

# Inter-University Research Network Symposium

Acadia University, KC Irving Centre, Wolfville, Nova Scotia  
May 9–10, 2025

## AGENDA

Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

12:30 - 1:30	<b>Check-in and Registration</b> (K.C. Irving Centre Building, Foyer)
1:40 - 2:10	<b>Welcome/Pjila'si/Bienvenue</b> <b>Land Acknowledgement</b> (Auditorium) Dr. Corinne Haigh, Dean of Professional Studies, Acadia University  <b>Welcome to Acadia University</b> Dr. Ashlee Cunsolo, Provost and Vice-President Academic, Acadia University  <b>Opening Remarks</b> Mark Peck, Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  <b>Program Overview: Commitment in Action: Mobilizing Equitable Research</b> Paula Evans, Executive Director of the Centre for Equity in Achievement and well-Being, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
2:20 - 2:50	<b>Nutrition Break/Networking</b> (Foyer)
3:00 - 3:50	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>  <b>Session #1:</b> Auditorium <b>School Psychologists' Training, Competence, and Needs when Working with Indigenous Students in Nova Scotia: Implications for Training and Practice</b> Dr. Sara King, Dr. Krista Ritchie (MSVU)  <b>Session #2:</b> Meeting Room <b>Enhancing the Well-Being of Students of African Descent through the Voices of their Families, Teachers and School Administrators</b> Karen Hudson, (HRCE); Dr. Mary Jane Harkins (MSVU), Dr. Zhanna Barchuk (MSVU), Dr. Diana Seselja (MSVU), Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch (Dalhousie)  <b>Session #3:</b> Acadia Room <b>African Nova Scotian Dream Keepers: Righteous Resistance</b> Dr. Martin Morrison (Acadia)  <b>Session #4:</b> Classroom <b>Ubuntu Pedagogy of the Community: The Relevance of Ubuntu and Elders in Education</b> Dr. Susan Brigham (MSVU), Randy Headley (MSVU), Dr. George Frempong (DBDLI)
3:50 - 4:20	<b>Networking</b> (Foyer)

<b>4:30 - 6:00</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion</b> (Auditorium) Panel to discuss the importance of engaging Nova Scotia communities from the beginning of IURN research projects, with a focus on authentic, respectful and collaborative engagement with communities that positively impacts student achievement and well being.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Lace Marie Brogden, Dean of Education, St. FX</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> Brandy Jarvis-Nickerson, Coordinator of Mi'kmaq Education, TCRCE Sylvia Parris-Drummond, CEO, DBDLI Dave Jones, Regional Executive Director, AVRCE Darlene Barr, Classroom Teacher and Co-Researcher, AVRCE Dr. Lisa Lunney Borden, Professor, Chair Teacher Education, John Jerome Paul Chair for Equity in Mathematics Education, St. FX</p> <p><b>Breakout Discussions</b> Group 1: Seminar room Group 2: Library Group 3: Meeting room</p> <p><b>Panel Discussion Reconvenes</b> (Auditorium) Groups return with questions and discussion points</p>
<b>6:00 - 7:30</b>	<b>Dinner</b> (Fountain Commons Building, Great Hall)

## Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

<b>7:30 - 8:50</b>	<b>Breakfast</b> (Fountain Commons Building, Great Hall)
<b>9:00 - 9:10</b>	<p><b>Welcome / Pjila'si / Bienvenue</b> <b>People's Acknowledgements</b> (Auditorium) Susan Vanier, Director for Leadership in Student Achievement and Well-Being, Centre for Equity in Achievement and Well-Being (EECD)</p>
<b>9:10 - 9:55</b>	<p><b>Keynote: Commitment in Action: Mobilizing Equitable Research</b> (Auditorium) Dr. Barbara Hamilton-Hinch, Associate Professor Faculty of Health and Assistant Vice Provost Equity and Inclusion (Dalhousie University)</p>
<b>10:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>Nutrition Break/Networking</b> (Foyer)
<b>10:40 - 11:30</b>	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <p><b>Session #1:</b> Auditorium <b>Identifying the Language Skills that Enable Children to Succeed in Learning to Read</b> Dr. Hélène Deacon, Sylvia Techmanski, Lina Sophie Schroeter, Kirsty Longino, Megan Bautista (Dalhousie)</p> <p><b>Session #2:</b> Meeting Room <b>Coacting with Students: Efficacy of Number Talks Through Enactivist Perspectives</b> Dr. Marc Husband, Dr. Evan Throop-Robinson, Dr. Allison Tucker (St. FX)</p> <p><b>Session #3:</b> Acadia Room <b>Culturally Relevant Pedagogy in Science: Examples from Nova Scotia</b></p>

	<p>Dr. Eddia Solas and Amira Faulkner (MSVU)</p> <p><b>Session #4:</b> Classroom  <b>Storytelling, Agency and Emancipatory Education: The Promise of Teacher Educators Making Space for African Nova Scotian Learners</b>  Dr. Késa Munroe-Anderson (Acadia)</p>
<b>11:45 - 12:45</b>	<b>Lunch</b> (Fountain Commons Building, Great Hall)
<b>1:00 - 1:50</b>	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <p><b>Session #1:</b> Auditorium  <b>Exploring the Application of Africentric Principles and Pedagogy to the Realities of Early Childhood Practice</b>  Milena Pimental (MSVU), Crystal Watson (Dalhousie), Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch (Dalhousie)</p> <p><b>Session #2:</b> Meeting Room  <b>Canadian Youth with a Creative Voice: Down Syndrome and Communication</b>  Dr. Lynn LeVatte and Rhiannon Hickey (CBU)</p> <p><b>Session #3:</b> Acadia Room  <b>Inclusive Literacies with Digital Bookmaking in Primary and Grade 1</b>  Dr. Deborah Toope (Acadia), Darlene Barr (AVRCE), Nisha Langford (AVRCE), Julia Hollis (AVRCE), Reghan DeVito (Acadia), Ceilidh Mills (Acadia)</p> <p><b>Session #4:</b> Classroom  <b>Spectrum of Functional English Literacy Needs for the Secondary Classroom</b>  Dr. Amna Mirza and Dr. Christine Doe (MSVU), LeeAnne Brownell (HRCE)</p>
<b>2:00 - 3:00</b>	<b>Closing Reflection and Engagement Session</b>