National Forum on Inspiring Excellence in Learning

This summer, when we bring together CAIS leaders in charge of academics and faculty growth, we will focus on three major areas: innovation in learning, changing cultures, and being an inspirational leader of learning. Two leaders from each school are invited to participate in this National Forum.

What is a National Forum?

- A forum is not a conference where you come to hear presentations, although there will be some excellent presentations.
- A forum means active participation in learning and sharing.
- A forum means contributing to the national research project.

How does our National Forum work?

- Attendees are invited to attend because of their leadership positions.
- Everyone is expected to complete pre-reading and participate in Harkness Discussions.
- Everyone is expected to share an effective practice in a Speed Innovating Session in one of three areas of focus.
- Everyone is expected to actively participate in the Unconference.
Who should attend?

Academic and Human Resource Leaders in Independent Schools. Leaders who:

• Are current in her/his knowledge of best educational practices

• Create and effectively communicate a vision for teaching and learning in her/his school for the next 3-5 years

• Set annual goals that unify the work of all teachers/departments and align with the vision for the school

• Facilitate the development and implementation of curriculum across the school

• Ensure the alignment of curriculum across the school within and across disciplines

• Establish the standard of practice that is in line with the mission of the school

• Create and support opportunities for faculty to enhance and broaden their practice through professional development

• Establish and oversee an evaluation processes that is shaped around enhancing professional skills/abilities/attitudes and is directed toward an ethos of continued growth

• Celebrate innovation in teaching and learning

• Inspire a culture of professionalism and leading edge practice in education
We are excited about our ambitious goal to engage our top leaders; those who put their heads on their pillows at night thinking about how to ensure our CAIS schools are leaders in inspiring excellence.

Our goal is to be intentional about engaging our schools in a meaningful discussion on effective practices, and we have designed a program that models good learning.

Thank you to the Advisory Committee who helped to shape our innovative program:

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Heather Clayton, St. Michaels University School  
Joanne Colwell, Branksome Hall  
Ciara Corcoran, West Point Grey Academy  
Scott Cowie, Upper Canada College  
Alain Delaune, TFS-Canada’s International School  
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