



News Release

The Society for Safe and Caring Schools and Communities

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Canadian Delegates Gather in Edmonton for Education Conference

More than 150 youth leaders, police officers, government officials, social workers, community service representatives and First Nations representatives will meet on June 1 and 2 at Barnett House in Edmonton for a two-day conference called *Becoming the Change We Want to See*. This conference will explore how Canadians can take action to make their schools, communities and the global community better places for everyone.

Uniting community stakeholders, this conference will highlight current research, resources and programs about bullying and violence prevention, diversity, equity and human rights, global education and international development, conflict resolution and restorative justice, Safe and Caring Schools and Communities (SACSC) and the role of non-governmental organizations in education.

Featured speakers include the Honourable Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, the Honourable Doug Roche, OC, former MP and Senator, Edmonton Police Chief Michael Boyd and Dr Debra Pepler, York University Psychology Professor. Dr Pepler is a world-renown, expert bullying researcher who is leading the Canadian Initiative for the Prevention of Bullying.

“The goal of this conference is to bring together stakeholders from all sectors to share information, strategies and successes in education,” said SACSC President Dick Baker. “Increasing our awareness of and responsibility toward international development issues will help us *become the change we want to see* in the future.”

Conference chair and coordinator Tracy Lyons noted that global education is a necessary tool for preparing Canadian youth to address international issues. “They begin to consider themselves part of our complex and interdependent network of world nations,” she said. “The development of school-based education resources and activities exposes young people to research, dialogue, process and action and provides them with opportunities to become responsible global citizens.”

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