

# Meet in the Middle



**CAP 2025**

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**Developing Centered Leadership**

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**WINNIPEG, MB | MAY 13 - MAY 16 | 2025**

**COSL**  
COUNCIL OF SCHOOL LEADERS  
of The Manitoba Teachers' Society

**m  
ts** THE MANITOBA  
TEACHERS'  
SOCIETY

 **Canadian Association  
of Principals**  
Association Canadienne des Directeurs d'École

**REGISTER HERE: <https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=2861>**



# **GUEST AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

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**Wab Kinew**  
**PREMIER OF MANITOBA**  
*Guest Speaker*

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Premier Wab Kinew is the 25<sup>th</sup> premier of Manitoba. Kinew was first elected as the MLA for Fort Rouge in 2016 and was elected party leader and leader of the official opposition in 2017. He is the son of Dr. Tobasonakwut Kinew and Dr. Kathi Kinew and is from the Onigaming First Nation in northwestern Ontario. Before becoming an MLA, Kinew worked as a broadcaster and as an administrator at the University of Winnipeg. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Manitoba and a master's degree in Indigenous Governance. Kinew is an honorary witness of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and a bestselling author. He is a caring dad to three boys and a devoted husband to his wife Lisa, who is a doctor.





## **Kevin Chief**

### **AND THE NORMAN CHIEF MEMORIAL DANCERS**

#### *Keynote Speaker*

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Kevin Chief is Principal of Chief Partnerships Manitoba Incorporated. He is currently Community Ambassador for the Southern Chiefs' Organization, chairperson for the Centre of Aboriginal Human Resource Development Inc., and Senior Advisor at True North Sports and Entertainment. Kevin brings a commitment to community and leadership development through his dedication to education, training, and employment.

#### **Norman Chief Memorial Dancers**

The Norman Chief Memorial Dancers were founded in 2004 in memory of the late Norman Chief, a Manitoba musician, singer, and entertainer. The Norman Chief Dancers' primary purpose is to promote and develop community spirit through traditional style Métis music and dance. The team dances at fundraising events in communities throughout Manitoba to further promote Indigenous culture and heritage.





## Cindy Blackstock

PhD

*Keynote Speaker*

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A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy is honoured to serve as the Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and a professor at McGill University's School of Social Work. She has over 30 years of experience working in child welfare and Indigenous children's rights and has published on topics relating to reconciliation, Indigenous theory, First Nations child welfare and human rights. A recipient of the SSHRC Gold Medal, Cindy was honoured to work with First Nations colleagues on a successful human rights challenge to Canada's inequitable provision of child and family services and failure to implement Jordan's Principle. This hard-fought litigation has resulted in hundreds of thousands of services being provided to First Nations children, youth, and families. Cindy is frequently sighted in the company of the Caring Society's reconciliation Ambearrister, Spirit Bear, engaging children in meaningful actions to implement the TRC Calls to Action.





## John Wiens

DEAN EMERITUS (University of Manitoba)

*Keynote Speaker*

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John is an active lifelong educational leader and public education advocate, and Dean Emeritus and Senior Scholar at the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. In the past he has been a teacher, guidance counsellor, principal, superintendent of schools and university professor.

He has also served as President of The Manitoba Teachers' Society, the Canadian Education Association, the Manitoba Research Council, and the Manitoba Educators for Social Responsibility. John spent numerous years as the Chair of the Universities' Grants Commission; and as a Director of: the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the Board of Teacher Education and Certification, the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents and the National Society for the Study of Education. He is the past chair of the Board of the Canadian Centre for Child Protection and is a past member of the Premier's Advisory Council on Education, Poverty and Citizenship and the Campaign 2000 Steering Committee for the Elimination of Child Poverty.

John earned his PhD. in Education from Simon Fraser University in Vancouver in 2000, and the same year received an honorary doctorate from Brandon University for contributions to teacher professional development. He has also received numerous awards for service to education and teacher education. Currently, he is speaking and writing about education for democracy, First Nations governance of education, democratic politics and student achievement beyond standards. As a strong advocate for public schools he is a regular contributor to the opinion page in the Winnipeg Free Press and continues to work with educational organizations, trustees and superintendents.





## Carol Off

### *Keynote Speaker*

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Carol Off is a multi-award-winning journalist, author and broadcaster. For almost 16 years, she co-hosted CBC Radio's flagship current affairs program, *As It Happens* where she amused and enlightened supper-hour listeners in Canada and much of the United States with her unique style of feisty, witty and compassionate interviews. Carol has published several best-selling and award-winning books such as *The Lion, the Fox and the Eagle: Generals and Justice in Yugoslavia and Rwanda*; *The Ghosts of Medak Pocket*; and her personal story of bringing an Afghan family to Canada – *All We Leave Behind: A Reporter's Journey into the Lives of Others*. She lives and works in Toronto with her husband, author and journalist Linden MacIntyre, and an omniscient cat named Caversham.





## Jen Schwanke

### *Keynote Speaker*

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Jen Schwanke, EdD, is a longtime educator who has taught or led at all levels. She is the author of three previous books: *You're the Principal! Now What?*, *The Principal ReBoot*, and *The Teacher's Principal*. She has written for *Educational Leadership Magazine*, *Choice Literacy*, *Education Week Teacher*, *Principal*, and *Principal Navigator*.

Dr. Schwanke is a cohost of the popular "Principal Matters" podcast and has presented at conferences for ASCD, NAESP, Battelle for Kids, RRCNA, and various state and local education organizations. She has provided professional development to various districts in the areas of school climate, personnel, and instructional leadership. An adjunct graduate instructor in educational administration, Dr. Schwanke currently serves as a deputy superintendent in Ohio.





## Cale Birk

### *Keynote Speaker*

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Cale Birk is a former Head of Innovation from British Columbia, Canada and imagineer and co-author of *PLC 2.0 - Collaborating for Impact in Today's Schools*, *The PLC 2.0 Toolkit*, *Changing Change Using Learner-Centered Design*, *Navigating Leadership Drift* and his latest release, *Words on The Wall* with Jimmy Casas. Currently, Cale helps districts, schools and industry leaders answer the question, "What is our observable impact?" and focus on the observable changes in practice that make the difference for all learners.



CANADIAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
PRINCIPALS' 2025  
**PRE-CONFERENCE**

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TIME	LOCATION
<b>7:00 - 7:45 am</b>	Venue Opens Registration & Information Desk Open
<b>7:45 - 8:30 am</b>	Coffee and Pastries
<b>8:30 - 8:45 am</b>	Welcome and Land & Treaty Acknowledgement
<b>8:45 - 9:00 am</b>	Departure for Site Visits
<b>9:00 - 11:00 am</b>	Site Visits Canadian Museum for Human Rights Assiniboine Park Zoo Treaty Relations Commission EY/MY - Niji Mahkwa School SY - Children of the Earth School SY - Murdoch MacKay School
<b>11:00 - 11:45 am</b>	Return to RBC Convention Centre
<b>11:45 - 12:45 pm</b>	Lunch for Pre-Conference Registrants
<b>12:45 - 1:00 pm</b>	Departure for Site Visits
<b>1:00 - 3:00 pm</b>	Site Visits Canadian Museum for Human Rights Assiniboine Park Zoo Treaty Relations Commission EY/MY - Niji Mahkwa School SY - Children of the Earth School SY - Murdoch MacKay School
<b>3:00 - 3:30 pm</b>	Return to RBC Convention Centre
<b>5:30 - 7:00 pm</b>	President's Reception - All Participants Invited
<b>7:00 - 8:30 pm</b>	Main Conference Begins Keynote: Kevin Chief



# CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PRINCIPALS' 2025 **CONFERENCE**

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Wednesday, May 14 | 2025

TIME

7:30 - 9:00 am Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 am Opening Ceremonies  
**Premier Wab Kinew**

9:30 - 10:30 am **KEYNOTE #1** John Wiens

**BREAK | 10:30 - 10:45 am**

10:45 - 12:00 pm BREAKOUTS #1

**LUNCH | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**

1:00 - 2:15 pm **KEYNOTE #2** Cale Birk

**BREAK | 2:15 - 2:30 pm**

2:30 - 4:00 pm BREAKOUTS #2

7:00 pm Saskatchewan Social Evening - All Participants Invited

*\* SUBJECT TO CHANGE*



## TIME

**7:30 - 9:00 am** Breakfast

**9:00 - 10:15 am** **KEYNOTE #3** Cindy Blackstock

**BREAK | 10:15 - 10:30 am**

**10:30 - 12:00 pm** BREAKOUTS #3

**LUNCH | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**

**1:00 - 2:15 pm** **KEYNOTE #4** TBD

**BREAK | 2:15 - 2:30 pm**

**2:30 - 4:00 pm** BREAKOUTS #4

**7:00 pm** Manitoba Social Evening - All Participants Invited

*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE*



Friday, May 16 | 2025

TIME

7:30 - 9:00 am Breakfast

9:00 - 10:30 am KEYNOTE #5 Jen Schwanke

BREAK | 10:30 - 10:45 am

10:45 - 11:45 am KEYNOTE #6 Carol Off

11:45 - 12:00 pm Closing Ceremonies

\* SUBJECT TO CHANGE



# BREAKOUTS

	ROOM	WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	
		BREAKOUT 1	BREAKOUT 2	BREAKOUT 3	BREAKOUT 4
Leadership Skills	A	Current Challenges in Ed Leadership Dr. Merli Tamtik, MB	Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba Amanda Simard, MB Brett Schmall, MB	Mentorship Wayne Davies, MB	Professional Learning Communities (French) Kathy Marion, MB Angele Comeau, MB
Indigenous Education	B	Coaching Conversations in Risk Taking Joni Turville, AB	Manitoba School Leadership Framework Rob Fisher, MB	Land Based Wellness Melanie Bazin, MB	People for Education, Pan Canadian Study Annie Kidder, ON
Relations/Trauma	C	Communicating & Providing Feedback Chris Gonsalvez, AB Tanya Thiessen, AB	Framing Your School Leadership Ryan Sikkes, YU	Trauma Sensitive Leadership Angela Voutier, MB	Strategies for Using Social Media in Leadership Kirsten Thompson, MB
Technology	D	The Power of Listening Kevin Reimer, BC	The Science of Learning: For ED Leadership David Costello, PEI	Student Absenteeism: Approaches to Engage Students James Kostuchuk, MB	Inuit and Indigenous Knowledge from the North Louise Flaherty, NU
Frameworks/Assessment Practices	E	Addressing Systemic Inequities in Education Shelly Hopper, ON Lindy Henderson, MB	Bison Approach to Leadership Robert Dinsdale, MB	Calls to Action: Journey of Students Rex Ferguson-Baird; Terri Cote; Ron Gonzales; Doug Hammerling; MB/SK	Leading Well: Micro-Actions for Sustainable Leadership Angie Balkwill, SK Lisa Wotherspoon, SK
	F	Two-Eyed Seeing Approach Jacqui Kroeker, MB Maclane Cardinal, MB	Effects of Poverty on Students Michelle Laidlaw, MB	Progressive Assessment Dionne Potapinski, MB Benjamin Storie, MB	Clustering Inclusion Heather Anderson, MB
Studies/Trials	G	Beyond 'Buy-In': Rethinking Resistance Cale Birk, BC	Leading with Power of AI Chris Gonsalvez, AB	The Leader in You: Looking at Values and Beliefs Dean MacInnis, NT	Building Meaningful Relationships Susie Lee-Fernandes, ON



## Conference Pricing

CAP members conference only:	\$650 <sup>.00</sup>
CAP members conference and pre-conference:	\$850 <sup>.00</sup>
Non CAP members conference only:	\$825 <sup>.00</sup>
Non CAP members conference and pre-conference:	\$1025 <sup>.00</sup>
Daily Rate:	\$300 <sup>.00</sup>

## Hotel Information

### Delta Hotels by Marriott Winnipeg

Book your group rate for the Canadian Association of Principals' Conference  
<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1730390568004&key=GRP&questreslink2=true&app=resvlink>

Delta Hotels by Marriott Winnipeg for \$259<sup>.00</sup> CAD/night  
**Deadline for Conference rate: Thursday, April 10, 2025**

Conference rate applies between May 12-17, 2025

If reserving by phone: **1-800-268-1133** | Direct: **204-942-0551**  
**Mention the "Canadian Association of Principals' Conference".**

## Pre-Conference Sessions

1. Assiniboine Park Zoo Tour
2. Tour of Canadian Museum of Human Rights
3. Treaty Relations Interactive Session at The Forks Market
4. School tour Options:
  - Niji Mahkwa School - Nursery to Grade 8
  - Children of the Earth School - Grades 9-12
  - Murdoch MacKay Collegiate - Grades 9-12

**REGISTER HERE: <https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=2861>**



## Sponsorship/Vendor Information

The CAP conference is a highly anticipated event that will bring approximately 400 principals, aspiring leaders, teachers, decision makers and innovators from across Canada to connect, collaborate, and develop essential leadership skills.

The earlier you register and select a sponsorship level, the better your choice of table location.

Sponsorship levels - **Pricing**

We have two sponsorship levels available - Silver and Gold. Each level is outlined below.

Should a potential sponsor wish to negotiate beyond the gold level, please contact

Chris Hicks at **204-888-7961** or by email **cosl@mbteach.org**.

Please note: All sponsors will need to have all invoices and registration completed before setting up at our conference event location. Registration deadline for all sponsors is

**April 14, 2025.**



### Silver Level Sponsorship - \$2,000

- 6-foot table (if required) within 8-foot x 8-foot space, including covering apron and drapery, 2 chairs, and wireless network access;
- Company name, logo, and website link on conference website for three (3) months;
- Items placed in participants welcome “swag” bag; and
- One (1) conference access pass to all keynote and concurrent speakers (which includes meals and coffee breaks for all 3 days of the conference). Additional passes will be at the membership rate of \$650 per person. Each person must be registered individually.



### Gold Level Sponsorship - \$4,000

- 6-foot table (if required) within 8-foot x 8-foot space in a prime location to conference keynote & breakout rooms including covering apron and drapery, 2 chairs, and wireless network access in a prime location to conference keynote & breakout rooms;
- Company name, logo, and website link on conference website for six (6) months;
- Recognition of sponsorship in conference program and signage;
- Recognition of sponsorship during large group events and during concurrent sessions;
- Recognition of sponsorship of a coffee break or lunch, or prime event (e.g. Presidents’ reception)
- One (1) additional conference access pass to all keynote and concurrent sessions (which includes day meals and coffee breaks for all 3 days of the conference). Additional passes will be at the membership rate of \$650 per person. Each person must be registered individually.
- Recognition of sponsorship at the conference opening and closing ceremonies; and
- Meet and Greet opportunities in hospitality room.

**For more information or to confirm your sponsorship, contact:**

**Chris Hicks, 204-888-7961 or by email **cosl@mbteach.org**.**



## NOTES

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