



Conference Sessions

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Workshops to ignite passion, spark new ideas, and empower participants to drive meaningful change in the world.

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Welcome Message

Welcome to the Sustainability Development Goals Conference! This conference will be held on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands of the Syilx Okanagan Nation and their peoples

Thank you for your interest in this event! This conference is all about tackling two big issues: climate change and inequality. Our goal is to support you in making a difference through networking, sharing ideas, and discovering new resources.

Throughout the day, you'll have the chance to connect with other students and teachers who are passionate about sustainability. We'll explore innovative materials and strategies that can help us fight against climate change and create a fairer world for everyone.

Your involvement is important, and together, we can inspire each other to take action. Let's make the most of this opportunity to learn, collaborate, and grow. Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey toward a more sustainable future!

03

Registration starting April 14



[illegible]

Keynote Speakers 9:30 am

Morning Sessions - 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Afternoon Sessions - 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Lunch - 12:45 pm - 1:30 pm

School Action Plan - 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Keynote Speakers



”

Meghan & Martha

Martha Solomon is an Education Advisor at BCOHRC. She is an uninvited settler on the traditional, unceded lands of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc within Secwépemc'ulucw, the traditional and unceded territory of the Secwépemc. Meghan Toal is an Engagement Advisor and settler in the unceded and traditional territory of the Syilx Okanagan people, responsible for relationship building and public engagement throughout the Interior region of the province on behalf of BCOHRC. They both share backgrounds in gender equity education, and gender-based violence prevention and response.

Fun fact: they both have cats named after pasta - Macaroni and Spaghetti!

Intro to B.C.'s Human Right Code

B.C.'s Office of the Human Rights Commissioner exists to address systemic human rights issues in our province by shifting laws, policies, practices and cultures. Our vision is a province free from inequality, discrimination and injustice where we uphold human rights for all and fulfil our responsibilities to one another. B.C.'s Human Rights Code, our provincial human rights law, exists to help protect everyone in British Columbia from discrimination in certain areas of daily life based on parts of our identity. In this opening presentation, Meghan Toal and Martha Solomon from BCOHRC will introduce our office, the work we do and answer some important human rights questions:

How does B.C.'s Human Rights system work?
Where are you protected by the Code?
What are my rights and responsibilities?

What is B.C.'s Human Rights Code?
What parts of your identity are protected by the Code?

05

9:30 am - 10:15 am





Morning Sessions



**10:30 am -
11:30 am**

Misha, Anaka, Delaney, Jayden & Izzy



Small Steps, Big Change: A CCUNESCO Workshop by Youth Advocacy Council Members

"Our presentation plans to introduce and guide youth on how to plan small action projects, to help lead to larger changes in their community."

Hello! We are the Mount Boucherie Secondary School UNESCO Sustainability Club, dedicated to integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into our school and daily lives. As part of our efforts, we are planning various mini sustainable action projects, including the introduction of composters in our food programs, a battery recycling system for classrooms, and several environmentally-focused barbecue fundraisers to support pollinator initiatives. We have also collaborated with school administrators to establish this year's theme: "Be the Change."

Since becoming a UNESCO school, we have committed ourselves to educating both students and staff about the significance of sustainability. Our project presentation at the upcoming conference will focus on how small sustainable actions within schools can lead to significant impacts, emphasizing that everyone has the power to "Be the Change."

We invite you to attend our presentation and explore additional sustainable actions we can all take!"

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Jess LeBlanc - FES



Jess just wrapped 4 1/2 years at FES, a youth-led charitable organization, where she channelled her passion for youth empowerment, sustainability, and climate action into every endeavour. She managed multiple programs such as the SDGs LAB, where she delivered 80+ sustainability training workshops to 4000+ students and educators as well as the NOW for Net-Zero program that provides educators and students with the resources and funding needed to improve net-zero literacy and reduce GHG emissions in Canadian schools. Jess is a Corporate Knights Top 30 Under 30 Sustainability Leader and before her time at FES she lived in Costa Rica working in cross-cultural experiential education programs for youth.

Workshop 1:

The Power of Youth-led Climate Action:

Come to this session to learn how youth are taking climate action across Canada and how it's being funded. This interactive session will be a mix of activities and discussions about the resources all youth climate leaders should have in their toolkits so that they can work smart not hard to get climate wins in their communities!

Ndidi, Cascade

www.ndidicascade.ca
@ndidicascademusic

www.metaphorcrew.com
@metaphorcrew
@@originzmusic



Ndidi Cascade is a Vancouver-born-and-based hip-hop artist who is of Nigerian/Italian/Irish heritage. A songwriter, vocalist, educator, facilitator and curator, Ndidi has showcased her music, from classrooms to stadiums globally, opening for mega-talents such as Wu-Tang Clan, The Wailers, De La Soul, Dignity Planets & Femi Kuti. She facilitates youth empowerment workshops and hip-hop education school programs, using hip-hop as a medium for healthy self-expression. She is also an ambassador for the Ethós Lab youth empowerment organization. Ndidi Cascade is the creator and producer of ORIGINZ, which is an interactive school show exploring the roots of hip hop and Afro-centric music, and how it connects to BIPOC struggle and joy. Ndidi also tours the festival and school circuits both as a solo artist, and with her collaborative bands, including Metaphor & Mad Riddim. She is a curator for annual festivals such as Black Music Month Vancouver.

GLOBAL EQUALITY ANTHEM

Ndidi Cascade is an activist hip hop songwriter, performer & educator. Ndidi will share her personal journey as an activist artist with a passion for human rights. In this workshop students will explore how hip hop music and culture, which grew out of the Civil Rights Movement, paved the way for equality. Students will also delve into how one can become an equity ambassador in community. Based on the discussion, the group will write a short Global Equality Hip Hop Anthem Chorus-Mantra!

09

Please note that this session
repeats in the afternoon



FIGHT TODAY
FOR A BETTER
TOMORROW

Afternoon Sessions



**11:45 am -
12:45 pm**

10

Registration starting April 14

::: Laura ::: Myers - ::: LSF ”



Laura is a retired teacher with over 30 years of teaching experience. After watching “Before the Flood” with her students on Earth Day in 2017, she decided it was time to explicitly incorporate climate change into her math classes. Her students wanted to build a greenhouse and what developed after that was a sequence of events leading to the HHS greenhouse, garden and food forest and many other climate action initiatives. In 2019, Laura was trained as a Climate Reality Leader and in 2022, she was awarded the Gaia Champion Teacher Award for excellence in climate action and youth empowerment. In 2022, Laura joined Learning for a Sustainable Future as an environmental educational consultant. She helps high school teachers incorporate climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals across the curriculum.

Every Action Matters!

In today’s world, it can be overwhelming to think about all the problems that surround us. But did you know that in 2015, all of the countries in the United Nations agreed to tackle the biggest issues we are facing, and they developed 17 Sustainable Development Goals? These goals are a call to urgent action, and countries are being held accountable for their work on achieving these goals.

In this presentation, you will learn about these goals, see examples of student-led projects across the country, and create a plan to take action.

Every action matters!



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Workshop 2:

Levelling up your Green Club: Taking Big Climate Action!

Anyone else bored with talking about recycling? Let's talk GHGs! Wouldn't it be awesome if our school buildings could become energy efficient and climate resilient? And wouldn't it be even better if we could get our communities involved in that process? Students and educators can play a big role in emissions reducing projects and big strategic climate action in school communities. Come to this session for an interactive energy audit challenge and discussion about how youth and school green clubs can make a BIG climate impact in their schools.

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Registration starting April 14

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09

Please note that this session is a repeat from the morning session



All Day Sessions



**10:30 am -
11:30 am**



**11:45 am -
12:45 pm**

14

Registration starting April 14

Joshua and Ashwini



Joshua Ralph

Joshua Ralph (they/he) is a white settler-occupier, born on Treaty 2 Territory, and raised on Treaty 6 lands, he currently resides on the stolen territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples. Their work lies at the intersections between ecology, art, and community building. They love working with the Crossroads crew to help youth develop the skills and resources to build a more equitable tomorrow.



Ashwini Krishnadhas

Ashwini Krishnadhas (she/her) is a first-generation Tamil-speaking immigrant from Sri Lanka who is pursuing an MBA in Project Management. She is a part-time content creator and a UN volunteer, who is deeply passionate about social work, with a focus on women and youth empowerment. She enjoys working with Crossroads because it allows her to facilitate meaningful conversations and creates impact through impactful learning.

Courageous Conversations at the intersections of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender:

During this workshop youth facilitators Joshua Ralph and Ashwini Krishnadhas will walk students through a few of the scenarios (or: fraught interactions) featured in Crossroads Chronicles, a youth-created story-centred interactive graphic novel that helps build students' capacities to have courageous conversations across differences. These scenarios will touch on a range of issues related to Indigenous-specific racism, homophobia, transphobia and cissexism. As the scenarios unfold, the facilitators will engage students in a range of individual, small-group, and whole-class activities and games designed to elevate equity principles, foster empathy, inspire self-reflection and generate discussion.

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Rebecca Moon - CGE



Rebecca is the Education Coordinator for the Centre for Global Education. She has a B.Ed. from the University of Alberta in Secondary Education with a major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Mathematics. Rebecca comes from a rural area in Northern Alberta, Canada and has had the pleasure of working closely with many Indigenous youth in the classroom. She combines her passion for youth engagement, climate action, and social justice to inspire thousands of youth in her role at CGE.

Transforming Global Issues into Local SDG Actions

In this interactive workshop, students will have the unique opportunity to meet international students and explore inspiring community action projects from around the world. Together, they will delve into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to identify which goals resonate most with them personally and within their communities. Through engaging discussions and collaborative brainstorming sessions, participants will craft actionable plans for youth-led projects aimed at addressing these SDGs in their own neighbourhoods. Additionally, the workshop will include a creative component where participants will get hands-on with collaging to visually express their ideas and aspirations for a sustainable future.



Juanita Gonzalez - Equitas



Juanita (she/her) joined the Equitas team as an Education Specialist in November 2021 and is now a Human Rights Education Advisor. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and an M.A. in Educational Studies from the University of British Columbia. She supports building inclusive communities in Canada by developing, delivering, and evaluating human rights education activities.

Before joining Equitas, Juanita worked across a range of sectors such as education, newcomer services, and arts and culture supporting the development of marginalized communities in Colombia. Juanita is passionate about youth engagement, gender equality, and empowering women and girls.

Using Human Rights to Address Inequalities

In this workshop, youth will learn about human rights and children's rights. Together, they will then use a human rights-based lens to identify potential actions they can take in their communities to address inequalities. This workshop will be led by Equitas, an organization that works to advance equality, social justice and respect for human dignity through transformative human rights education programs in Canada and around the world. To deliver on our mission, Equitas' programming contributes to the empowerment of individuals and groups that are subject to discrimination, exclusion and other forms of human rights violations to challenge inequality and discrimination and take action to respect, protect and defend human rights.

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Susan Hall - UNESCO



Susan is a curriculum writer and educator with over 25 years of experience (Canada, USA, Switzerland). Her first teaching assignment at the UN School in New York inspired a career dedicated to creating school-based integrated arts programs that encourage children to explore various mediums for the purpose of self-expression and to help youth imagine a better world. More recently Susan held a position as an Artist in Residence in the AIRS program with the Vancouver School Board. She is currently working with the UNESCO Schools Network.

See the Earth First

What are the kinds of photos youth are expected to produce? This workshop challenges students to consider the various genres of photography available to them and how they might use photography for good. Our discussion will ask the questions: What if for one day, students across Canada shift the lens of their camera to focus on our beautiful planet? Can sharing images help people feel more connected to the natural world and contribute to environmental advocacy?

The workshop will take place both in a classroom (dialogue and critique) and outdoors (image making). Students are encouraged to bring outerwear that will keep them warm and dry for up to an hour. A class set of cameras will be on site. The use of personal cameras is also welcome.

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Registration starting April 14



Teacher Specific Sessions



**10:30 am -
11:30 am**



**11:45 am -
12:45 pm**

Please choose one
topic for both sessions

Deblekha and Nefertari



Deblekha Guin

Deblekha Guin (she/her) is the biracial (South Asian/Scottish and Irish) founder of Access to Media Education Society. Guin has co-visioned and coordinated 50+ distinct participatory media arts production programs that have engaged over 2000 youth from equity-deserving communities, and was recognized for her extensive BIPOC-centred, intergenerational and intersectional creative community-building work through an "Intercultural Trust Award" at the BC Multiculturalism and Anti-racism Awards in 2020.

Nefertari Amore Azaria Bianchini-Lubin

Nefertari Amore Azaria Bianchini-Lubin (she/her) is a biracial woman (Haitian/European) who has been delivering Crossroads workshops in lower mainland schools for the past year and a half. This work has solidified Neffy's belief in the value of sharing stories about her own learning journey and lived experiences of racism and classism with others, and the importance of working together to grow our capacities to have courageous conversations across differences.

Crossroads Chronicles: An Interactive Teacher Resource

Workshop participants will be introduced to key elements of Crossroads Chronicles, a youth-created story-centred interactive resource that helps build students' capacities to have courageous conversations at the intersections of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender. Peer facilitator Neffy Lubin and Project Director Deblekha Guin will guide you through a host of debrief activities and reflective prompts as you witness raw and relatable scenarios that draw attention to microaggressions and fumbles that can occur in everyday interactions. They will also offer insights into the rationale behind the workshop design, and share stories of how students have responded to the workshops and related concepts and activities to date. All workshop attendees will get free access to the game, and the associated Teacher's Guide (which includes glossaries, workshop maps, templates, and a range of extended learning activities).

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David and Shannon



David Zandvliet

David Zandvliet is a Professor in the Faculty of Education at SFU and the UNESCO Chair in Bio-cultural Diversity and Education. He is the founding Director of the Institute for Environmental Learning & has held Associate memberships in the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Environment at SFU. David has published articles in international journals and presented papers on six continents and in over 21 countries



Shannon Leddy

Dr. Shannon Leddy is a member of the Métis Nation of BC, a former high school teacher, and an associate professor at UBC, whose practice focuses on using transformative pedagogies in decolonizing and Indigenizing teacher education. She is the Co-Chair of the Institute for Environmental Learning, and co-author of the book, *Teaching where you are: weaving slow and Indigenous pedagogies*.

What Is Environmental Learning?

In this interactive session, we will share some of the research outcomes from our PICS-funded project, *Infusing Climate Education into the BC Curriculum*, including revisions to the 2007 Environmental Learning & Experience Curriculum Guide. We'll then engage in experiential activities that model inquiry and stimulate discussion about two-eyed seeing, experiential learning and guided inquiry.

Join the session to: explore barriers to climate education among teachers, discuss best practices for place and land-based approaches to climate education, and increase awareness of Indigenous knowledge and worldviews related to environmental learning practices

A draft of the new BC Framework will be provided.

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Please note that some of this session will be outside



Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help with the day of the conference. If you are a senior and/or leadership student who is looking for volunteer hours for graduation or is someone who just likes to help out, please join us!

Help needed:

- Registration Check-in table
- Room Set-up and take down
- Tech Support
- Room guide
- Trouble Shooting
- And more



Lunch

Lunch will be provided for all participants of the Conference. More details to follow.

participants are encouraged to bring a water bottle as there are filling stations around the building.






Registration

Registration Information

How to Register



Registration for the sessions will take place on Eventbrite and will open on April 14. The QR code will take you to the event page. Please ensure that all students and teachers register separately to help with the creation of name tags

