



Presented by the Association of  
Teachers of English of Quebec

2024

SPRINGBOARDS

APRIL 22, 2024

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

\$60

Includes FREE  
ATEQ membership

WEST ISLAND COLLEGE

851 TECUMSEH ST

DOLLARD-DES ORMEAUX



# About Us

ATEQ is a volunteer-run association that represents teachers, consultants, librarians, university professors, and pre-service teachers, from all across Québec. Our mission is to provide support and opportunities for professional growth for English Language Arts educators in Québec.

Specifically, ATEQ

- Provides leadership in the development and sharing of pedagogical resources in order to increase teaching expertise and excellence;
- Creates and maintains a bank of professional resources and information through our website [www.ateq.org](http://www.ateq.org);
- Organizes an annual conference, *Springboards: Teachers Teaching Teachers*;
- Publishes an online journal, *ELA Today*, with articles written by teachers and other members of the ELA community in Québec;
- Shares a variety Book Trunks, a travelling resource containing curated collections of literary and professional books to inspire ELA teachers;
- Provides subsidies to support members who wish to attend conferences and workshops, or to invite authors and performers to their classrooms;
- Provides Grants for Excellence in Teaching (GET) to encourage ELA teachers to develop in innovative classroom projects;
- Offers three yearly awards in recognition of excellence in pre- and in-service teaching, and for teacher mentorship and leadership.



Springboards is our annual, flagship conference held in the Spring and so-named because the ideas shared can serve as a springboard for new teaching ideas for the end of the year or the following school year. This grass-roots conference is organized by teachers for teachers, and has been a tradition in Québec for over 40 years.

**Registration to Springboards 2024 comes with a one-year membership to ATEQ! Find out more at [ATEQ.ORG](http://ATEQ.ORG)**

2024

Program

2024

# Program Overview

## Monday, April 22nd

8:00: REGISTRATION/BREAKFAST

**9:00 - 10:15: VIRTUAL KEYNOTE WITH  
DAVID A. ROBERTSON**

10:30 - 11:15: SESSION 1:

Childhood trauma's impact on literacy  
Exploring mental health in the classroom

**11:15 - 12:15: LUNCH**

12:15-1:00: SESSION 2:

How hands-on activities support literacy  
Engage diverse class communities through Lit Circles

1:15 - 2:05: SESSION 3:

Centering anti-racist pedagogy in school libraries

2:00 - 2:15: CLOSE

# Virtual Keynote: David A. Robertson

**9:00 - 10:15: Keynote address**

## ***Virtual Keynote with David A. Robertson***

David A. Robertson is an award-winning author of over 25 books and a member of Norway House Cree Nation. He has won the Governor General's Literary Award, the McNally Robinson Best Book for Young People Award, the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, the Writers' Union of Canada Freedom to Read Award, and has been named the Globe and Mail Children's Storyteller of the Year. His books include *When We Were Alone*, *The Barren Grounds*, *Black Water: Family, Legacy, and Blood Memory*, *On The Trapline*, *The Theory of Crows*, and more. He is the writer and host of the podcast *Kíwew* (Key-Way-Oh), which won the 2021 RTDNA Praire Region Award for Best Podcast.



# Session 1 (Elementary): Childhood trauma's impact on literacy

**with Kerrie Bremner, *Special Education Consultant***

In this workshop, we will explore childhood trauma's impact on literacy and English Language Arts (ELA) learning. We'll explore how trauma affects the brain development, cognitive processing and emotional regulation in the context of literacy, offering insights and strategies to support students in overcoming these challenges and fostering a more inclusive learning environment.

**Kerrie Bremner** was a special education teacher in the Work Oriented Training Pathway program as well as closed modified groups at the high school level. She was also involved in piloting a nurturing support center in a high school supporting at risk youth in Secondary 1, 2 and 3. She has a master's degree in educational psychology from McGill University and currently works as a special education consultant with Riverside School board.

# Session 1 (Secondary): Exploring mental health in the classroom

**with Coralie Beghuin, *Secondary ELA teacher***

This workshop will be exploring the importance of discussing mental health in the classroom and the outcomes of honest, open discourse. Pulling on first-hand observations from the classroom with literature circles, book debates, and various activities, the goal of this session is to share what worked well and collaborate together.

**Coralie Beghuin** is a high school ELA teacher at Chateauguay Valley Regional High School where she has taught the entirety of her career thus far. She is a graduate of Concordia University with a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature along with a Master's Degree from McGill University in Teaching and Learning. Coralie is passionate about books, reading, and the world of narrative. One of her biggest professional goals is to foster a love of reading within all students that she encounters.

# Session 2 (Elementary): How hands-on activities support literacy

## with Emily Langevin, Cycle 1 *ELA* teacher

In this session we will look at how the role of hands-on, collaborative activities paired with literacy can improve reading motivation and inspiration in early childhood. By creating a wider experience while reading a simple book, we can foster deeper, meaningful connections to the text and the practice of reading itself. As teachers we have the ability to take the words on a page and bring them to life in the classroom!

**Emily Langevin** is a Cycle 1 ELA teacher at Heritage Elementary School in Huntingdon, Quebec. She has been a classroom teacher for close to 10 years, having taught from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 11. Emily holds a B.Ed from McGill University, as well as a Master's in Education focusing on Literacy, Languages and Cultures from University of Ottawa. Literacy has been a major focus in her studies and professional roles, more specifically the impact of low-income households and communities on literacy; how can families access and promote literacy affordably and effectively?

Her passion for providing accessible literacy inspired her to create Raising Young Readers. This session will show how you can create reading experiences in the classroom that leave a lasting impression on a student's experience of reading and the stories themselves.



# Session 2 (Secondary): Engage diverse class communities through Lit Circles

**with Cynthia Bennett, *Secondary ELA teacher***

As more and more diverse learners enter our classrooms, our pedagogical challenges have increased. Literature Circles are a powerful way to engage students regardless of academic background, personal experiences or interests. This workshop will look at the who, what, where, when, why, and how of implementing inclusive Literature Circles in our hypersensitive world as well as the trials and tribulations. Four approaches will be presented as a starting point for those who may be new to the idea.

**Cynthia Bennett** has been a teacher at the English Montreal School Board for 25 years at both the elementary and high school levels. She has a Bachelor of Education from McGill University (Montreal) and a B.A. in Psychology, Criminology and Criminal Justice from Carleton University (Ottawa). Cynthia is the 2022 winner of the Visez Droit Award presented by the Barreau de Montreal for her continued efforts in helping students in her ELA classroom understand and write about legal issues.

# Session 3 (ALL): Centering anti-racist pedagogy in school librarians

**with The EDDI Literary Advisory Committee: Patricia Blackett, Alia Odubayo, Priya Patel, Simone Spencer, Guerlyne Mercier and Pam Lobo, *LBPSB***

What happened when a small group of Black and brown language teachers was mandated to curate and recommend literature for LBPSB classrooms? The EDDI Literary Advisory Committee was formed and anti-racist pedagogy was centered. Join us as we share our purpose, our journey and our recommendations.

# ATEQ RESOURCES

Book Trunks • Unit Plans • GET Grants • ELA Today



## Book Trunks

ATEQ Book Trunks are themed book collections that can be borrowed by members for a period of 4 weeks. Some of the Trunks available:

- Poetry Picks
- The Write Trunk
- All YAL
- Residential Schools
- Reluctant Readers
- Early Literacy
- Discussing Anti-Racism
- LGBTQ+ Content

Create a new Trunk with a GET Grant!



## ELA Today

Articles with project ideas, book reviews, and classroom practices from ELA teachers, consultants, and librarians.

Submit an article idea on our website!

Get inspired with...



## ELA Unit Plans

ELA Unit plans created and curated by Elementary and Secondary teachers throughout the province! Search by level, topic, competency, and more.



Fund a classroom project!

## GET Grants

Apply for an ATEQ GET Grant to help fund an innovative project! Applications are submitted the first Friday in December.

Have a resource to share? We'd love to hear from you!