

Ontario CEC's 68th Annual Special Education Conference



“Well-being, Equity, and Success for All”
Enhancing learning and life outcomes for
students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents

Saturday, November 30 – Sunday, December 1, 2024

Toronto, Ontario

On behalf of the Ontario CEC Board of Directors, I am pleased to extend an invitation for you to join us in celebrating Ontario CEC's 68th Annual Provincial Special Education Conference, which will be held Saturday, November 30 – Sunday, December 1, 2024 at the Marriott Downtown CF Toronto Eaton Centre!

The theme of the 2024 conference is **Well-being, Equity and Success for All**; presentations will focus on evidence-based practices, instructional strategies, and technology to equitably support the well-being, learning and achievement of all students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. The conference program features more than 70 lecture and poster presentations in numerous topical areas, including: accessibility; diversity, equity, and inclusion; paraprofessionals; low incidence exceptionalities; mental health and well-being for students and educators; at-risk children & youth; autism; assistive and adaptive technology; literacy and numeracy; transitions; managing challenging behaviour; learning disabilities; developmental disabilities; post-secondary initiatives, and a Ministry of Education update.

Conference highlights include:

- ◆ Opening Keynote Presentation
- ◆ Exhibitor & Publisher Display
- ◆ Hot Topics & Featured Sessions
- ◆ Silent Auction
- ◆ Awards Presentations
- ◆ Celebratory Luncheon
- ◆ Poster Presentations
- ◆ [“The Ride Ahead”](#) Film Screening

Value added alert! Conference registration includes the opening keynote address, breakout sessions, poster presentations, silent auction, the Exhibitor/Publisher Display, along with breakfast and lunch both days. Special conference rates apply for CEC members and full-time University & College students.

Please join Ontario CEC for this unique self-directed professional learning opportunity!

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<https://ontario.exceptionalchildren.org/>



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Conference Overview

Friday, November 29, 2024

- ◆ Ontario CEC Board of Directors' Meeting
- ◆ Ontario CEC Annual General Meeting

Saturday, November 30, 2024

- ◆ 7:00 a.m. Registration & Breakfast
- ◆ 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Exhibitor/ Publisher Display
- ◆ 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Silent Auction, Organized by Ontario CEC Chapter 56 (Toronto)
- ◆ 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Opening Session & Keynote Address: ***The Not So Ordinary Magic of Mattering: Lifting Up All Children***, Dr. Gordon Flett, Professor, LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research, Department of Psychology, York University.
- ◆ 9:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- ◆ 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Networking Luncheon
- ◆ 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. **Showcase Session**: Poster Presentations & President's Reception

Sunday, December 1, 2024

- ◆ 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon Concurrent Breakout & Featured Sessions
- ◆ 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. **Adult and Yes I Can Student Award Presentations & The Ride Ahead Film Screening**
- ◆ 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Exhibitor/Publisher Display & Refreshment Stations
- ◆ 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Celebratory Luncheon/Closing**

Hot Topics & Featured Sessions

Note: please click here to access the full listing of breakout sessions: [Conference Sessions](#)

- ◆ [The Ride Ahead](#), Special Screening of the 2024 Hot Docs Film, produced by Samuel and [Dan Habib](#), award winning film producers and disability rights activists
- ◆ MoveON: Understanding Anxiety and Anger, [Karen Tompkins](#)
- ◆ AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Education: One Year Later, [Dr. Todd Cunningham](#), OISE/UT
- ◆ Empowering Exceptional Minds through Self-Determination, [Julia Hale and Sunaira Tejpar](#), & [Dr. Ian Matheson](#), [Queen's University](#)
- ◆ Exploring Ableism in Education, [Dr. Susie Lee-Fernandes](#), Director of Professional Learning, [Ontario Principals' Council](#)
- ◆ Applied Behavioural Analysis & Robotics in Inclusive Education, [Leilani Llacuna](#), [Hamilton Wentworth Catholic DSB](#)
- ◆ Naming Our Differences, [Yvonne Spicer](#), [Theresa Somerton](#), [Nicole Flynn](#), and [Kathryn Primrose](#), [Self-Advocates](#)
- ◆ Empowering Self-Regulation: Exploring the Impact of iPad on Independent Learning and Behaviour Management, [Kaleena Hanoski](#), [Quinte Mohawk School](#)
- ◆ Champions and Change Makers for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility in Schools, [Lori Taylor & Mary-Kaye McGreevy](#), [Upper Canada DSB](#), and [Carolyn McDougall](#), [Holland Bloorview](#)
- ◆ Meeting the Needs of all Students Through the Tiered Approach using the [Revised Waterfall](#), [Dr. Sue Ball](#), [Donna Donaldson](#), and [Cindy Thomas](#), [York Region DSB](#)
- ◆ Safe Spaces, Strong Voices: Empowering Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities through Teaching Sexual Health, Consent Education, and Abuse Prevention, [Dana Pettus](#), [AlphaBee](#)
- ◆ Building Brave, Equitable, and Accessible Spaces in Our Schools, [Laura Dilanni](#), [Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds](#), and [Tenesia Benjamin](#), [Peterborough, Victoria, Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB](#)
- ◆ TechEquity Connect: Empowering Summer Learning for All, [Sarah Clowes](#), [Superior North Catholic DSB](#)
- ◆ Success with Struggling Readers: Engagement through Evidence-based Reading Intervention, [Barbara Williams](#), [LEARNstyle Ltd.](#)
- ◆ Empowering Inclusion: Generative AI Tools to Support Universal Design for Learning, [Christine Congrady](#), [Student Services Co-ordinator](#), [Durham Catholic District School Board](#)
- ◆ Empowering Motivational Math Provocations for Diverse Learners, [Jennifer Gibbs](#), [Niagara Children's Centre School Authority](#)

Conference Registration

Value alert – not yet a member of Ontario CEC and looking to save on registration fees? Now is a great time to join CEC, or renew your CEC membership, and receive a **30% discount** on every category and level of CEC membership, for 1, 2, or 3-year terms.

[Click here to join CEC](#) Use the Ontario CEC Conference code **24ONCEC**

Please note that online conference registration opens on September 8 through this link, <https://web.cvent.com/event/78974229-1c00-49e8-a5ec-819536ee1c99/summary>

| Conference Registration November 30 – December 1, 2024 | Attendee & Presenter Non-CEC Member Rate | Attendee & Presenter CEC Member Rate | Full-time Student Rate | Full-time Student CEC Member Rate |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| Conference registration includes breakfast and lunch both days, all sessions/special events, and exhibits | \$400.00 | \$350.00 | \$300.00 | \$250.00 |

Interested in exhibiting at the conference? Corporate sponsorship opportunities?
Please contact Cindy Perras at cindy.perras@gmail.com

Conference Hotel/Room Bookings

[Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre](#)

525 Bay Street
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Ideally located in the heart of downtown Toronto, the Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre provides easy access to the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum, shopping, dining, the CN Tower, sporting venues (the Scotiabank Arena and Rogers Centre), and the Entertainment District. Getting there is easy - whether travelling by car, subway, streetcar, or train, as the hotel is just a few blocks from Union Station. For those travelling by air, the Union Pearson Express connects Toronto Pearson International Airport with Union Station, and the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is 10 minutes from the hotel.

A block of guest rooms is available at our conference hotel, the Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre, for November 28 – December 1, 2024. Guest room rates, which include complimentary WiFi, are \$221.00 (single/double occupancy) and \$241.00 (triple occupancy) per night. Amenities include a roof top pool and hot tub, fitness centre, lobby bar and restaurant serving contemporary Canadian cuisine. **Reservations must be booked by November 8, 2024**, through this hyperlink (also located on the conference website): [Marriott Reservations](#)