

PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

Winter 2018 Practicum

Observation Days:

February 2 and February 8

4-Week Block:

February 12 - March 9 (inclusive)

Next PAC Meeting

A reminder to our Partnership Advisory Committee that our next meeting is scheduled in Room 11-164 at OISE from 5-7pm on February 27, 2018. Email a.chudleigh@utoronto.ca if you would like to be involved!

AT Appreciation

Our annual AT Appreciation event will be held from 5-7pm at OISE on April 3, 2018. Our keynote speaker will be **Jim Strachan**, speaking on the topic of **Empowered Educators**. Other special guests include Caroline Rosenbloom, Angela Nardozi, Kathy Lundy, and Maria Vamvalis. Stay tuned for further details!

Fall 2017 Practicum

- 772 Teacher Candidates
- 772 Associate Teachers
- 338 Partner Schools
- 65 Faculty Advisors
- 22 Practicum Days
- 5 Practicum Coordinators
- 3 Program Assistants
- 1 Partnership Coordinator



Start the Day Off, Righting Wrongs

Principals' Breakfast: November 12, 2017

Every year at our Principals' Breakfast, we honour the involvement of leaders from our MT partner schools. This year, the keynote speaker was Nick Bertrand, an Education Officer from the Indigenous Education Office at the Ministry of Education. Given that education has historically been the primary tool of oppression of Indigenous people, Nick spoke in a moving and powerful way to the responsibility that school leaders have in moving forward the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Call to Action*. "There is a lot of truth to be told," and therefore we must educate ourselves. New mandatory curriculum for Grades 1-10 strengthens the learning connected to Indigenous perspectives, cultures, histories and ways of knowing, and includes education on broken treaties, the impacts of the residential school system, and the Indian Act. Building connections with members of the Indigenous community will facilitate what Nick referred to as "nothing about us without us." *(continued on p. 2)*





Word on the Street

- *"My AT welcomed me warmly and provided me with so much support, not only helping strengthen me as a teacher, but also encouraging my growth as a person, building confidence about entering the profession. My AT provided me with opportunities to incorporate my own Indigenous heritage into lessons. Being able to teach students about my culture was rewarding and impactful, as I could tell that I was truly making a difference in their education."* (Dakota, Year 1)
- *"My placement was so important in my professional development. My AT encouraged me to take risks, provided specific and helpful feedback, and modelled effective teaching for me that built on my excitement and inspiration to enter the profession."* (Olivia, Year 2)
- *"Before my first day, I was filled with doubt about how I would do in front of a 'real' class, but thanks to the guidance of my AT and the welcoming attitude of the admin, the whole experience went amazingly smoothly. I can't wait to go back and volunteer with my Grade 1/2 class, whom I miss very much! Theoretical learning has its place, but there's no substitute for real-life experience!"* (Brendan, Year 1)
- *"My most recent practicum was particularly rewarding, since I had an AT who was very enthusiastic about me trying out new things in the classroom, such as incorporating technology, inquiry-based lessons, and other alternatives to traditional teaching methods. In second year, to have this kind of flexibility and support from my AT made the experience beneficial and enjoyable."* (David, Year 2)

Principals' Breakfast 2017

(continued from p. 1)

Nick acknowledged that the fear of saying the wrong thing often stops many educators from taking action and suggested that reaching out to Indigenous community members is a key step forward. The "reconciliation journey" may be the perfect time for taking a co-learner stance with teachers and students. It is about action, not inaction.

Following the keynote, principals and OISE guests gathered in a circle of sharing with voices from many different locations and perspectives, facilitating conversation around engaging together to take action in our various educational settings. Nick created a safe and inclusive space for participants to share questions, experiences, perspectives, concerns and ideas.

CTEP: End of the B.Ed. Era

Concurrent Teacher Education Program Ends in 2018

When the Ontario College of Teachers announced extended expectations for certification, it was agreed that programs that had already started would be grandfathered. As such, the CTEP program at OISE – a program in which teacher candidates could spend five years simultaneously completing two undergraduate degrees (e.g., BA and BEd) was allowed to continue only for those students already enrolled. Convocation 2018 will mark the close of this program, meaning that going forward all new teachers graduating from OISE will either obtain their MA or the MT degree. There will still be Combined Programs between OISE and other departments at the University of Toronto, but the CTEP program itself will close its final chapter this coming spring. If your school has traditionally partnered with CTEP, you will have continued

opportunities to mentor OISE's Teacher Candidates through the MA or MT programs!



Phone
416.978.0152

Email
mtinfo@utoronto.ca

Twitter
mt_OISE 