



2026 ACIFA Conference Schedule

(Subject to Change)



Sunday - May 3, 2026

4:30pm - 8:30pm	Registration Desk	Beauvert Ballroom
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Welcome Reception	Beauvert Ballroom

Monday - May 4, 2026

7:00am - 8:00pm	Registration Desk	Mary Schaffer Ballroom B
7:15am - 8:45am	Breakfast Buffet	Beauvert Ballroom
8:00am - 8:15am	Welcome & Introductions	Beauvert Ballroom
8:15am - 9:30am	Keynote Speaker - Mark Groves Beauvert Ballroom	
10:00am - 8:00pm	Silent Auction/ Conference Exhibit	Mary Schaffer Ballroom B

Room	Tekarra	Pyramid A	Pyramid BC	Mary Schaffer Ballroom A	Mary Schaffer Ballroom C
9:45am - 10:15pm (30 minutes)	Generative AI in the Classroom: Where to Start, What Changes, and What I'm Learning Along the Way Connie Lyon (LPFA)	Metissage: A Teaching Tool Raymond Savage (FARDP)	Working Toward Reconciliation and Sustainability: Implementing a Healing Forest on Campus Sonia Perna (SAFA)	Beyond "Be Skeptical": Metacognitive Checkpoints for Critical Thinking in Fluent Information Environments Soo-hyun Ahn (SAFA)	Teaching in the In-Between: Supporting Educators in the Liminal Space of International Program Delivery Chinwe Ogolo, Lisa Gringras & Nadia Abougosh (PCFA)
10:15am - 10:30am	Break				
10:40am - 12:10pm (90 minutes)	Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality - are there practical applications? Kris Hodgson-Bight (LPFA)	Behind the Bars: Innovating Learning and Leadership In and Beyond Corrections Ashley Tisdale & Nicole Kameka (NCFA)	From Autopilot to Awareness: Developing Adaptive Mindsets Through Unconscious Bias Interruption Patricia Koyich (SAFA)	Teaching and Leading from Within: Navigating Change and Uncertainty with Courage Paula Cornell (NCFA)	*10:40am - 11:40am Reclaiming Learning Spaces : Land-Based Education at Red Deer Polytechnic Tyra Hercina & Lloyd Desjarlair (FARDP)
*10:40am - 11:40am (60 minutes)					
12:20pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Buffet and Awards Presentation				Beauvert Ballroom
1:30pm - 2:30pm (60 minutes)	Uncertainty by Design: Leveraging the "Unknown" to Build Courage and Capacity for Change Jacquie Ganton (NAIT)	Full STEAM Ahead: Designing Integrated Learning to Engage and Empower Students Brent Galloway (FARDP)	Learning in the Age of the Polycrisis: Thriving Through Uncertainty Kristine Monterio (NAIT)	Immersive Interest: Finding Balance and Purpose in the In-Between Spaces of Learning and Leading Robin Landal - Hill (Makami College)	Alberta's Future? Post-Secondary is the Answer Brad Lafortune (Public Interest Alberta)
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Break				
2:45pm - 3:45pm (60 minutes)	Reimagining Curriculum Through the Lenses of Anti-Racism, Decolonization, Kinship, and Access Leah Townsend (NCFA)	Are you thinking what I'm thinking? Developing a shared understanding of curriculum. James Beres	Distinguished Instructor Award - Collective Care and Creative Risk Marnie Blair (FARDP)	Go Somewhere with Generative AI: A Hands-On Workshop Using Metaphors and Values to Rethink Teaching in Uncertain Times Jeff Kuntz, Caylee Kreller & Brooklin Schneider (NCFA)	Strengthening Bargaining Through Member Engagement Shauna MacDonald (NASA/ACIFA)
4:00pm - 5:00pm (60 minutes)	X				Labour Rights, Worker Advocacy, and the Current Landscape for Alberta's Post-secondary Workers Kim Siever (The Alberta Worker) (Maximum 70 People)
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Dinner Buffet				Beauvert Ballroom
8:00pm - 10:00pm	Entertainment - Games Night with NWPASA				Beauvert Ballroom

Tuesday - May 5, 2026

7:00am - 8:00pm	Registration Desk				Beauvert Ballroom/Mary Schaffer Ballroom B	
7:15am - 8:45am	Breakfast Buffet				Beauvert Ballroom	
8:00am - 9:50am	ACIFA Annual General Meeting				Beauvert Ballroom	
10:00am - 2:45pm	Silent Auction				Beauvert Ballroom	
10:00am - 5:00pm	Conference Exhibit				Mary Schaffer Ballroom B	
Room	Tekarra	Pyramid A	Pyramid BC	Mary Schaffer Ballroom A	Mary Schaffer Ballroom C	
10:00am - 11:30am (90 minutes)	From Barriers to Belonging: Supporting Trans and Gender Diverse Learners Aidan Wyatt (SAFA)	The MasterMind Method: A Gamified Approach to Reimagining Critical Thinking and Content Retention Jennifer Hainsworth (OCFA)	7Cs for Building Creative Confidence in the Anthropocene Deborah Forbes (MHCFA)	Myopic Inevitability: Challenging Capitalist Narratives about GenAI and the Value of Labour Anna Borynec (NCFA)	Holding Space for Emergence: Learning to Navigate Uncertainty Through Peacemaking Circle Practice Mandy Halabl and Trina Homeniuk (NCFA)	
11:30am -11:45am	Break					
11:45am - 12:15pm (30 minutes)			Unleashing Potential: Nurturing Growth through Alumni Networks Lorlei Boschman (MHCFA)	Oral Examination in Math Yevgen Kanevskiy (SAIT)	Math Anxiety and How to Support Students Facing that Challenge Anna Beukes (NASA)	
12:20pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Buffet				Beauvert Ballroom	
1:30pm - 2:30pm (60 minutes)	Innovation in Teaching Award - Four Corners: A Story of Mental Health and Community Nursing Chantelle Fitton, Marie Laenen & Raihau Izonyobore (LPFA)	The Academic Program Chair: Serving and Surviving When Everyone S(h)its on You Dana Wight (NCFA)	Inclusive Post-Secondary Education in the Liminal Space: Reimagining Learning, Leadership, and Belonging Shawna Francis (Inclusion Alberta)	Through the Eyes of Faculty: A Photovoice Study on Mid-Career Faculty Burnout Leanne Vig (FARDP)		
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Break					
2:45pm	Silent Auction CLOSES				Mary Schaffer Ballroom B	
2:45pm - 3:45pm	Navigating the Liminal Space Mimetically: A Social Model for Learning Raymond Klessen (NCFA)	Journeying Toward Transformation: An Indigenous Perspective in Education Talitha Klym (FARDP)	Navigating the Faculty Role on the Board of Governors Dustin Quirk and Bill Petrosenko (FARDP)			
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Dinner Buffet				Beauvert Ballroom	
8:00pm - 10:00pm	Evening Entertainment – Scavenger Hunt with MHCFA				Beauvert Ballroom	