



WOMEN IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Friday March 5, 2021 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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Saturday March 6, 2021 | 8:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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\$50.00 for MTS Members

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\$75.00 for Non-Members

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The Manitoba Teachers' Society is proud to host the annual Women in Educational Leadership (WEL) Symposium just before International Women's Day, 2021. The Symposium will provide an opportunity to network, dialogue, collaborate and share experiences as women in leadership roles, formal or otherwise. Celebrate the expertise and experiences of women who are advocates, trailblazers and inspirational change-makers.

The 2021 WEL Virtual Symposium will feature experts who are recognized for their leadership in a variety of fields including education, law, community activism, business and communications. The conference will take place on the evening of Friday, March 5th and all day on Saturday, March 6th.



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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021

6:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Introduction and Welcome – Lia Gervino
6:15 – 6:30 p.m.	Greetings – James Bedford – President of The Manitoba Teachers’ Society
6:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Dr. Betsy McGregor – Women & Risk: An Invitation to the Edge! Women are big risk-takers – as evidenced by women leading nations in COVID. Join Dr. Betsy McGregor as she unpacks the unique style of how women lead in different domains; illustrating when – how – and why women go ‘to the edge’ more swiftly than men and why it matters!
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Facilitation Discussion and Networking

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2021

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks Dr. Danielle Fullan Kolton – General Secretary – The Manitoba Teachers’ Society
CHOICE OF:	
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	To the Summit! Designing High Performance Teams Dr. Betsy McGregor This high-energy, interactive session will take you ‘to the peak’ and back on a simulated mountain climb. Join Dr. Betsy McGregor who has summited two of the world’s Seven Summits. Learn how to select, build and sustain high-performance teams. Discover your choices when faced with challenges, turn-around times, values and vision. Discover more about yourself. Summit in your PJs with Betsy!
OR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Dying is a Troublesome Business* Quote from Bernard Shaw Jennifer Gurke – Executive Director – Palliative Manitoba Jennifer will share her experiences and what motivates her to lead Palliative Manitoba. She and her staff have developed many programs and community initiatives that provide support when people are at their most vulnerable. Join Jennifer as she shares her passion for dealing with grief and dying in a ‘death-denying’ society. “The professional is personal is what defines me as a leader.”



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9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<p>Mechanisms of Change</p> <p>Zilla Jones – Jones Law – Criminal Defence and Human Rights Lawyer, Singer and Author</p> <p>Zilla believes that including a diversity of voices in a solution-based approach is an effective mechanism to bring about change. Join Zilla in a discussion about the importance of encouraging women to speak at the decision-making table.</p>
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<p>Daring to be Different: Women at the Decision-Making Table</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Join members of the Council of School Leaders for an insightful discussion about women, leadership and having a place at the decision-making table.</p>
10:00 – 10:30 A.M. - BREAK	
AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Leadership: Upgrading Your Mindset</p> <p>Jessica Dumas – Chair of Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Everything in the world changes over time. More recently we are seeing change at a faster pace. There is also change in what leadership looks like and how leadership occurs, and possibly, what leadership means. This talk will help you realize what leadership opportunities you have right in front of you, help you verbalize the one thing that is holding you back, and inspire you to stand in the conviction of what leadership really means to you. Bring your pen and notebook. You're going to want to write this down.</p>
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Why a Feminist Approach To Leadership Matters</p> <p>Carinna D'Abramo Rosales – Co-Director at SEED Winnipeg Inc.</p> <p>Carinna will share her experience with SEED's Co-Director model. The challenges and opportunities that come with adopting a shared leadership approach will be discussed and why/how using a feminist lens builds capacity in program design.</p>
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Time for Change: Challenging the System from Within</p> <p>Alexa Joy – Black Space Winnipeg</p> <p>Alexa will share her experience as a leader, how she advocated for change and share ways to identify and challenge systemic discrimination.</p>

11:30 – 12:30 P.M. - LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)



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CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

12:30 - 1:30 p.m	<p>Pathways for Empowerment</p> <p>Dr. Betsy McGregor</p> <p>Ever feel isolated or paralyzed by a new challenge? Want to be impactful? This session will use the metaphor of the staircase to provide a toolkit. Explore practical steps to putting things into perspective, bringing allies to your side, building your confidence, and feeling supported in your choices.</p>
12:30 - 1:30 p.m	<p>Thinking In Colour</p> <p>Isha Khan – President and CEO – The Canadian Museum For Human Rights</p> <p>Why is it so hard to talk about racism? How does race affect our day-to-day lives? Isha will offer her insights on these questions, and on the importance of speaking openly about race and racism in our communities today.</p>
12:30 - 1:30 p.m	<p>No Courage Without Vulnerability: Stories of Internationally Educated Teachers in Manitoba</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Join us for an insightful discussion with women who will share their stories of resilience and overcoming the challenges of teaching in a new education system.</p>
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Cheryl Chuckry – Assistant General Secretary of The Manitoba Teachers' Society</p>



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PRESENTERS



Dr. Danielle Fullan Kolton is the General Secretary of The Manitoba Teachers' Society, and she is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Society including the coordination of services and staff, a collaborative pursuit with talented and dedicated staff teams. Leadership has long been a focus for Danielle who has worked in a wide variety of contexts including K-12 education, school leadership, consultation work, and post-secondary instruction. Her passion for leading and learning is grounded in the core values of care, service, communication, collaboration, and excellence. Danielle thrives in her fast-paced environment that presents ongoing opportunities to plan strategically, find creative solutions, address inequity, and amplify the voices of members. She and her partner have three adult children, and her "play" time includes hiking, fiction books, and the odd shameless Netflix binge.



Dr. Betsy McGregor (MA, DVM) is an internationally recognized and accomplished author, advocate, teacher, and keynote speaker. Her life-long dedication to bringing awareness to issues that impact girls and women has spanned the globe and led to the development of ground-breaking initiatives at the United Nations. Her passion for fostering youth leadership includes SHAD, Special Olympics, Youth Teams, her book "Women on the Ballot" and her youth teams as Senior Fellow at Harvard Medical School coordinating a global working group on 'Pandemics and Public Policy'. Mother, mountain climber and children's leader at St. Peters On-the-Rock.



Jennifer Gurke - Executive Director - Palliative Manitoba

Jennifer holds a Masters degrees in Education and Social Work. She strongly believes that it is a privilege to be present as part of a support network for those who need help at their most vulnerable point in life. Outside of work, Jennifer loves spending time with her family and cheering loudly for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.



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Zilla Jones – Criminal Defence, Human Rights Lawyer, singer and author

Zilla is a multiracial Black woman and immigrant with roots in Trinidad in the Caribbean, and comes from a long line of human rights activists, politicians, writers and musicians. She is a recognized advocate for human rights, anti-racism education, and is the Deputy Chair of the Executive of the Board of Directors of the John Howard Society of Manitoba and sits on the Board of the John Howard Society of Canada.



Jessica Dumas – Chair of Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Jessica is the President of Jessica Dumas Coaching and Training. She is a professional certified coach who specializes in speaker and business coaching. Jessica is recognized for her professional expertise through nomination. She is a recipient of the Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazer award from the Nellie McClung Foundation for 2021. She was finalist for the 2017 Future Leaders of Manitoba and a finalist in the CBC's Top 40 Manitoban's under 40 for 2015. Jessica's volunteer contributions have gained her wide respect within Manitoba. She has served as Chairperson of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce and the first Indigenous Female Chairperson of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce (2019-2020) and continues to sit on numerous committees and boards at the executive level. She is a powerful role model and advocate for social justice, leading others to overcome challenge by developing personal strengths, vision and self-confidence.



Carinna D'Abramo Rosales – Co-Director at SEED Winnipeg Inc.

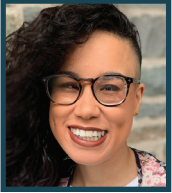
Carinna has played a lead role in developing the Business Enterprise Support and Training (BEST) programs and Recognition Counts, a micro loan program for skilled immigrants seeking qualification recognition in Canada. Her background includes years of family business management, a B.A., an Advanced Diploma in International Business, a Certificate in Mediation Services/focus on Organizational Leadership and more recently graduated from the Women's Leadership Certificate program at the Coady Institute of Development at St. Francis Xavier University.



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Alexa Joy – Black Space Winnipeg

Alexa continues to push the boundaries of social thought and public discourse. Urging consumers of media to think critically in a time that commands attention for social justice and accountability of those in power, Joy’s work amplifies Black voices, critical race theory and inquiries of race and intersectional oppression. Joy now continues her studies as a MA candidate in Sociology in New York.



Isha Khan – President and CEO - The Canadian Museum For Human Rights

Isha is a lawyer, educator and community leader dedicated to building a culture of human rights in Canada and beyond. Her professional experience includes her tenure as Executive Director and Senior Counsel of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission, where she advanced several important rights-based initiatives and public education campaigns. She is also a dedicated community volunteer who serves as Board Chair of United Way Winnipeg. In August of 2020, she began her role as CEO of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.



Cheryl Chuckry – Assistant General Secretary of The Manitoba Teachers’ Society

Cheryl Chuckry is the Assistant General Secretary – Professional Status at The Manitoba Teachers’ Society. As a member of the Senior Management Team, she provides decision-making support, strategic advice, and administrative oversight for matters pertaining to the status of the teaching profession and school leadership (professional learning and development, certification, teacher regulation, engagement and outreach). Her professional background includes school leadership, consulting, coaching, student services roles, and teaching in K-12 Schools in both languages of instruction.