



Another learning year for Learning Forward Ontario has begun:



With the wisdom and support of other educators, we create the new school year's context for learning and growing together professionally.

Upcoming events:

Our second Literacy network session is coming up soon on **October 27th, 2021.**

Register on our website: www.learningforwardontario.ca Please join us if you can. A review of our first session written by **Deborah McCallum**, Learning Forward Ontario Director follows:

On August 25, 2021 educators from all across Ontario gathered together virtually with Learning Forward Ontario to hear **Dr. Kathleen Gould Lundy** speak and discuss how literacy programs have the ability to impact both the hearts and the minds of students.

As we discussed this powerful reminder that engagement comes before comprehension. A powerful way to engage students is to use stories as strong literacy influencers. How are we listening to the stories of our students, teachers, parents and community members? How can we use the stories from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Black Lives Matter, and more to influence classroom literacy? As Dr. Lundy showed us, it is rooted in giving ourselves the time and permission to allow these experiences into the classroom.

Moving forward in literacy means finding students' voices and learning from them, situating our own privilege and not judging students until we understand them. School is a difficult place for many students to be, but this shouldn't have to be the case. Powerful literacy is also about listening more than we speak, hearing what is said and what is unsaid, listening despite our own biases. Listening without judgment or defensiveness.

One thing is for certain, It is essential to find those who are going to challenge you and centre literacy in everything you do as educators. We understood that teaching literacy is very difficult and complicated to do well, and her quote from Wendell Barry deeply resonated with us:

“It may be that when we no longer know what to do, we have come to our real work and when we no longer know which way to go, we have begun our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.”

This quote also allowed us to feel vulnerable, and reminded us to take the time to check our own biases and those of our students.

After this powerful talk, participants had the opportunity to network with colleagues across the province to discuss topics of interest in literacy. [We look forward to Session #2 on October 27th with Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis!](#)



Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis

Learning Forward Ontario proudly presents the second session of a new four-part series to launch our new Ontario Literacy Network!

2nd Session: October 27, 7:00 - 8:30

Jenny Kay Dupuis and the power of teaching, telling, and hearing difficult stories, including diversity, human rights, and social justice issues through Indigenous literature.

Cost: \$10.00

Following our guest speaker, you will have the opportunity to network with other colleagues across the province about topics related to literacy.



[Registration Link](#)

Jenny Kay Dupuis is of Anishinaabe/Ojibway ancestry and a proud member of Nipissing First Nation. She is an educator, researcher, artist, and speaker who works full-time supporting the advancement of Indigenous education.

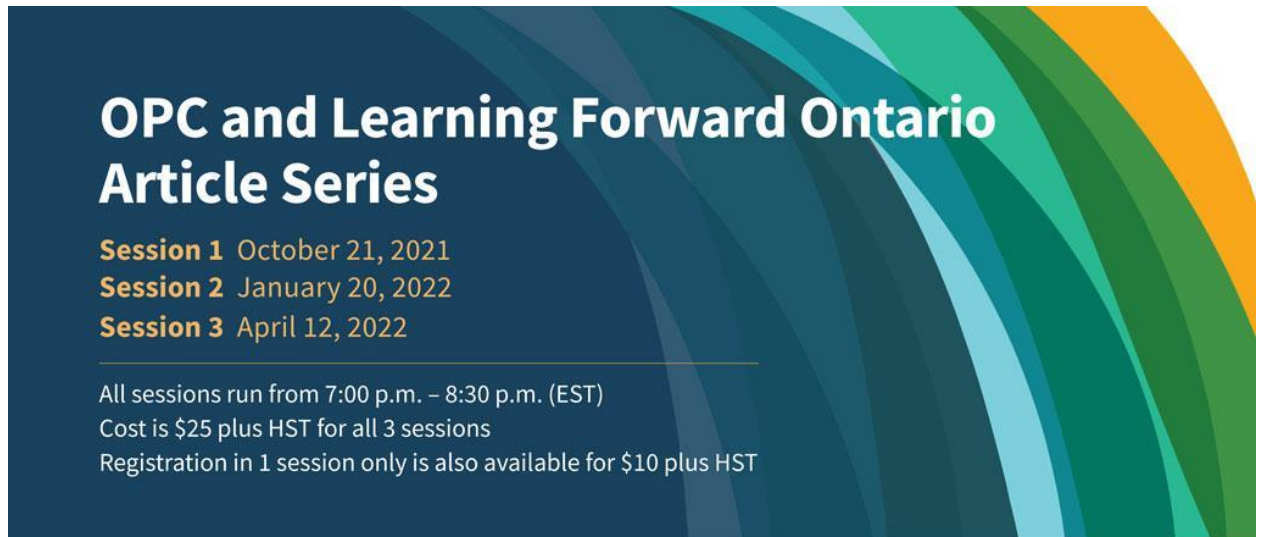
<https://jennykaydupuis.com/> for more information Dr. Dupuis.

Follow her at: @JennyKayDupuis

Dr. Dupuis's most recent book written with co-author Kathy Kacer is the award winning children's book entitled "*I am not a number*". It is a dual language book of an eight year old's experience being sent to residential school. We look forward to learning from her.

Register on: [www.learningforwardontario.ca website](http://www.learningforwardontario.ca)

Another opportunity for learning: Join us for a three part series partnering with OPC:



OPC and Learning Forward Ontario Article Series

Session 1 October 21, 2021
Session 2 January 20, 2022
Session 3 April 12, 2022

All sessions run from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (EST)
Cost is \$25 plus HST for all 3 sessions
Registration in 1 session only is also available for \$10 plus HST

#LearnFwdON #OPCLeadLearn



A **Co-Partnered Article Study Series** on **October 21, 2021**: **Learning Forward Ontario (LFO) and the Ontario Principals Council (OPC)** Registration is on the OPC website. Look for it under professional learning/webinars.

Session # 1: The Right Drivers for Whole System Success

Date: Thursday October 21, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm EDT.

Cost: \$10.00 + \$1.30 HST = \$11.30 per session OR \$25.00 + \$3.25 HST = \$28.25 for all 3 sessions

Article for Discussion: [The Right Drivers for Whole System Success](#) by Michael Fullan. (The article will be sent to participants in advance of the session)

This Fall's feature article:

Anchors of Resilience: (from the Oct. 2019 edition of *The Learning Professional (Learning Forward)*).

BY ANTHONY KIM, TOMÁS HANNA, AND JOSÉ DOTRES

What are the strategies and routines that resilient leaders to balance competing priorities? We believe that this article applies to both teacher and school leaders in 2021.

According to the author's review, resilient leadership has three anchors:

- Building psychological safety;
- Maintaining a learning organization; and
- Applying individual discipline.

In this article, the authors describe why each is important and how each can be cultivated by education leaders for the benefit of their teams.

<https://learningforward.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/anchors-for-resilience.pdf>

Wishing Ontario educators a healthy fall and a great school year! For further information about Learning Forward Ontario please see our website.

On Twitter you can find us at [@LearningFwdON](https://twitter.com/LearningFwdON) [#LearnfwdON](https://twitter.com/LearningFwdON)

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We dedicate this issue to former Board of Directors member, YRDSB principal and educator, Richard Erdmann who passed away on September 26th, 2021.

We can only imagine the loss that people are feeling since Richard's passing. We extend our condolences to his family and friends.

As a member of the board of directors for Learning Forward Ontario, Richard shared his talents and leadership in so many ways. He was our go-to-guy on a number of aspects in our organization, including our website, event coordination and networking. But more than that, we know we've all lost someone who had a boundless sense of optimism for all things including education.

Despite the loss, we continue to be influenced by his passion for helping to support educators. We will still hear his calm voice that kept us focussed, be inspired by his imagination that kept us open to possibilities, and feel his sense of dedication that kept us always moving forward. We know his reach stretches far.

www.learningforwardontario.ca

Questions? Please contact us at: membership@learningforwardontario.ca

