

President's Report

Welcome back! Happy Fall!

A huge thank you to all of our members for your continued support and your dedication to language teaching. We are very excited for our Fall Conference and hope to see all of you there. As the BC Ministry of Education has launched the new Reporting Order, effective July 1st 2023, we want to support our teachers provincially with assessment and help educators navigate this new terrain. There will be many changes and some fine tuning of current strategies. As your PSA we want to support all of our members to feel confident and ready to provide descriptive feedback and use the most effective tools in our language classrooms in order to provide the information that will be required.

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/classroom-assessment>

Change is always exciting and we want to help teachers to embrace the change without burning out and feel equipped to do the job well, always putting our learners first. Let's work together on this journey. We will continue to work hard for the Fall Conference and in the year ahead to continue to find ways to support Indigenous learning and also find ways to Indigenize our assessment practices. There are so many resources to share and we will continue to send updates to you and offer webinars and Book Club opportunities.

Best wishes to all of you for a successful start to the school year! Happy Fall! We look forward to working with you in the year ahead and hope to see you at our fall conference.

Kindra
BCATML President



Qing 言

Vol. 33 No. 1

September 2023



CASLTCorner

At this time we would also like to recognize and thank our amazing National Council – CASLT (Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers). We work very closely with CASLT and are very proud of this partnership. With your BCATML membership obtained at our Fall Conference, you automatically receive a membership to CASLT where you can access a wide variety of resources and learning opportunities. Be sure to visit their website often to see what is happening.

Please see the link below to read a fantastic article about Back To School and feeling ready as a teacher... here are a few tips shared in the article...

<https://www.caslt.org/en/blog-language-teachers-guide-new-school-year/>

3 CURRENT POLICIES	K-9 OPTION A (INTERIM)	K-9 OPTION B	GRADES 10-12
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 reporting events a year • 4 points of progress report • 1 summary of progress report at the end of year/semester • 1 self-reflection of Core Competencies • A scale at K-3 • District choice on scale or letter grades at grades 4-9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 reporting events a year • 2 informal reports • 3 formal reports • 1 self-reflection of Core Competencies • Performance Scale at K-3 • District choice on scale or letter grades at grades 4-5 • Letter grades at 6-9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 reporting events a year • 2 informal reports • 3 formal reports • Letter grades and percentage with written comments where needed
1 NEW POLICY	Updated K-12 Policy		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 reporting events a year • 4 Learning Updates (2 written; 2 of flexible format) • 1 Summary of Learning (written) • Student self-reflection of the Core Competencies & student goal setting • Provincial Proficiency scale and descriptive feedback in K-9 • Letter grades & percentages with descriptive feedback in 10-12 • Graduation Status Update at 10-12 		

Some goals to consider include the following:

- Brushing up your proficiency in your target language(s)
- Reading more in your spare time (in any language!)
- Exploring a new pedagogical approach to language teaching
- Trying different methods of learning for your class, such as outdoor learning
- Focusing on a particular skill in your class, such as listening, reading, or oral production

Conference News

A message from the conference co-chairs

Warm greetings to all of you from your Conference Co-Chairs!


We have an exciting year ahead of us and an amazing BCATML Conference planned for language teachers this October.

We hope to see all of you there! You spoke and we listened. The theme of our BCATML October in-person conference is Assessment. With the new Reporting Order in place as of July 1, 2023 we really want to support our teachers provincially and deliver the professional development that teachers have requested. We are very excited to welcome our keynote, Lisa Green, who has many strategies and ideas to share that are field-tested and ready to use in your classes tomorrow.

In our Exhibitor Hall we are very excited to welcome a wide variety of Exhibitors with resources to support language learners and teachers. We have many new vendors joining us! In order to also keep you nourished as you enjoy visiting the vendors we have some surprises in store for you! You will not want to miss this!!.....can you say Donut Wall?!!

K-12 Student Reporting

Backed by Research



Meaningful Communication
Researchers stress the importance of ongoing and timely communication with parents and caregivers. Effective communication between home and school has a positive impact on student learning and engagement.

Focus on Proficiency
Assessment that is focused on student proficiency in relation to the established Learning Standards leads to improved reliability of assessment results and increased student engagement.

Student Self-Assessment
Student self-assessment leads to an increase in student confidence in their abilities, greater responsibility for their own learning, greater student satisfaction.

Formative Assessment
Globally, there is a shift toward assessment of learning so that the student is regularly informed of where they're at in their learning and how to move them forward.



Our BCATML Conference Committee is very proud to share with all of you our workshop selections for this event. We have a full range of sessions for you to choose from. We warmly welcome all of our presenters and a special welcome back to those presenters who are very well known to you including Nancy Griffith-Zahner, Michelle Metcalfe, and Adriana Ramirez. A huge thank you to all of our presenters. We are very grateful to all of you for sharing your knowledge and expertise. For those of you who teach Spanish we are very grateful to be able to offer a session with Miguel Hernaiz who will share updates from the Spanish Embassy.

Many sessions share strategies for teachers from all language areas rather than specific sessions for each language, including:

- Assessment
- Indigenous Perspectives and Learning
- TPRS
- Technology

Be sure to register early for early-bird pricing and before registration fills up!

Bring your energy and we will provide the rest!!

Inspiring keynote session! Fantastic door prizes! Action-packed workshops and more...

See you in October in Richmond! We are excited to host this event in beautiful Richmond, BC at the Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport. The hotel resides on the Musqueam territory. Rooms are blocked off and held for the conference. Stay tuned for more information about booking your hotel room. BCATML will be hosting a 'Welcome' event on Thursday evening in the pub at the hotel.

A huge thank you to our BCATML Conference Committee who kindly spend many volunteer hours to organize this event. We are so grateful to them and to all of you, our members! See you in person in Richmond in October.

Kindra and Wendy

Co-Conference Chairs

Conference News

Meet our Keynote!

Lisa Green is a high school Spanish and English teacher who enjoys engaging in professional development with colleagues. She is passionate about organizational psychology and holds a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a dual focus in Education and Work, Organization and Leadership. She has written articles in professional publications and is an award-winning YA author under her middle name, Dawn Green. Currently working and living in Victoria, British Columbia, she looks forward to using her education and skill set to help students and educators alike.



Registration is OPEN!

Register for the conference now! Early-bird pricing is in effect until September 30th, so register now to take advantage of the savings! Go to our conference website at the link below.

**REGISTER
NOW**

<https://www.celebrating-languages.ca/>

October 20, 2023



Celebrating Languages 2023

 October 20, 2023

 Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport

 In-Person



Workshops at a Glance

For a detailed description of each workshop, go to:
<https://www.celebrating-languages.ca/schedule>

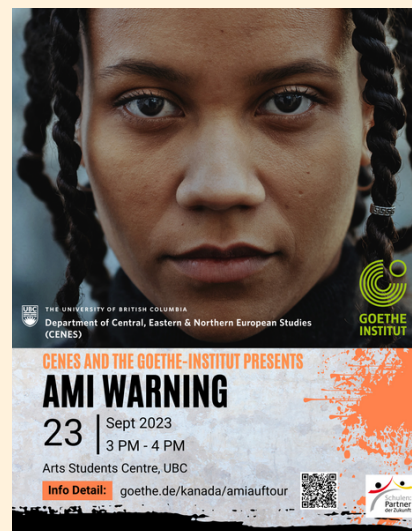
BCATML Celebrating Languages 2023 Workshops at a Glance	
08:15 - 08:30	Welcome Address
08:30 - 09:30	Keynote - Lisa Green
09:30 - 10:15	AGM
10:30 - 12:00	Session A A1 - Teaching Languages with Comprehensible Novels (Ramírez/Metcalfe) A2 - Let's Get Students Talking! (Trotman) A3 - Self-Directed Final Projects (Illing) A4 - Teaching Elementary/Middle School Core French with Confidence (Campbell) A5 - Assessment and feedback in the languages classroom (Wozniak-Rush) A6 - Oral Activities in the German Classroom (Hirschhorn) A7 - Residing between the Curricula (Griffith-Zahner)
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch Break
13:00 - 14:00	Session B B1 - Authentic Evidence Collection (Bowes) B2 - Entends-tu l'éco?/Can you hear the echo? (Gregory) B3 - Games in my second language classroom (McFayden) B4 - Inclusion and Equity in our Assessment Practices (Ramírez) B5 - Language Learning Through Travel (Hirschhorn) B6 - Más allá de la creación de contenidos digitales (Hernáiz) B7 - Co-construct with our keynote! (Green)
14:00 - 14:30	Exhibitor Hall
14:30 - 15:30	Session C C1 - Can we really teach culture? (Ramírez) C2 - Lessons from Liam (Bensted) C3 - TPRS 2.0: Beyond Circling (Metcalfe) C4 - The Innovative Language Classroom (Harte, CASLT) C5 - Co-construct with our keynote! (Green)



News and Upcoming Events

BCCTG and UBC's first ever German Day will be held on Saturday, September 23, from 10 AM–3 PM. This day of programming invites German high school students onto the UBC campus to learn about CENES and the German program to get a taste of our community-building endeavours and course offerings. There will be games, free food, and information on courses and scholarship opportunities.

This day of programming will then conclude with a concert by Ami Warning, which will take place at 3 PM in the Arts Students Centre at UBC.



BCATML Newsletter Guidelines

The BCATML Newsletter is the official publication of the B.C. Association of Teachers of Modern Languages, a provincial specialist association of the B.C. Teachers' Federation. Three issues are published each year.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The BCATML Newsletter is the professional journal of the BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages. As such, it acts as a communication vehicle for ideas, trends and new developments in the field; supports a professional network of Modern Language teachers who are committed to innovative teaching strategies; promotes the teaching and learning of additional languages, through the BC curriculum.

Subscription to the BCATML newsletter is included with membership in the BCATML. The 2023–2024 fees are: BCTF members \$40, Subscribers \$65.00; Pre-Service Teachers/TTOC/Retired BCTF members \$15. Fees include the BCATML Newsletter, information about conferences, workshops, projects, and other BCATML publications and activities. In addition, if you attend BCATML's annual fall conference, you will receive membership in CASLT (Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers). BCATML memberships run for 12 months from the time applications are processed by the BCTF.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

Articles submitted for publication should be sent with a covering letter that contains:

- the author's full address, telephone number and/or email address
- a short description of the author and their current work or position
- a brief disclaimer allowing the editor editing and publishing rights
- a photograph of the author
- a photograph or high-resolution graphic to accompany the article

We encourage material submitted by email in .doc and .png format as most articles are reformatted to our publication style. Graphics should be sent as separate files. Please send articles as an e-mail attachment to: wyamazaki@deltaschools.ca. Length of articles usually varies from 300 to 1,000 words. Articles longer than 1,000 words may be shortened for publication. Authors must take particular care with diagrams and drawings. These are best reproduced if they are high contrast. Please do not submit items from copyright publications, if you have not included permission to publish them. The editor reserves the right to alter the text in any way necessary to conform to the objectives and mandate of the BCATML.

Submission Deadlines: November 1st, March 1st, August 1st.

Submission topics: curriculum implementation, back to school, cultural festivals & celebrations, aboriginal ways of knowing and perspectives aligned to the curriculum, assessment & evaluation, reporting, use of technology in a second language classroom context, etc. Copyright of articles resides with the original authors.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

The costs to advertise in our newsletter are as follows:

- Full page \$100
- Half page \$50
- Quarter page \$25

We encourage material submitted in .jpeg and .png format, as our newsletter program does not support pdf uploads. Please send advertisements as an e-mail attachment to wyamazaki@deltaschools.ca.

Address correspondence to the Editor:

Wendy Yamazaki
Seaquam Secondary School
11584 Lyon Road
Delta BC V4E 2K4

