

Ontario CEC's 67th Annual Special Education Conference



“Well-being, Equity, and Success for All”

November 24 - 25, 2023

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 67th Annual Provincial Special Education Conference, which will be held November 24 – 25, 2023 at the Marriott Downtown CF Toronto Eaton Centre!

The theme of the 2023 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 special education needs. 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; indigenous education; and post-secondary initiatives.

Conference highlights include:

- ◆ Opening Keynote Presentation
- ◆ Exhibitor & Publisher Display
- ◆ Hot Topics & Featured Sessions
- ◆ Silent Auction
- ◆ Awards Presentations
- ◆ Celebratory Luncheon
- ◆ Poster Presentations
- ◆ Technology Strand

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!

For further information, please contact:

Cindy Perras
Conference Co-ordinator
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<https://ontario.exceptionalchildren.org/>



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Conference Overview

Thursday, November 23, 2023

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

Friday, November 24, 2023

- ◆ 7:00 a.m. Registration & Breakfast
- ◆ 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Opening Session & Keynote Address** The Power of Self-Advocacy in Understanding how Processing Affects Learning: A Guide to Supporting All Students, **Dr. Sue Ball, Lead Psychologist and Matthew Cote, Teacher, York Region District School Board**
- ◆ 9:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- ◆ 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Exhibitor/ Publishers' Display
- ◆ 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Networking Luncheon
- ◆ 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Silent Auction, Organized by Ontario CEC Chapter 56 (Toronto)

Saturday, November 25, 2023

- ◆ 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Poster Presentations & Breakfast
- ◆ 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Adult and Yes I Can Student Award Presentations**
- ◆ 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Exhibitor/Publisher Display
- ◆ 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Community/Agency Display
- ◆ 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. **Celebratory Luncheon**

Hot Topics & Featured Sessions

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

- ◆ Strengths-based Resilience: Incorporating Cultural Context and Learning Needs to Foster Resilience and Well-being, [Dr. Carolyn Lennox and Afroze Anjum, Toronto DSB, and Tayyab Rashid, University of Melbourne, Australia](#)
- ◆ Supporting Reading Comprehension with Assistive Technology, [Teresa Greco, LEARNstyle](#)
- ◆ Count Me In! Communication Tools to Include Autistic Students, [Adriana Karka, Geneva Centre](#)
- ◆ The Digital Age: How Technology is Affecting the Cognition, Mental Health, and Future of our Children, [NILD Canada](#)
- ◆ Equity Leadership to Support Student Well-being and Achievement, [Dr. Susie Lee-Fernandes, Ontario Principals' Council and Christine Congrady, Student Services Coordinator, Durham Catholic DSB](#)
- ◆ Occupational Therapists & Physiotherapists in Ontario Schools: Galvanizing Students' Learning and Participation through Collaborative Practices, Capacity Building, and Barrier Breaking, [OCDSB, PDSB, YRDSB, ALCDSB, TDSB, DSBN, CSGN, and YCDSB](#)
- ◆ Strategies for Engaging and Supporting Students with Math Anxiety, [Pamela MacDonald and Dr. Derek Berg, Queen's University](#)
- ◆ Making Accessibility Affordable: How Volunteer Makers Create Assistive Technology, [Stephan Dobri, Neil Squire Society and Shaun Maddock, Grandview School](#)
- ◆ Differentiation 2.0: Essential Toolkit for Equitable and Enabling De-streamed Pedagogy [Dr. Laurie Faith, Katie Healy, and Kay Liang, OISE University of Toronto](#)
- ◆ Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility: Universal Design for Learning, Differentiated Instruction, CRRP (Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy) – Oh My!, [Lara Donsky, Toronto DSB](#)
- ◆ Empowering Students with Special Education Needs (K-12) through Leadership Projects and Self-advocacy Building, [Bayan Yammout, Bloorview School Authority](#)
- ◆ Transitioning Students with Complex Needs into Inclusive Learning Environments, [Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic DSB](#)
- ◆ Project SEARCH School to Work Training Program: Key Learnings for Program and Intern Success, [Trisha Woehrle, Vesna Frankovich, Carly Robinson, HWDSB, and Carolyn McDougall, Holland Bloorview](#)
- ◆ At the Heart of the Matter: Supporting Well-being and Resiliency Post Pandemic, [Dr. Sue Ball, York Region DSB](#)
- ◆ Inclusive Education Indicators: Reflection Tool and Resource Bank, [Jennifer Porter and Marie McDade, Avon Maitland DSB](#)

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 **ONCEC2023**

Please note that online conference registration opens on September 15 through this link,

<https://cvent.me/r9L4q0>

Conference Registration November 24 – 25, 2023	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
Toronto, Ontario
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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 22 - 26, 2023. Guest room rates, which include complimentary WiFi, are \$215.00 (single/double occupancy), \$235.00 (triple occupancy) and \$255.00 (quadruple 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, 2023**, either by calling 416.597.9200 and referencing the booking code, "OCE", or through this hyperlink (also located on the conference website): [Marriott Reservations](#)