

Presenter	Bio
Adam wing	Over the last 13 years, Adam Wing has earned a reputation in the field of assistive technology for providing energetic, innovative and practical guidance in the development and implementation of tools for people with disabilities. In his current role as Vice President of International Business for AbleNet Inc. (www.ablenetinc.com), Adam is responsible for supporting and growing a network of resellers, raising the profile of assistive technology solutions, and seeking strong global business and governmental partnerships. He is well known as an international presenter for assistive technology, a successful educator trainer, published writer, and recognized thought leader in the field.
Alexandra Dunn	Alex Dunn is a registered Speech Language Pathologist currently working with the Upper Canada District School Board in Oxford Mills, Ontario. In November 2008, Ms. Dunn was invited to present on the topic of SMART Inclusion at the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) Conference and in April 2009 to the staff at the Geneva Centre for Autism. Ms. Dunn remains an active member of the College of Speech Language Pathologist of Ontario (CASLPO) and is a certified PROMPT and HANEN Instructor.
Alicia Garcia	Alicia Garcia is a Speech-Language Pathologist with fifteen years of clinical experience in the field of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she obtained intensive AAC clinical training. Alicia has worked in AAC programs in Wisconsin, Florida and Ontario. She is currently the Simcoe County team leader in the Communication and Writing Aids Service at Bloorview Kids Rehab, where she has been instrumental in establishing the Bloorview Kids Rehab / Children's Treatment Network partnership aimed at providing AAC services to children in the York-Simcoe area. Her main areas of interest are Vocabulary Selection and Language Instruction to clients using AAC systems.
Barbara Welsford	Barbara Welsford is the AT Specialist for the South Shore Regional School Board, Nova Scotia. She has been in the Assistive Technology field for over 20 years. Barbara has a Masters of Education, is a certified Assistive Technology Practitioner from RESNA, has an Assistive Technology Specialist graduate certificate from California State University. She teaches Assistive Technology graduate courses for Acadia University and online AT courses for the Nova Scotia Community College. Anita Kingdon is the AT Facilitator for the SSRSB. She also has been in the field for over 20 years. Anita's speciality is AT for Learning Disabilities and she specializes as well in Apple products for learning.
Brad Bass	Dr. Brad Bass is a member of the Adaptation and Impacts Research Division located in the University of Toronto's Centre for Environment. His current research interests include the impact of green roofs and breathing walls on energy conservation, simulating adaptation with agent-based simulation models and the impacts of climate change on the energy sector. Brad has been using his agent-based simulation models to conduct workshops on adaptation since 2006. Brad is also a teacher in the International Languages Program and assists Credit Valley Conservation, The Riverwood Conservancy and the Toronto Regional Energy Cooperative with outdoor environmental education.

Brenda Dillon	I'm an Ontario-certified high school teacher, with a B.A., a B.Ed., Specialist level Additional Qualifications in both Teacher-Librarianship and Special Education, and a Master's of Education in Teacher-Librarianship. I've been teaching high school with the Dufferin-Peel CDSB since September 1988 and have been the Teacher-Librarian at Pocock (a mid-sized high school in Mississauga) since September 1996. The driving force behind my work as a Teacher-Librarian has been, and continues to be, the creation of an inclusive School Library, one which welcomes and supports all members of the school community. I have focused on the students in our Planning for Independence Program (for students with developmental disabilities) because these students were so pointedly excluded previously. I've also been working closely with the teachers of our Communication Program (for students who have severe language-impairments, including but not limited to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder), which is in its second year at this school. I also work with teachers of English as a Second Language classes as well as teachers of Locally Developed classes. In addition to supporting the work students and teachers do in class, I've created a three-part library program for our PIP students (You Are Welcome @ your library, Reading and Learning @ your library, and Work Experience @ your library), and am working to expand this program to our Communication students. In other words, I make a conscious and concerted effort to welcome and support students who might not see themselves – or whose teachers might not see them as – library users.
Connie Bentley	
Dave Balfour	Dave Balfour has been teaching Special Education for 23 years. Last year he received the Director's extra mile award as well as nominated for the Premier's award of excellence.
David Bradburn	
Dianne LaFortune	Dianne LaFortune and Leanne Butcher have worked together in classrooms in several schools in the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. Leanne is an Applications Specialist in the Curriculum Technology Department. Dianne is currently a classroom teacher, having spent many years in Special Education. Together, they are working to implement Universal Design for Learning in Dianne's Grade 4/5 classroom. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and resources to this project.
Donna McGhie-Richmond	Donna McGhie-Richmond is an Assistant Professor in Educational Psychology and Leadership Studies at the University of Victoria. She teaches pre-service and graduate-level students and conducts research in inclusive education. She has education and experience in the area of augmentative communication and assistive technology stemming from her former role as a consultant in Communication and Writing Aids at the Bloorview Kids Rehab, Toronto, ON. Breanne Poland is an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Toronto. Breanne uses assistive technology to support her learning. She also works in the University of Victoria's Resource Centre for Students with a Disability, supporting students as well as acting as a liaison between the University and local high schools.
Elizabeth Baird	The presenters all work in Communication and Writing Aids Service, Bloorview Kids Rehab, where they consult to families for face-to-face and written communication needs. Elizabeth Baird SLP Reg. CASLPO, is a Speech Language Pathologist. D. Jeffrey Higginbotham and Elizabeth received the AAC Editor's researcher's award for their article "Analysis of Listeners' Summaries of Synthesized Speech Passages." She co-presented on the "Active and Independent Engagement with Reading Materials for Switch Users" at the International Society of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) conference in 2004.

Enid Hurtado	<p>Enid Hurtado received her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and her teaching credential in Special Education: Moderate to Severe from San Diego State University. She worked as a Special Education Teacher for 6 years in California and Colorado with children of varying disabilities, Pre-12. In addition to serving as a special educator, she also served as Inclusion Facilitator and Coordinator of Autism programs for grades K-1 and 9-12. After leaving the public school system, she worked as a behavior specialist for an Early Intervention Program. She currently is an Implementation Specialist for DynaVox Mayer-Johnson where she educates and trains parents and professionals on the use of Mayer-Johnson products for communication and instruction.</p>
Gabrielle Young	<p>Gabrielle Young is a doctoral candidate who is focusing her studies in educational psychology and special education at The University of Western Ontario. Her research interests surround school inclusion, the use of assistive technology for students with special learning needs and the self-esteem of individuals with learning disabilities. Dr. Jacqueline Specht is a tenured associate professor at the Faculty of Education at The University of Western Ontario. She is the director of the Centre for Inclusive Education and she teaches both at the graduate and undergraduate level. Her research interests encompass pedagogical issues surrounding the participation of children in the school system.</p>
Heather White	<p>Heather White is a Coordinator of Special Education for the Halton District School Board. She has taught Grades 1 to 8, and worked as a Special Education Resource Teacher and a Self Contained Class Teacher. The role of coordinator provides opportunities to discuss with schools a wide variety of learning challenges. Heather has a particular interest in the area of assistive technology, and coordinates the Learning Centre Program. The four Learning Centres provide an intensive, six week program which focuses on metacognition and empowering the student to understand their own learning profile in order to develop a personal strategy tool kit. A variety of technology tools are components of the program. Terri Van Loon and Lori Laing are teachers and technology leaders in the Learning Centre Program. Recently Heather, Terri, and Lori conducted a research study involving Kurzweil Training at the Learning Centre.</p>
Joan Cunningham	<p>Joan Cunningham, M.A., is the Director of Marketing and Business Development for AbleLink Technologies. Joan has worked in the Assistive Technology industry since 1995. She served on the Assistive Technology Industry Association Board of Directors from 1998 – 2002. Her background is special education and includes 15 years of classroom and administrative experience.</p>

Kathy Howery	<p>Kathy Howery has worked in the area of assistive technology for over 25 years. Most recently while with Alberta Education, she was lead on the Assistive Technology for Learning Initiative. Currently Kathy is engaged doctoral studies at the University of Alberta, is teaching courses on Assistive Technology and Universal Design for Learning, and is consulting to school jurisdictions who are building their capacity to deliver effective AT to students and support UDL. Kathy's doctoral studies have focused on implementation of AT and UDL with a strong focus on developmental and participatory evaluation and outcomes research. Michelle Dargis co-ordinates the assistive technology initiative at Lakeland Catholic Schools. She has been working in the area of Special Education for a number of years, both at the middle school and elementary levels. Previous to her work in Special Ed. she taught kindergarten for 12 years. JoAnne Jackson has spent 30 plus years in the Education system as classroom teacher, Special Ed teacher, curriculum coordinator, and school administrator. For the past 15 JoAnne has been the Deputy Superintendent of the Lakeland Catholic School District. Her many responsibilities include Special Education, Outreach Programs and Curriculum for the district.</p>
Kerri Steel	<p>I am a learning resource teacher and vice-principal in a rural elementary school just outside of Parksville, B.C., on Vancouver Island. I also serve as School District 69 (Qualicum) District Partner for Special Education Technology-British Columbia (SET-BC), and am the district contact and trainer for SET-BC's Accessible Resource Centre (ARC). In 2008, I completed a Master of Arts degree in Leadership and Administration through Gonzaga University, where I focused on Universal Design for Learning. The focus of my work is with supporting classroom teachers toward integrating technology with instructional strategies that allow all learners, regardless of their challenges or needs, to participate in classroom activities, without the need for time-consuming adaptations to curriculum. For the past several years, I regularly lead staff development activities in my school, and present workshops about UDL and Six-Traits writing in School Districts 68 (Nanaimo) and 69 (Qualicum), as well as for pre-service teachers at Vancouver Island University.</p>
Kevin Johnston	<p>Kevin Johnston is Don Johnston's business development Director and has expertise in creating industry collaborations with a variety of leading educational vendors. Kevin works with educators to increase their knowledge of critical literacy technology. His goal is to help school systems choose, integrate and use reading and writing technology to improve student performance.</p>
Lynn Torrie	<p>Lynn is an occupational therapist who has worked in many school settings with students who have physical disabilities. She currently works for the Toronto District School Board, consulting to teachers in Developmental Delay programmes.</p>

Monique Campeau-LeBlanc	<p>Monique Campeau-LeBlanc, has taught in French, English and Special Education from K-12 for the past 29 years in the Ottawa area. Throughout her career she piloted various programs, one of them being the Assistive Technology (A.T.) Program for the Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB). As A.T. Support Teacher, Monique continues to provide workshops, and training to students, parents, trainers, and community members for the OCSB, the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA). She is also involved in local and regional A.T. committees. Furthermore, Monique spearheaded the Council Of Directors of Education (CODE): Tech Tuesdays Project to support the implementation of A.T. and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) at the Intermediate and Secondary level and was invited to present this project at the 2008 Student Success Leaders Symposium. Ms. Campeau-LeBlanc has written and edited curriculum at the local and provincial level and has recently written the Additional Qualification Course: Use and Knowledge of Assistive Technology for OECTA and the College of Teachers (COT). Monique is also involved in the Ottawa Centre of Research and Innovation (OCRI) project as subject expert for the OCRI A.T. Support for Students and Educators Website.</p>
Lucas Kent	<p>Lucas Kent, has a Masters of Teaching and is a Media Literacy Specialist, teacher at Burkevale School in Penetanguishene, Ontario, Canada. He utilizes technology constantly to enhance lessons, improve efficiency and engage today's tech savvy students. His goal is to pass on these experiences to other teachers and link thousands of classrooms into a global classroom in the global village. Lucas authored 6 Steps to Success in Teaching with Technology, a teacher's guide to incorporating technology into a classroom and created MrKent.Net - Teaching with Technology Made Simple, a website designed to help teachers effectively add technology into their classrooms.</p>
Najwa Chalabi	<p>Special Education/ Multiple Exceptionalities class teacher at Blessed Kateri School. Recipient of TCDSB Exemplary Practice Award and the Ministry of Education's grant for a self-developed project under the 2007-2008 TLLP (Teacher Leadership and Learning Program). Team Leader for the Teacher Leadership and Learning Program (TLLP). Teacher Mentor for the Teacher Learning Cycle Path (TLCP). Promoter of inclusion of Special Education/Multiple Exceptionalities Students in regular classrooms facilitated by applying the self-developed RIDE framework through using Assistive Technology (AT) and Differentiated Instructions (DI). Additional Qualification AQ course instructor. Presenter at Academic Information and Communication Technology Conference AICT at TCDSB April 2009-09-21. Presenter at Leading Learning Conference May 2009. Presenter at upcoming Council for Exceptional Children CEC conference November 2009. Presenter at upcoming ECCO Educational Computing Council Organization conference November 2009. Selected to be a panellist for the Teacher Leadership and Learning Program TLLP conference May 2009 initiated by the Ministry of education for teacher leadership TLLP conference. Selected to showcase my TLLP project during the upcoming summit in Nov. 2009 including a video on the Ministry of Education website. Guest speaker at different AQ courses for Special Education. Selected for a Summer Institute sessions summer 2009. Team Leader for Free The Children and an ambassador for the Angel Foundation of Learning. Nominated for the 2009 Innovation Technology awards. Nominated for the Ontario Premier's Award of Teaching Excellence 2006 - 2007. Nominated for Ontario Teacher's Federation Award of Excellence 2005 -2006.</p>

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Neil Andrew	<p>Neil Andrew, Sales Director at Crick Software, has an extensive background in teaching and technology. After working in education for 9 years, Neil joined Crick Software in 2003 as part of the UK sales team. He moved to the new US office (in Westport, Connecticut) in 2009, following the company's relocation to the East Coast from Seattle.</p>
Roberta Thomson	<p>I initially received a B.Sc. in Computer Science, followed by a M.A. in Educational Technology, I then moved into the field of applied special education, and currently have had the opportunity to combine my interests to produce a program which uses computers and related technology to support learning for children with special needs. After over 10 years of work experience in the field of special needs I have recently been a course lecturer at McGill University teaching the course -Computers and Special Needs. Presently, I am a course lecturer in the Special Care Counselling program at LaSalle College. My interests are in promoting the creation of accessible learning environments for all students and using technology to enhance and uncover their potential.</p>
Simone Chalifoux	<p>Simone Chalifoux is the mother of 2 girls; Joanne who is 11 years old (diagnosed with Rett Syndrome) and Olivia who is 4 years old. Simone teaches Kindergarten in a French Immersion School in St.Albert, Alberta. She is very involved in many community organizations including; President of the Alberta Easter Seals, President of the Alberta Rett Syndrome Society, and Co-Chairperson for the Region Six Family Services for Children with Disabilities Parent Council. She brings a wealth of knowledge as a early childhood education expert and as a parent of a child with a disability.</p> <p>Eryn Biddiscombe is currently an aide working with children on the Autism and Rett Syndrome Spectrum in the school setting as well as in home intervention. She is currently completing her degree in Social Work at the University of Calgary.</p>

Sonia Mangieri	<p>Sonia Mangieri has taught middle school for ten years and has been an Alberta Initiative for School Improvement Consultant for three years. Her background in Balanced Literacy strategies is empowering secondary teachers to differentiate for the various needs and skills of today's 21st century student. Denis Potvin has taught middle and high school for more than 20 years and has been an French Immersion Consultant for three years, as well as a season lecturer at the University of Alberta (Campus St.Jean/Education) for many years. His background in key literacy strategies is bringing a common language to all teachers for direct links and support with an emphasis on language acquisition. Denis has studied at the Centre International d'Etudes Padagogiques (CIEP) in Sevres, France; where he received official habilitator status, to train, manage and administer the International French Proficiency Exams (DELF/DALF).</p>
Connie Bentley	<p>Suzanne Harwood is a speech-language pathologist with over 13 years experience. She has been an assistive technology consultant with Special Education Technology British Columbian (SET-BC) on Vancouver Island for the past 5 years.</p>
Tania Mason	<p>Tania Mason is a Learning Resource Coach with the Upper Canada District School Board. She is now into her second year of working with the UCDSB SMART Inclusion pilot project at Glen Tay School where three classrooms are now integrating the needs of a special needs student with language difficulties.</p> <p>Dianne Stroud is in her third year as a Learning Strategies Consultant with the Upper Canada DSB. Part of her job includes supporting the Smart Inclusion projects by helping teachers and Learning Resource Coaches with writing IEP goals that integrate the use of adaptive technologies.</p> <p>Jan Smith is a classroom teacher who accepted the challenge of hosting our first SMART Inclusion project in her grade 3/4 classroom at Glen Tay.</p>
Terry Godwaldt	<p>Terry Godwaldt has taught for over 10 years across Canada and Europe. He is also the founder/director of The Centre for Global Education which was established in early 2007 to facilitate regional, national and international programming, ranging from curriculum based enrichment opportunities to international educational and philanthropic programs. The Centre's two flagship programs are the Alberta Virtual Classroom and the Four Nations Classroom. Never wanting to leave the classroom, Terry continues to teach Mathematics part-time at Queen Elizabeth High School.</p>
Terry Leverton	<p>Terry Leverton is a Resource Teacher for Assistive Technology for the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board and an Instructor of Continuing Education at Mohawk College. Terry holds degrees in psychology and education with Specialist Credentials in Special Education and Reading. Terry was a classroom teacher for fifteen years and a Special Education Resource Teacher for six years. In her present role, she provides board wide support for students who are exceptional and require Assistive Technology to accommodate their educational needs.</p>

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Zoe Branigan-Pipe	Zoe Branigan-Pipe is an innovative classroom teacher that fully embraces 21st Century learning skills. She specializes in the areas of technology integration and social media tools. She is a graduate from York University and is currently work toward her Master of Education at Brock University where she also speaks regularly about technology integration, and professional learning networks. Zoe 's classroom has been showcased for a variety of Ontario Districts because of its Universally Designed infrastructure and she was awarded the FrontRow National Teacher due to her global collaboration initiatives