



# EduTech West

The Evolution of Learning



**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**  
Vancouver | 8am ET

## Agenda at a glance

Education systems have faced a tremendous shift over the past few years. The way in which both educators and their students interact has changed. With the world's growing demand for faster, smarter and more efficient solutions, it's no surprise that technology has become an integrated part of teaching and learning. While the push for online learning was predominantly due to the pandemic, schools, educators and ministries were already in the process of rolling out policies aimed to promote the use of innovative technologies in the classroom.

While the use of Education Technology and interactive tools may have been the next step for higher learning, it is vital to address the complexities of this transformation. Ensuring that students can continue their studies, have access, and succeed within their respective classes remains the primary objective. Furthermore, guaranteeing that educators are also equipped with the knowledge and have access to the right tools to do so is essential.

This event is meant to highlight and discuss valuable strategies, challenges and new opportunities technologies bring to primary, secondary and post-secondary learning. **EduTech West** invites educators, ministry officials and key stakeholders to come together and share their experiences, best practices and insights to further the integration of digital solutions into our schools and curriculums. The growing demand for technology in the classroom will undoubtedly bring about unique challenges, but it also has the power to deliver a higher quality of learning for all.



## Who You'll Meet

*Chiefs, Deputy Ministers, Directors, Superintendents, Leaders, Heads and Managers of:*

- Education and Child Care
- School Board Districts
- Inclusive Education
- Special Needs
- Education Unions
- Curriculum Development
- Digital Learning Technology
- Online and eLearning
- IT and IS
- Security and Cybersecurity
- Post-Secondary Education
- Education Policy

## Benefits of Attending



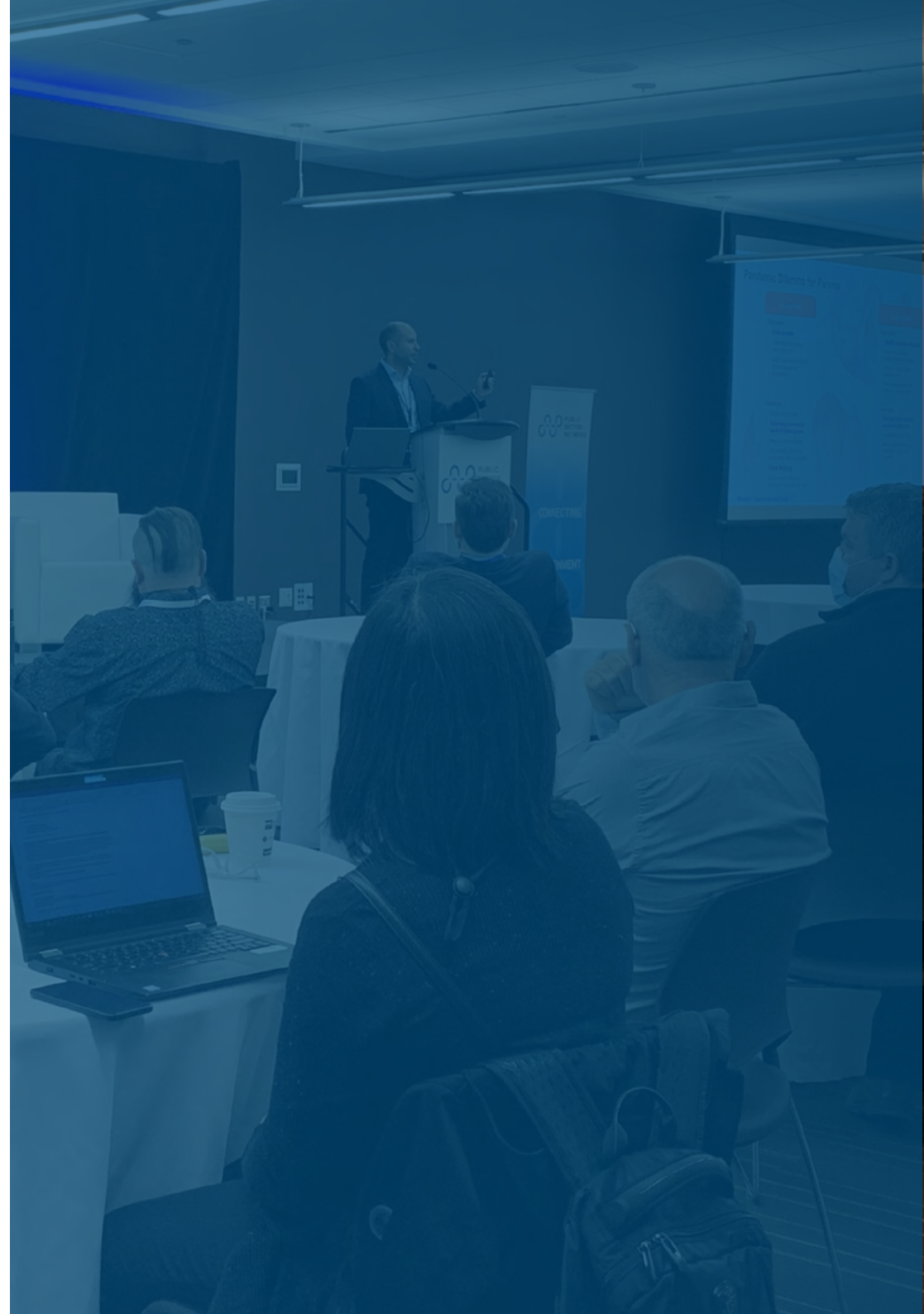
Examine current trends, challenges and outcomes of tech-based learning



Discover how you can leverage new digital tools and elevate your curriculum



Learn from experts on how you can further empower your students to succeed





## Your Inspiring Speakers



**SOPHIA PALAHICKY**

Executive Director, Online  
Learning and Educational  
Resources Branch  
Ministry of Education  
and Child Care



**KARI RASMUSSEN**

Director Digital  
Content Management  
and Delivery Branch  
Education  
Government of Alberta



**BEN FERREL**

Executive Director, Post-  
Secondary Digital Policy  
and Programs Branch  
Ministry of Advanced  
Education and Skills  
Training



**BALAN MOORTHY**

Superintendent  
Fraser-Cascade School  
District



**RYAN RADFORD**

Computer and Digital  
Media Educator  
Walnut Grove Secondary  
School



**ROB GRIESBECK**

Computer and Digital  
Media Educator  
Walnut Grove Secondary  
School



**STEPHEN WHIFFIN**

Director of Instruction  
and CIO  
Coquitlam School  
District #43



**JASON DUNK**

Chief Technology Officer  
Saskatoon Public Schools



**SANDRA AVERILL**

District Teacher, K-12  
ADST and Digital Literacy  
Langley School District



**MICHEL GAGNON**

LST Helping Teacher and  
Assistive Technology  
Coordinator  
Surry School District



**GERALD LEE**

Director of Information  
Technology  
Collingwood School

**“This was a great conference and an opportunity for collaboration to discuss innovative ways to transform education and continue to imagine the future for public education.”**

*Peel District School Board*

**8:00am** Registration and Networking Breakfast

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**9:00am** Welcome from the Public Sector Network

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**9:10am** Welcome from the Chair

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**9:30am** Opening Keynote: **The Rise of Education Technology**



- What sort of impact, challenges and opportunities have learning technologies had on our education systems over the past few years?
- How has the inclusion of new digital tools altered the way in which government is approaching policy, curriculums and learning outcomes?
- Why is it now, more than ever, so important to invest in these tools and modernize teaching?

**Sophia Palahicky**, *Executive Director, Online Learning and Educational Resources Branch*, Ministry of Education and Child Care

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**9:50am** Platinum Partner Session: **The Imperative for Inclusive Innovation**

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**10:10am** Government Keynote: **Setting New Standards for Tech-Based Learning at an Elementary and Secondary Level**



- What are policymakers doing to address the large age gaps and learning variances from K-12?
- How are curriculums addressing budget constraints and access to technology within certain districts?
- What can be done to ensure learning standards are maintained for all?

**Kari Rasmussen**, *Director Digital Content Management and Delivery Branch Education*, Government of Alberta

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**10:30am** Platform Partner Session: **Critical Areas of Success in an Infrastructure Upgrade**

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**10:50am** Refreshment Break

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**11:20am** Government Case Study: **Exploring Best-Practices for Implementation, Delivery and Success of New Technology (K-12)**



- What are the primary barriers of rolling out new digital tools and learning tech at a K-12 level?
- What are the best practices for implementing a new system or technology, what worked, what didn't?
- How was the success of this new tool measured?
- How have the students and educators responded to the use of these new tools?

**Moderator: Balan Moorthy**, *Superintendent*, Fraser-Cascade School District

**Ryan Radford**, *Computer and Digital Media Educator*, Walnut Grove Secondary School

**Rob Griesbeck**, *Computer and Digital Media Educator*, Walnut Grove Secondary School

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**11:40am** Gold Partner Session: **Creating Unique Experiences Through Integrated Online Learning Platforms**

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**12:00pm** Spotlight Session: **Examining How Technology is Improving Post-Secondary Education and Policy**



- How has the increased use of technology improved learning outcomes?
- How can the use of data collection further benefit university standards and quality of education?
- What is the ministry's primary focus as they work more closely with post-secondary institutions in the rollout of new educational technologies?

**Ben Ferrel**, *Executive Director, Post-Secondary Digital Policy and Programs Branch*, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

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**12:20pm** Gold Partner Session: **Driving Classroom Engagement with the Latest Collaborative Technologies**

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**12:40pm** Panel Discussion: **Examining a New World of Risks with the Adoption of Integrated Education Technology**



- How are policymakers, school boards and educational institutions addressing the increased cyber risks with the rise of learning technology?
- How can governments build stronger data management policies, while working with schools to monitor, mitigate and report incidents?
- What can schools do to further educate staff, teachers and students about cybersecurity and data privacy?
- What is needed from the ministry and key stakeholders to further research and data collection on this very new shift in education and learning?

**Stephen Whiffin**, *Director of Instruction and CIO*, Coquitlam School District #43

**Gerald Lee**, *Director of Information Technology*, Collingwood School

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**1:00pm** **Lunch and Networking Break**

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**2:00pm** **Roundtables:**

Breakout into specialized conversation areas and join engaging discussions to deep dive into innovation priorities

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Roundtable 1: **Creating Personalized Learning Experiences with Adaptive Technologies**

Roundtable 2: **Merging Pedagogy and Technology to Construct Curriculum-Focused Platforms for Both Students and Educators**

Roundtable 3: **Empowering the Classroom Through AI based Student-Led Learning**

Roundtable 4: **Building a Positive Relationship with Learning Through Collaborative and Engaging Classroom Apps**

Roundtable 5: **Accelerating Learning with Digital Course Solutions Whether at Home or In-Class**

Roundtable 6: **Managing Post-Secondary Programs Through One Fully Integrated and Customizable Platform**

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3:00pm

Spotlight Session: **Addressing the Barriers Impacting the Equity and Accessibility of Digital Learning Tools within Schools**

- How can we ensure resource distribution is based on equity and not just equality?
- How are broadband access limitations considered, when embracing more technology in the classroom?
- What resources are available to increase teachers' digital literacy when pivoting towards digital learning?
- What is being done to address inclusivity in the classroom and accessibility to the right technology for individuals with complex needs?

**Michel Gagnon**, *LST Helping Teacher and Assistive Technology Coordinator*, Surry School District

3:20pm

Gold Partner Session: **Applying Data Analytics to Support Student Success**

3:40pm

Panel Discussion: **Embracing The New Age of Learning: The Student Experience (K-12)**

- What has the response been from students, with the adoption of new digital learning practices?
- Parents are worried about children having too much screen time, how can we address this as we shift to more digital and tech-based learning strategies?
- How can the ministry and educators ensure that the use of technology is supporting various learning models, and not simply because it's available?
- What are the most popular and successful technologies or digital tools driving student success?

**Jason Dunk**, *Chief Technology Officer*, Saskatoon Public Schools

**Sandra Averill**, *District Teacher, K-12 ADST and Digital Literacy*, Langley School District

**Andy Beadon**, *Director Of Technology and ADST Teacher Leader*, King David High School

4:20pm

**Closing Remarks from the Chair, followed by Networking Drinks**[REGISTER NOW](#)

# Thank You to our **Partners**



## Gold



## Silver

