding districts and Selkirk College featuring: Dr. David Burns, Dr. Kaser, and Dr. Halbert. Most importantly, was the fact that great conversations were had between parents, college, students and Administration. All were welcome and all participated in deeper learning. Thank you to both Selkirk College and LVR for co-hosting.

STUDENTS - We are delighted to have our students participate in all levels of governance as more and more of our schools create opportunities for Student Voice. We are happy to have held our second month of Board meetings with Student Trustees. Director Howald is pleased to have co-created a technology survey for students with our Student Trustees. Results to come in the next while.

WKTEP (West Kootenay Teacher Education Program) - We were pleased to welcome WKTEPers to our recent Pro-D Day at Selkirk College along with other Community partners including Nelson Christian School, Waldorf, St. Joseph's and surrounding Districts.app