

INC27-05 Professional Learning Series: Collaborative Community for 7-9 Social Studies Educators



PRESENTED BY

Ted Zarowny & Julia Drefs



SERIES SESSIONS

Date	Time
October 06, 2026	3:45 PM - 4:45 PM
November 17, 2026	3:45 PM - 4:45 PM
December 08, 2026	3:45 PM - 4:45 PM
February 23, 2027	3:45 PM - 4:45 PM



LOCATION

Online - Your Computer

FEE

\$0.00

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us:

[780-623-2248](tel:780-623-2248)

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit our website to register:

northeast.aplc.ca

Learning Opportunity

This ongoing professional learning series invites 7-9 teachers to come together as a collaborative community focused on high-quality social studies teaching and learning. Participants will:

- engage in rich conversations with colleagues about pilot curriculum
- collaboratively explore and refine areas such as:
 - assessment practices
 - sensitive subjects
 - source analysis
 - engaging student thinking (historical, geographical, systems, citizenship, critical & creative, ...)
 - deepening curricular Understandings
 - planning frameworks
 - using AI for planning and resources
- gather, share, and co-create practical classroom resources
- address real-time challenges and celebrate successes

Through a balance of facilitated conversations and teacher-led dialogue, this group builds strong networks across schools in Alberta, fosters professional confidence, and strengthens the design and delivery of social studies instruction. Together, we will support students to become active, informed, and engaged citizens.

This learning opportunity will be facilitated by Julia Drefs & Ted Zarowny, Designers of Professional Learning from APLC.

Presenters

Ted Zarowny

Ted's educational journey took him through three provinces. He began his career as classroom teacher in Saskatchewan, and spent many years in British Columbia on the North Coast and interior as a teacher and principal. He returned to the prairies and a principalship in the Capital region where he currently remains.

Ted's passions include instructional pedagogy such as learning for transfer, conceptual learning and the instruction of thinking skills. Trained in Control Theory and Restitution-Self Discipline, a restorative justice approach, Ted has extensive experience with approaches and techniques that address classroom management and student behaviour. He also has extensive experience working with gifted students while being the principal of a school for gifted learners for fifteen years. Ted is excited to share his skillset with others to help them refine practices and mindsets that enrich the learning experiences of students

Julia Drefs

Julia Drefs is a strong advocate for student-centered assessment, believing that high expectations, curiosity with relevant & engaging learning, community partnerships, and intentional student growth with increasing learner confidence makes education joyful for all. Ultimately, Julia advocates for collaborations and common understandings among Alberta educators to foster student success.

Drawing from over three decades of diverse experience in education, Julia is an avid reader of pedagogical research. She has degrees from Western University (UWO), McGill University, and a Master of Education in 21st Century Teaching and Learning with the University of PEI. She has taught grades 5-9, served as a principal, mentored teachers, and supported teachers in the areas of curriculum and assessment. Her lifelong commitment to language education is evidenced by her academic pursuits in French, German, and Russian across various universities, including international studies in Nice, France; her support for student exchanges; and as an examiner for le Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELFI).

