



Canadian Association of Montessori Teachers

Presents:

MODERN MONTESSORI Adaptation to Our Time and Place

**CAMT Annual Conference
November 2 2018**

The Old Mill, 21 Old Mill Road, Toronto



Featuring:
Paula Prosper
*Tradition, Transition,
and Technology
in the Contemporary
Montessori Classroom*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2

7:30—8:55

Registration/Breakfast

8:55—9:00

Welcome Remarks

9:00—10:00

Keynote: Paula Prosper

10:00—10:20

CAMT AGM

10:30—12:00

Workshops A-F

12:00—1:30

Lunch and
Visit with Exhibitors

1:30—3:30

Workshops G-L

3:30—5:00

Tea with Exhibitors
Prize Draws

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT CAMT.CA

OPENING KEYNOTE

Tradition, Transition, and Technology in the Contemporary Montessori Classroom

Paula Prosper

Today's Montessori programs face a difficult challenge. We must continue to walk the well-established Montessori path, while treading cautiously into the new territory of the twenty first century.

What traditions must we hold firm, what practices can we adapt, and what innovations should we embrace?

All these decisions must, at their core, work to support and foster the Montessori philosophy.



ABOUT PAULA PROSPER

Ms. Prosper began her education career teaching high school mathematics in the 1990s in Arlington, Virginia. From 2008 – 2013 she created, implemented, and taught the Technology Program at the Montessori School of McLean.

The lesson plans and materials she created for that program are available at www.teacherspayteachers.com (under the storefront Effective Tech).

From 2013 to 2016, Ms. Prosper and her family lived, traveled, and homeschooled aboard their 43-foot sailboat (their sailing blog can be found at www.closequarters.us). Ms. Prosper currently teaches math at Cooper Middle School in McLean, Virginia.

Contact her at paulaaprospers@gmail.com.

Why Should You Attend the CAMT Conference?

- An exciting time to collaborate and rejuvenate amongst Montessori colleagues.
- Attending CAMT's conference is an excellent opportunity for educators to fulfill a school's policy on training and Professional Development. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance.
- A rewarding, uplifting and inspiring day!

***NOTE: Schools registering more than 5 staff at the same time will receive a 10% discount.**

- Use the code CAMT10 when completing your online application.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER VISIT CAMT.CA

Session A

Medicine Wheel Mentoring™ An Introduction to First Nations Culture and Worldview (ALL)

Raven Murphy

Based within the traditional wisdom of the Medicine Wheel, this introduction to First Nations culture and worldview centers around a unique experiential learning style that encompasses Mind Body & Spirit.

This workshop promises insight, inspiration and understanding into the historical and present philosophies of Aboriginal Peoples and the significance of the land we call Canada.

Storytelling, music, art, traditional concepts and teaching techniques are offered as a guide towards student success through the infusion of traditional land knowledge (TLK) into the classroom.



ABOUT RAVEN MURPHY

As a proud Anishinabe (First Nations) woman, Raven wholeheartedly shares her experiences and the wisdom of her Ancestors by way of The Medicine Wheel that bridge us to the ancient understandings of interconnectedness and re-establishes our earth-connection.

Through a wide variety of workshops, day retreats, school visitations and guest appearances Raven's ability to accelerate awareness and enthusiasm in others coupled with her passion for life and is undoubtedly contagious. As a Dynamic Speaker, Visionary, Author, Musician and Teacher Raven continues to assist, inspire and encourage others in a Natural World of Beauty, Grace and Possibility.

Session B

Get REAL Inclusivity Workshop (Elementary/Adolescents)

Marley Bowen and Lucah Rosenberg-Lee

Teachers will learn from the lived experience of LGBTQ+ & ally facilitators through story sharing with a focus on unlearning LGBTQ+ discrimination and harmful language, and understanding that everyone has unique challenges in their lives, a story to share, and a chance to impact someone else's life for the better.

They will also work at acquiring concrete strategies to support LGBTQ+ students and combat homophobia/transphobia in the classroom through discussion of realistic scenarios that occur within the school community.

ABOUT MARLEY BOWEN



Marley Bowen is the dynamic force behind Get REAL's expansion over the past three years, and a proud leader of the organization. Hailing from Gros Morne, Newfoundland, Marley got involved with Get REAL while she was in university on the east coast, because she felt like her high school environment wasn't a place that people felt comfortable coming out and being themselves. After coming out as gay herself, she wanted to give back and help others who may be struggling accepting their sexuality. After flying to Toronto for a high school speaking tour, she took on the second ever full-time staff position and has been growing the program ever since. Her unwavering optimism and unparalleled work ethic has enabled Get REAL's workshop program expand to one of the largest in Canada, impacting 8 provinces (and 3 states), and over 150,000 young people to date.

As Executive VP, Marley manages all of the organization's workshops, keynotes, and other speaking engagements year-round, in addition to being a prolific speaker herself. She is the key player in Get REAL's social media growth, merchandise designs, fundraisers, and new partnership development -- really, anything that helps the organization grow. Her instincts for the Get REAL brand have helped define the organization internationally, and carve out its unique place in the LGBTQ+ non-profit landscape, and her fearlessness and her belief in the organization's results have navigated Get REAL through the many challenges a non-profit organization faces. Born in Newfoundland, Marley currently lives in Toronto and loves exploring the city (good food and hip coffee shops), spinning, meeting new people, and spending far too much time at the dog park with the newest (and furriest) member of her family.

ABOUT LUCAH ROSENBERG-LEE



The newest addition to the team, Lucah Rosenberg-Lee came on board in the fall of 2017 to manage Get REAL's marketing and develop effective and meaningful content, helping the organization reach new audiences and share not only the countless stories of the individuals involved, but also the story and brand of the organization itself. An excellent speaker in his own right, Lucah also brings his intersecting life experiences to Get REAL workshops across Canada, with his inspiring story of achieving success not only in his professional life, but also as someone navigating being transgender.

Lucah currently handles everything from Google Ads, to Facebook Analytics, to website design and film production for bigger video-based projects. Born in the Dominican Republic, Lucah currently lives in Toronto, and is also an independent filmmaker. His first film, "Passing", was a short documentary profiling his experiences as a black trans man and how others like him cope with the gender transition in a binary world.

Session C

Social Justice, Peace Education, and the Montessori Classroom (ALL)

Razan Abdin-Adnani

In this workshop, we will collectively imagine what Montessori environments that guide learners through a social justice lens look like. Attendees will participate in dialogue, critical self-reflection, and engaging activities in order to develop the tools to create a more robust Peace Education curriculum, which centers equity and justice and helps cultivate children who are socially conscious, global citizens.

The goal is that attendees will walk away from this workshop with:

- Information about teaching through a social justice lens: Where do we start? What does this look like? Why does it matter?
- Concrete strategies on how to support children through the process of positive identity development, global citizenship, becoming an upstander, and learning how to participate in democratic life.
- Knowledge on how to engage children in critical thinking with regard to injustices and inequities in our world and how to give children the language to discuss differences in a respectful, accurate, and celebratory manner.
- Tools to help them identify and address barriers to creating truly peaceful and equitable learning environments



ABOUT RAZAN ABDIN-ADNANI

Razan Abdin-Adnani is an educational consultant, curriculum developer, and writer living in New York City.

She holds a BA in International Studies, an M.Ed in Education, and an AMI Montessori Diploma (Casa dei Bambini, 3-6).

Razan has four years of experience as a lead guide in classrooms in the US and has also taught English abroad. She has facilitated workshops and trainings for schools (public and independent), nonprofit organizations, international NGOs, and at national conferences.

Razan brings a combination of Montessori theory, teaching and nonprofit experience, and international activism to this work.

Session D

Rainbow Families: Visibility in Early Years (Casa/Toddler)

Shelley Secrett

As early childhood educators, early learning professionals and parents, we value providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for all children. However, even the most well-intentioned educator might struggle with how to approach LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning) families and topics in the classroom.

This dynamic and interactive workshop is designed to build the confidence and comfort level of educators seeking to create a more inclusive classroom.

We will cover topics such as our early beliefs and how they impact us, appropriate and current terminology, how to creatively use family diversity resources to plant seeds of acceptance, and practical ways to embrace teachable moments about gender and family diversity in age-appropriate ways.

ABOUT SHELLEY SECRETT



Shelley Secrett is a registered early childhood educator at Emmanuel at Brighton Child Care in Waterloo, ON.

Shelley is very involved in Waterloo Region's vibrant LGBTQ community by hosting fundraisers, raising awareness and empowering people to be who they are.

As an RECE, Shelley believes that all children need to see a reflection of themselves and their families in our early childhood programs and that one small action towards accepting and celebrating our differences leads to another.

She has taught Philosophy of Early Childhood Education in the ECE Apprenticeship program at Conestoga College.

Shelley presents her dynamic workshops at professional development events and conferences throughout Ontario and Manitoba on the topics of Rainbow Families, Mandalas for Children, Self-Care for Educators and DrumFIT.

Session E

Critical Thinking by Design (Casa/Elementary)

Abhi Ahluwalia

This workshop is designed to challenge participants to think critically about bias, stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.

Workshop participants will be lead through experiential activities designed to raise critical consciousness and highlight the bias we all have and to better understand how we can use this awareness to create a safe, caring and inclusive environment promoting dignity and respect for all.

Participants will work hands on with unlearn posters designed to support and strengthen inclusive curriculum and support culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy.

Abhi will share specific examples of how educators, schools and school boards across the province are using unlearn posters as a critical thinking tool to address human rights and equity.

ABOUT ABHI AHLUWALIA



With Sikh roots in Punjab, India, Abhi was born in Leicester, United Kingdom to parents born and raised in East Africa Uganda. In 1972, Abhi's family was expelled from Uganda when dictator Idi Amin overthrew the government. Two years later Abhi's family emigrated to Canada and settled in Kitchener-Waterloo.

Abhi Ahluwalia is the founder of unlearn. unlearn is a social enterprise whose mission is to provoke thought to inspire positive change. Recognizing the value for human interaction and dialogue, unlearn creates thought provoking designs and workshops that are open for interpretation which address equity, social justice and human rights. Abhi believes design has the ability to challenge the way people think and ultimately change the world.

He is the recipient of the Lincoln M. Alexander Award and the Anne and Ed Mirvish Achievement Award which recognizes individuals that have made a significant and innovative contribution towards eliminating racial prejudice and discrimination in our society.

Session F

Role Fluidity and Adaptability (Adolescent)

David McNees

Nurturing a holistic creative principle within our students brings hope for social change, adaptation and peace. The adolescent is a Seeker on the path of discovering her authentic and personal roles and their power to serve the good, recognizing the value of her character and how it can affect her community. Along this path, the adolescent tries on many roles. As Montessori guides we have unique opportunities to coalesce ideas concerning healthy role fluidity and the spark of creative flow as they inform our pedagogy and enhance our students' experience. In this, we may explore how the adult guide can prepare an environment that honors connections between social development, creativity, and cognition within Humanities, Occupations, and the Creative Arts.

Adolescents tend to get stuck in a role. As a matter of fact, most humans do at any age. We need to help guide them to participate in their experience, not to make an identity of a singular one. When we can help guide them into a fluid role system, they do not get locked into an identity, they learn to let identities go and creatively adapt to their world. And this, I believe, is our primary goal: the creation of an adaptable, caring citizen.

ABOUT DAVID MCNEES



David McNees is a guide at Hershey Montessori's Adolescent Community in Huntsburg, OH. He holds a BA in English from U.C. Berkeley, a master's degree in creative art therapy, applied psychology from New York University and a certificate from NAMTA's Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies. David is a Shakespearean scholar and actor who has created drama programs for multiple schools and organizations. He has also worked as a therapist for adolescent and adult populations in Manhattan. As well as in education, he has utilized the art of drama in clinical therapeutic situations for a variety of populations including terminally ill children and institutionalized adults.

David has studied and practiced Zen Buddhism and Mindfulness techniques directly from Zen Buddhist Master Thich Nhat Hanh and received from Hanh his certification for Mindfulness in Education. David also received his Dharma name, "Embodied Guide of the Heart", as a lay monk from the Thich Nhat Hanh's Zen Order of Interbeing. He is also trained in MSBR (Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction). He has implemented Mindfulness programs in private middle school programs in the hope of helping to promote peace within future generations. His Mindfulness techniques include silent and guided meditations, with a focus on present moment thinking and awareness. He understands that the highest forms of serenity and creativity exist only in this moment and helps to guide others on the path.

Session G

Toddler Adaptation **The Centre and the Periphery** *Kate Millie*

When a child is born, they have two tasks: to construct their personality and to adapt to their time and place. In effort to "become human" a child from 0 - 3 absorbs from the environment all that they need to create themselves. Our influence on the child is on the periphery. We prepare the environment, both physical and psychological, to best meet the developmental needs of the child and offer the most enriching experiences for the child to use in their self-construction.

In this workshop we will delve into the huge importance positive adaptation is for children under 3 years old and how we can best support the child's work and influence their periphery.

ABOUT KATE MILLIE



Kate Millie works at Dundas Valley Montessori School as a guide in the Toddler community and holds her AMI Montessori 0-3 and 3 -6 teacher certifications and a Masters in Education. She has been working as an advocate for Montessori education for over ten years.

Kate spent five years living in Beijing, China, where she worked at two large International Montessori Schools as a Casa teacher and later as Academic Director, helping to guide and consult with teachers and administrators to better their Montessori practices.

In the middle of her time in China, Kate moved to Italy for a year, while her husband trained at the AMI Elementary training program in Bergamo. Kate spent her year as course assistant for the Elementary program. Back in Canada, Kate operated a home Nido environment prior to opening DVMS's first Toddler Community in 2015.

Kate is a passionate advocate for our youngest citizens and a vocal supporter of developmental education for all.

Session H

Casa Adaptation

Montessori Farm School: A Natural Extension

Sukhsehj Kaur

It is also necessary for his psychical life to place the soul of the child in contact with creation, in order that he may lay up for himself treasure from the directly educating forces of living nature.

Dr. Maria Montessori

This workshop will lead participants on an inspiring journey a small Montessori School House took to develop an authentic Montessori Casa program that encompassed outdoor studies, and work lessons within a free range farm environment. That's right a Montessori Farm School with a curriculum including care of animals, care of an outdoor farm environment while also cultivating and caring for an organic vegetable plot, year round. Think of children aged 3, 4 and 5 years working within a nurturing indoor Montessori environment and extending their work environment to include caring for and nurturing hens, roosters, chicks, goats, sheep, horses, ponies, rabbits and more. It's the Little School House That Could. Participants will learn just how; and be inspired to find their own ways of taking the Montessori experience outside.

This workshop will embrace Dr. Montessori's gift of observation by giving participants an opportunity to observe children in a working Montessori outdoor environment. We will delve into meeting the needs of today's child while also asking the question of how different today's children are from the children Dr. Montessori observed and served. Have their needs changed and evolved? Or have we forgotten to follow and answer the natural yearning of the child which guides us outdoors? We answer, once and for all, Dr. Montessori's own thoughts on cultivating an environment rife with nature and sentient beings for the child to serve and learn from.

With personal anecdotes, and inspiration from a 15 year dream turned into a reality, and the surprising way we made it happen; this workshop is about more than a Farm School, it's about building something beautiful with the resources and relationships within a community. Each participant will leave inspired to follow their own children outside the indoor Montessori environment and create something beautiful for the child, just as Dr. Montessori herself had dreamt.

ABOUT SUKHSEHJ KAUR



Sukhsehj Kaur is the Directrice and Guide of Mes Amis Montessori School House. An accredited Montessori Casa teacher, and certified children's yoga and mindfulness instructor, for over 20 years, Sukhsehj Kaur is also an accredited facilitator in Educational Kinesiology.

Mme. Kaur has presented at the World Religions Conference, and has had the honour to be a guest speaker at The Mayor's Peace Breakfast. She has also worked with the Equity and Inclusion Committee for the Waterloo Regional District School Board; addressing teachers, presenting to public school students, and a full conference of WRDSB principals. She has spent years mentoring youth and parents across North America, as well as parts of Europe and Asia.

Sukhsehj Kaur was nominated for the Women of Waterloo region's (WOW) Community Hero award, and recognized as 'an individual who defines enthusiasm and exuberance, pushing the envelope routinely and giving tirelessly in her quest to make the community a better place for all.'

She feels privileged to make Waterloo her home, (right along the edge of rural countryside and Mennonite farmlands) with her husband, a local high school teacher, and their daughter who share her love of animals and farming

Session I

Elementary Adaptation

From Practical Life to a Life of Service

Terry Millie

The elementary child has the monumental task of understanding human groups through time by studying tools of the hand, innovations of the mind, and the compassion of the heart. While this educational pursuit unfolds, the children themselves form a practice society where they learn to adapt and become contributing members of their social group.

In this session we will explore practical ways to help students connect and contribute to their school communities in meaningful ways.

ABOUT TERRY MILLIE



Terrence Millie is an 9 - 12 guide at Dundas Valley Montessori School in Hamilton, Ontario.

He received his AMI diploma at the Elementary level from Fondazione Centro Internazionale Studi Montessoriani in Bergamo, Italy.

He lived in Beijing, China, for five years while teaching and administrating at The Family Learning House and Daystar Academy.

Terrence and his family moved back to Canada to find a Montessori community close to home (Guelph, Ontario) where his children could grow up to reach their potential.

He is also a board member at large with the Canadian Association of Montessori Teachers.

Session J

Adolescent Adaptation

Neurobiological Effects of Technology (into) Mindfulness for Guides and Students

David McNees

Early in their lives, the power to dictate students' relationship with technology and, as a result, its influence on them, from synaptic activity to conscious thought, is in the hands of their parents and guides. Underlying the adolescent's eager embrace of these sweeping technological changes is neurobiology forged by the fires of evolution to be extremely adept at adaptation. The consequences of the brain's adaptation to the demands and opportunities of the digital age have enormous implications for adolescence, as well as adolescent guides.

The practice of mindfulness can be a tool for fostering creativity. Mindfulness is certainly a buzzword these days, we are seeing it recommended all over the place, and I think many people have a lot of different ideas about what it means and how to implement it. Mindfulness, simply put, is to be present with your experience. To be here, now. For adolescents and adults this requires a focusing of the mind that helps us let go of our concepts of the past and future and only pay attention to our exact moment.

The adolescent brain is moving at lightning speed, and as we know, it is highly concerned with the past and the future. But when we see in our students that moment of perfect engagement when they are truly in the flow of things, it is when they are mindful of that moment and not worrying themselves about the past and future. Adolescents desire to be with the still, wise, compassionate part of them that is so difficult to access. Silence brings them back to themselves, it brings them 'home' where they are confident, and creativity is a resultant factor of that silence.

ABOUT DAVID MCNEES



David McNees is a guide at Hershey Montessori's Adolescent Community in Huntsburg, OH. He holds a BA in English from U.C. Berkeley, a master's degree in creative art therapy, applied psychology from New York University and a certificate from NAMTA's Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies. David is a Shakespearean scholar and actor who has created drama programs for multiple schools and organizations. He has also worked as a therapist for adolescent and adult populations in Manhattan. As well as in education, he has utilized the art of drama in clinical therapeutic situations for a variety of populations including terminally ill children and institutionalized adults.

David has studied and practiced Zen Buddhism and Mindfulness techniques directly from Zen Buddhist Master Thich Nhat Hanh and received from Hanh his certification for Mindfulness in Education. David also received his Dharma name, "Embodied Guide of the Heart", as a lay monk from the Thich Nhat Hanh's Zen Order of Interbeing. He is also trained in MSBR (Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction). He has implemented Mindfulness programs in private middle school programs in the hope of helping to promote peace within future generations. His Mindfulness techniques include silent and guided meditations, with a focus on present moment thinking and awareness. He understands that the highest forms of serenity and creativity exist only in this moment and helps to guide others on the path.

Session K

Elementary/Middle School Adaptation

Implementing Technology in the Montessori Environment

Paula Prosper

Participants will discuss and explore the ways in which technology can be used to support and sustain the Montessori philosophy.

Specific projects and sample lessons will be presented so that participants will have practical and achievable ideas to take back to their own classrooms.

ABOUT PAULA PROSPER



Ms. Prosper began her education career teaching high school mathematics in the 1990s in Arlington, Virginia. From 2008 – 2013 she created, implemented, and taught the Technology Program at the Montessori School of McLean.

The lesson plans and materials she created for that program are available at www.teacherspayteachers.com (under the storefront Effective Tech). From 2013 to 2016, Ms. Prosper and her family lived, traveled, and homeschooled aboard their 43-foot sailboat (their sailing blog can be found at www.closequarters.us).

Ms. Prosper currently teaches math at Cooper Middle School in McLean, Virginia.

Contact her at paulaaprospers@gmail.com.

Session L

Administrators

Leveraging Social Media and Digital Marketing to Grow Your School's Business

Alec Glover and Peter Boos

The internet is a very powerful tool for reaching new customers and building relationships with your existing clients.

This workshop will show you how to leverage a website and social media to grow your school's business.

We will start by covering websites and how you can get a high-end website for a low cost by doing a bit of work yourself. Modern technology has made it so that building a website requires no programming to achieve the same results.

We aim to show you what's available and how to learn the relevant software.

The second part of our presentation will show you how to drive traffic to your website using social media as well as building a base of followers to promote the organic growth of your page. This will include an introduction to graphic design tools as well as how to publish and boost a post via Facebook.



ABOUT ALEC GLOVER

A computer engineering student at Queen's University who attended Northumberland Montessori School with Peter Boos of Glover and Boos over 10 years ago. Alec manages development projects at Glover and Boos.

ABOUT PETER BOOS

An economics student at Queen's University. At Glover and Boos Peter acts as an account manager and a designer specializing in web graphics.

REGISTRATION AND HOTEL INFORMATION

SPACE IS LIMITED - REGISTER EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
A confirmation email will be sent to all delegates on October 29 2018.

REGISTRATION FEES

CAMT Teacher Members \$190**
Non-Members \$275
Student (with proof of status) \$60

****NOTE: Membership in CAMT is for individual teachers.**

To join, visit www.camt.ca

Schools registering more than 5 staff at the same time will receive a 10% discount.

Use the code CAMT10 when completing your online application.

***Fee for Conference Registration includes:**

Continental breakfast, plenary session, morning workshop, access to exhibits, luncheon, afternoon workshop, and afternoon tea.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations must be received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 29, 2018 to receive a refund.

No refunds after October 29, 2018.

No show - full fee.

Substitutions are always welcomed.

E-Mail refund or substitution requests to:
info@camt100.ca

CONFERENCE LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The Old Mill

21 Old Mill Road, Toronto, Ontario

CAMT Conference Registrants qualify for a reduced rate of \$235 per night plus taxes. Register before October 1 to qualify for this rate.

When booking your room, please be sure to identify yourself as a registrant of the CAMT Conference.

For reservations or general information, please call the hotel directly at 416-232-3703; or call Toll Free 1-866-OLD-MILL (1-866-653-6455) and ask for Room Reservations.



DIRECTIONS

Driving directions can be accessed online at <https://www.oldmilltoronto.com/contact-us/>

Complimentary parking is offered for conference delegates.
A parking pass will be emailed to all delegates 1 week prior to the conference.
This pass must be displayed on the vehicle dashboard to avoid being ticketed.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view TTC directions to The Old Mill

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER VISIT CAMT.CA