

Literacy and Learning Symposium 2019

Attendee Survival Guide



The CLN Board and Staff are proud to be your hosts for this annual professional development event. We look forward to hosting approximately 300 people from across Alberta this year.

This year, the theme for the event is “Learn, Connect, Contribute”.

Throughout the Symposium, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come to the Registration and Information desk, or talk to any CLN Staff or Board member.

To help you get the most out of this event, here are a few tips to make this a great experience.

The Basics

Food:

Breakfast and Lunch are provided for Symposium attendees each day of the event. Meals are served buffet-style in the foyer in front of the Conference Ballrooms. Breakfast is from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., and lunch is served from Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Morning and Afternoon Snacks are provided each day at 10:20 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Two snack stations will be set up for our attendees; in the foyer in front of the Conference Ballrooms and in the foyer in the Silver Birch Conference Centre (near SBCC #1). (**Note:** Snacks in the Silver Birch Conference Centre Connections Café area are not included in your Symposium registration.)

Dinner: Symposium registration includes one ticket to the Literacy and Learning Awards Banquet on Thursday, September 26th. You can purchase additional Banquet tickets on the Symposium website until Friday, September 13th. However, during the rest of the event, Symposium attendees have free time in the evenings, and are expected to provide their own dinner.

Supper Club: Sign up for Supper Club on the flip chart at the Symposium registration and information desk if you would like to connect with others for dinner. Dinner is available at the hotel restaurant, Stages Kitchen and Bar, until 11:00 p.m. There is also a variety of restaurants within less than 5 kilometres. Meet at the couches in the hotel foyer at 6:30. If you are looking for a ride, or you are able to offer a ride, you can sign up on the flip chart at the registration and information desk. If you prefer something quieter, the hotel offers room service until 11:00 p.m.



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IMPORTANT NOTE: If you have any **allergies** or **dietary restrictions**, please be sure you include them on your personal CALP Portal account when you register. On site, simply identify yourself to any member of the hotel banquets team and they will provide you with a meal that meets your needs based on the information that you provided.

Shelter:

A block of rooms has been reserved for the Literacy & Learning Symposium 2019 at the:

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel West Edmonton, 16615 - 109 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB

The negotiated rate for a Deluxe Room is \$142 (plus taxes).

Hotel rooms will be held in our group block at the negotiated rate until September 13th, 2019. Symposium Attendees must mention they are attending the “Literacy & Learning Symposium 2019” to receive the negotiated rate. To book your room, phone 780-484-0821 or toll free 1-800-661-9804 and provide the following information:

Group Name: Literacy & Learning Symposium 2019

Group Code: L19

Note: When considering your accommodation needs, please note that breakfast is provided each morning starting at 8:00 a.m. in foyer in front of the Conference Ballrooms. Sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Clothing:

Dress in layers! The temperature within the hotel and from room to room can fluctuate, based on the weather, the size of the room, the number of people in a room, or the learning activities taking place. Cardigans, shawls and/or wraps are highly recommended, as they are easy to put on or take off, depending on the temperature in the hotel and breakout session rooms.

Wear comfortable shoes! There’s a fair bit of walking between the different areas of the hotel.



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Pro Tips to get the Most out of your Symposium Experience

The Literacy and Learning Symposium is a whirlwind of networking, learning and celebrating. Be sure to manage your own time and energy so you get the most out of your time with us.

When and where are things happening? Each attendee will receive a printed personal agenda, which includes schedules of daily events, breakout sessions and social activities, and a map of the hotel and conference centre. You can also stop by the Symposium registration and information desk. Each day, we will post signage of the day's events, and a large map of the hotel. (**Note:** We will be using 2 areas of the hotel for our plenary sessions and breakout rooms and both are located on the main level of the hotel – the Conference Ballroom area and the Silverbirch Conference Centre area.)

NEW* Custom Branded App: Download our new free event app, which provides all the information, activities and entertainment that you as an attendee needs for a great event experience. Our customized app has agendas, personal schedules, maps, tips and session feedback forms. Search for the **Symposium2019** app in your respective app store (Apple or Google Play) and then download it! You will need to know the email you registered with and then create a password.

Everyone who downloads the App will be entered in a draw for an Apple iPad!

First-time Symposium attendees: Attend the Connections Café Q & A session for Being a New CALP Staff on Tuesday, September 24th at 9:00 a.m. to meet new people and start your Symposium experience off right!

Making New Connections: We know that you will have the opportunity to network and connect with a lot of people during the Symposium. Check out the back pages of your attendee agenda to find some networking notes pages, where you can keep track of your new connections.

Fireside Chat (SBCC #4): If you are looking for a quiet and informal place to connect, share and learn from one another, but do not want to leave it to chance, come to the Fireside Chat room. This living room format meeting place is a flexible space where you can engage in purposeful networking in a cozy, private nook.



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Symposium Social Events

Symposium Social: Tuesday, September 24th Following the Regional Connection Sessions, join us for a casual social in the Connections Café - SilverBirch Conference Centre from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **New this year:** A number of CALPs will display poster presentations and promotional materials and we will have an Art Walk and games. Hot and cold appetizers will be served, cash bar on site, door prizes to be won!

Literacy and Learning Awards Banquet: Thursday, September 26th in the Logan Ballroom (3, 4) from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Cocktails: 6:00 – 6:30; Dinner 6:30 – 8:00; Awards Ceremony 8:00 – 9:00) The annual awards banquet will feature an adult learner speaker, presentations of the CLN Outstanding Contribution to Community Adult Learning Award, the Ruth Hayden Family Literacy Practitioner Award, and the Council of the Federation Literacy Award. The Banquet follows a more formal program than most of the Symposium, as it is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of award winners and the featured adult learner. However, the Banquet is intended to be warm, safe and welcoming to all, so there is no dress code in effect.

Self-care, Shopping and Entertainment

Energizing Tips: Our brains are like sponges – they can only absorb so much. Consider trying a few simple things to help you stay energized and ready to learn during the event.

- Pack your favourite nutritious snacks, for downtime in your room.
- Try not to overwork yourself beforehand.
- Carve out downtime while at the event.
- Get enough sleep.
- Eat smart and drink lots of water.
- Take breaks and get outdoors from time to time.

Green Spaces: Need to get outside for a power walk or a few minutes of fresh air to recharge? Just cross Mayfield Road in front of the hotel to find a quiet greenspace protected by a sound barrier. If you want to venture a little farther, there are several other parks within walking distance, easily found using Google Maps.

Fitness and Yoga: Attendees who are staying at the DoubleTree are welcome to access the hotel's complimentary indoor pool and fitness room at no extra cost.



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There are also a number of Yoga Centres nearby:

- Bikram Yoga West Edmonton - www.bywe.ca
15109 Stony Plain Rd NW (780-423-3999)
- Metta Yoga Edmonton West – <https://mettayogaedmonton.com/>
14927 111 Ave NW (780-481-3070)
- Shanti Yoga - www.shantiyogastudio.ca
10459 145 St. (780-421-9444)

Massage:

- J3 Therapeutic Massage Centre - www.i3massage.com/ #204-10940 166 A St. (780-758-0041)
- Massage Heights – Mayfield - <http://massageheights.ca/> - 356 Mayfield Common (780-481-7529)

West Edmonton Mall is 5 kilometres from the hotel. To get there by taxi, the fare is approximately \$15.00. If you would like to car pool with other Symposium attendees, come by the registration and information desk where we will have a ride share board available.

Mayfield Dinner Theatre is located in the hotel, and this September they will be featuring “Million Dollar Quartet”. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://mayfieldtheatre.ca/> or at the Box Office on site.

**LLS 2019 will be a great time to learn, connect
and contribute together.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

