

# Supporting Innovative Classrooms

OCTOBER 2009

## Welcome Back



Greetings to all and welcome back to what I trust has been an exciting beginning to the 2009/2010 school year. It was great seeing some of you at the Emerge Summer Institute in August and I am looking forward to working with everyone throughout the year. Please feel free to contact me at any time with your questions and celebrations.

This newsletter is the first for the Supporting Innovative Classrooms project. You will see that Supporting Innovative Classrooms has some overlap with the Emerge One-to-One Laptop Learning and Technology and High School Success participants, as all three groups work closely together. The logos on each article will indicate if the article is common to all three projects or only intended for this project.

If you plan on attending the Fall Community of Practice on October 19 and 20 at Fantasyland Hotel, please register as soon as possible. In the morning of October 20, Supporting Innovative Classrooms will be meeting in two groups from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Theme 1 will have the opportunity to meet with the provincial researchers, Dale Howard and Jayce Payne, who will go over their evaluation plan and provide time for you to give feedback. Themes 2 to 5 will be meeting with Dave Hauschildt from the School Technology Branch and participants will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on provincial reporting.

## Fall Professional Learning and Community of Practice



All Supporting Innovative Classrooms initiative leads and team members are invited to the two-day Fall Professional Learning and Community of Practice event.

The Professional Learning Day, scheduled for **Monday, October 19, 2009**, will feature workshops on sustained innovation and collaborative projects on local and global levels.

The Community of Practice day, on **Tuesday, October 20, 2009**, will provide an opportunity for:

- Project leads and administrators to share promising practices and work on their jurisdiction

sustainability plan; and

- Technical leads to network and discuss issues they are facing.

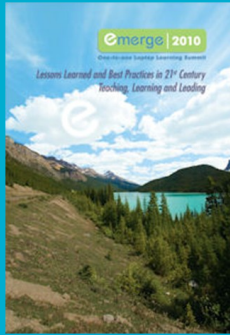
Registration and the draft agenda are available at [www.timewiseevents.com/emerge](http://www.timewiseevents.com/emerge).

**October 19 and 20, 2009**

**Fantasyland Hotel**

**Wireless Available**

**Bring your Laptop**



## Call for Presenters



The Emerge 2010 Summit will bring together participants from across Alberta and around the world in exploring the use of one-to-one laptops and related technology to support 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching and learning. The Emerge Summit will take place at The Banff Centre from August 15 to 18, 2010, and is open to the K-12 education community including leaders, teachers, technical support directors, policy makers and researchers.

Presenters are required in four categories. The deadline for submission is **October 30, 2009**.

### Presentation Categories:

1. **Teaching and Learning** – a demonstration of best practices involving one-to-one laptops or others innovative technologies used for teaching and learning.
2. **Leading Innovation** – leadership practices, programs or professional development to support and sustain one-to-one laptop learning and a blend of technologies.
3. **Research** – lessons learned from programs, practices, and/or activities/events in sound educational implementation.
4. **Technical Practices** – practices or policies related to the technical aspects of supporting one-to-one technologies (eg. Supporting student-owned devices, new network architectures and solutions, secure yet flexible networks, technology governance models).

To access the Call for Presentations form, or for more information, visit <http://www.2learn.ca/EMERGE2010/CallforPresenters.asp>.

For more information please contact Ralph Luedtke at [Ralph.Luedtke@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Ralph.Luedtke@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at 780-427-6961.

## Attend Emerge 2010 Summit



Participants of the Supporting Innovative Classroom Initiative are invited to join the Emerge One-to-One Laptop Learning initiative's professional development sessions sponsored by Alberta Education.

For the 2009/2010 school year, the first scheduled professional development session is the Community of Practice and Professional Learning Day on October 19 and 20, 2009. The second event will be the Emerge 2010 Summit in Banff on August 15 to 18, 2010. The May professional development days have been cancelled in lieu of the Summit.

For more information on the Emerge 2010 Summit, please visit <http://www.1to1alberta.ca/> or contact Ralph Luedtke at [Ralph.Luedtke@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Ralph.Luedtke@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at 780-427-6961.

*"Integrating technology throughout a school system is, in itself, significant systemic reform. We have a wealth of evidence attesting to the importance of leadership in implementing and sustaining systemic reform in schools. It is critical, therefore, that we attend seriously to leadership for technology in schools."*

Don Knezek, CEO of International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)

## Provincial Evaluation Update



Alberta Education has selected Howard Research & Management Consulting Inc. to conduct an evaluation of the Theme 1 projects that focus on Enhancing the Capacity of Education Leaders. The evaluation will work to validate the various decisions, approaches or assumptions about educational technology leadership capacity. The evaluation of the Theme 1 projects will result in a final report that is expected in January 2012.

The evaluation is being led by Dale Howard, Ph.D. Dale has over 16 years of evaluation experience in the public and private sector, and has recently authored an evaluation manual for the Government of Alberta. In addition to this experience, he has been both a public school teacher and post-secondary instructor. Jacey Payne, a Research and Evaluation Manager with Howard Research, is coordinating the ongoing evaluation activities. Dale and Jacey will be attending the upcoming Community of Practice event at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton on October 20. They look forward to meeting with representatives from the 12 projects over the course of the evaluation.

If you have any questions about the evaluation, please contact Marilyn Steier at [Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at 780-415-0839.

## Project Interim Reports Due



The first report for Supporting Innovative Classrooms is due **November 30, 2009**. If you have any questions about the reporting requirements, please contact Marilyn Steier at [Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at 780-415-0839.

## Online Networking



At the May 14, 2009 Grant Recipient Meeting, participants requested a collaborative site for sharing information. As a follow-up, Jeff Johnson from Edmonton Catholic created a 2Learn2Gether site for Theme 1 and Aaron Muller of Edmonton Public created a site for Themes 3 and 4 using Google Share.

The 2Learn2Gether site is now live to Supporting Innovative Classrooms participants only. If you do not already

have a login id to [www.2learn2gether.ca](http://www.2learn2gether.ca) site, please go online and join. Project leads begin by requesting entry. Once approved, project leads can add their project team members.

There has been some good discussion on technology standards for administrators. We look forward to hearing from more of you.

The site for Themes 3 and 4 is ex-

pected to be up next week. Thanks to Aaron and his team at Edmonton Public for getting the site set up.

These sites are developed for you so that you have an environment to share. As requested, I will be the moderator. Please contact me directly with any requests or suggestions, at [Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Steier@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at 780-415-0839.

## ATTENTION: Superintendents and Jurisdiction Leaders

The Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) is hosting a two-day conference targeted for system/school leaders and their teams to support the educational changes need to meet the evolving needs to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learner. The conference will offer leaders practical knowledge that can be applied at the jurisdictional level through sessions with international leaders in learning technology.

The conference will be held April 19 and 20, 2010 at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton. For more information and to register, please visit the ERLC website at [www.erlc.ca](http://www.erlc.ca).

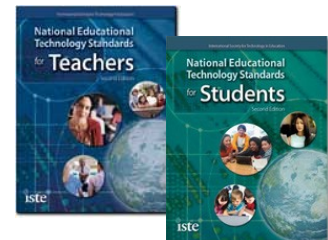
This conference provides support for jurisdictions participating in Theme 1 – Building Leadership Capacity as well as all other jurisdictions working to develop sound teaching and learning strategies to effectively integrate learning technologies into the instructional process.

## Resources

Alberta Education's School Technology Branch is continually monitoring research on best practices in the use of technology for teaching and learning. Research articles or reports from outside sources that may be pertinent to the work of Supporting Innovative Classrooms participants will occasionally be included in this newsletter. The information in the articles or reports does not necessarily reflect the opinion of Alberta Education.

### NETS Documents

The National Educational Technology Standards for Students, Teachers and Administrators may be of interest to project participants. They can be found at



### Tech.News

**tech.news** is a monthly newsletter targeted to technology leaders in school jurisdictions and post-secondary institutions. Produced by Alberta Education's School Technology Branch, the newsletter includes information on new technology-related initiatives, upcoming events, and information on new resources.

To subscribe to tech.news, please send an e-mail to [tech.news@gov.ab.ca](mailto:tech.news@gov.ab.ca), and enter "Subscribe to tech.news" in the subject line.

### School Technology Branch

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