



CHICKADEE CHATTER

Vol 16 No 2

DKG New Brunswick

Winter 2025

DKG -Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

Pack Your Bags for Manitoba

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
BRANDON MANITOBA
DKG CANADIAN FORUM CONFERENCE
UNITE, UPLIFT, INSPIRE
JOIN US FOR 3 DAYS OF INSPIRING KEYNOTES, WORKSHOPS & NETWORKING TO HELP YOU GROW PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY
ELEVATING PROFESSIONAL WOMEN EDUCATORS

JULY 10-12 2025
REGISTER BEFORE JUNE 1ST TO SAVE \$50

MEMBERS
BEFORE JUNE 1ST, 2025 \$200
AFTER JUNE 1ST, 2025 \$250

NON-MEMBERS
BEFORE JUNE 1ST, 2025 \$250
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DR. SHAR MCGOWAN
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

DR. YVONNE VIZINA
INDIGENOUS & SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

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dkgmanitoba.org
VICTORIA INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
3350 VICTORIA AVE. BRANDON MANITOBA

July will be an exciting time for Canadian DKG members as they gather, along with members from other parts of the world, in Brandon, Manitoba, for a Canadian Forum Conference. ARC Dr. Shar McGowan's message on Page 3 provides some highlights of the conference.

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President's Page



Dianne Caron
2023-2025

I welcome all members and their families to 2025 with positive thoughts about the up-coming year. May this year bring you joy, success, and endless possibilities."

2025 - A Time for Revitalization

As female educators we have been leaders in our careers and daily events. Now it is our turn to revitalize ourselves and help younger teachers to grow and prosper. Here are a few suggestions for enriching our lives. When we follow these practices, we are setting an example for others to follow.

Gratitude: "When we practice grateful thinking, we benefit from improved emotional, physical, and interpersonal well-being. Those who choose to live a life of gratitude report fewer illnesses, feel better about their lives as a whole, and are more optimistic about the future" (Emmons, 2009, 2011).

Leadership: As members of DKG, leadership has various meanings for different women. We need to encourage women to make a commitment to progressing as leaders, whether one is just beginning a career or continuing to be a leader as a retired senior-aged person. Encouragement develops creativity and independent thinking, at every age. I encourage all members to consider accepting a leadership role in DKG. It may be a very small role, for example working on a committee or as an executive officer. Leadership enriches us with self-esteem and self-confidence. Every role is important to sustain our chapter. We cannot just continue with the "same old...same old" members who continue making decisions.

Fellowship: Belonging to DKG is so essential in our lives especially with the turmoil in daily life. As members we form a sense of community with genuine friendship. In DKG, we are not alone. We are a supportive group of women who care about one another. We can share burdens and lighten our loads. Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one person. We can all draw on our experiences and help others.

Sharing Information: Talk to others about DKG and what it means to become a member. We want to grow in New Brunswick, not only in membership, but in personal enrichment.

"All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make, the better." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Best wishes for 2025,
President Dianne

DKG NEW BRUNSWICK EXECUTIVE 2023-2025

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Dianne Caron

First Vice President

Marjorie Sinclair

Second Vice President

TBD

Secretary

Joan Somerville

Treasurer

Margaret Dryden

Past President

Margie Goodin

Parliamentarian

Margie Goodin

News from the ARC Desk

The following message was previously published in the DKG NEWS, November/December 81-6 Issue.



Dr. Shar McGowan
2024-2026

Leading Women Educators in Canada: Extending a Warm Welcome to All

If you have ever been to Canada in January or February, you may have noticed a slight chill in the air. Life can be a bit more challenging during these months as we navigate ongoing snowfall, wind, and ice week after week until April when spring announces its return.

Even though our nose, fingers, and feet may be frosty, our hearts are warm and inviting. This year, especially, Canada's heart will be beating with exhilaration and energy as we welcome DKG visitors and guests to Brandon, Manitoba, for the Canadian Conference from July 9-13, 2025. Don't worry about the weather.... it's hot in Canada during July! Pack your sandals and bring your sunglasses to the city of Brandon, Manitoba, in the heart of Canada.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

DKG NB Motto *Shine in DKG*

**Light the path to Education
Glow with Friendship
Sparkle with Leadership**

The conference's theme is *Unite, Uplift, Inspire!* Starting on Thursday, July 10, with the theme of *Unite*, the tentative plan will offer an opening keynote on the topic *Canadians Who Innovate: The Trailblazers and Ideas That Are Changing the World*. We will then discover on Friday through the topic of *Uplift* the subjects *Indigenous Epistemologies in Teaching and Learning* and *The Power of Yes* through a second and third keynote. On Saturday, under the umbrella of *Inspire*, the keynote *Empowering or Undermining? Understanding the Role of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Today's Teaching and Learning Context* will be presented along with a final keynote, *Light and Joy: Igniting Our Strength and Purpose*. But that's not all! The Canadian Conference will also feature a wonderful array of captivating breakout topics presented by several DKG members. One specific highlight that attendees may look forward to is an excursion to nearby Winnipeg to experience the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (<https://humanrights.ca>) on Sunday, July 13.

Everyone is welcome at our conference, and we are looking forward to seeing friends from countries other than Canada.

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As we continue to plan for the Canadian Conference, we also continue to offer terrific programming to our members through provincial and local Chapter leadership. For instance, extending hearts of friendship together across the USA-Canadian border, New Brunswick and Maine enjoy frequent cross-border events that began in 1962. Other provincial initiatives include offering mentoring and scholarship opportunities and working alongside teacher education programs in major universities to support the future of the teaching profession. DKG leaders in Canada continue to search for innovative ways to grow our membership and thrive alongside our international DKG friends.

So, while we may be physically chilled at the moment, we anticipate the warmth of spring and the warmth of colleague sharing as July and the Canadian Conference come alive. You are all welcome: Let's *Unite, Uplift and Inspire* together.

Shar



Canadian Project Update



Soaring Circle's Facebook page has information on a new campaign called *Sew Shapes*. You can support Indigenous youth in your province or Nunavut by upcycling your unused fabrics through Soaring Circle in collaboration with Janome Canada in two ways.

1. Buy a gift card through Soaring Circle for them to spend at your chosen Janome dealer.
2. Cut unused fabrics into basic shapes to be used to build project sewing kits for the students. You might want to include a personal note to the students.



The photo on the left is just part of 4 boxes of Basic Shapes sent by a donor in Toronto. On the right is some of the fleece donated by Blackbird Fabrics in BC to be used by students in the sewing labs to make mitts, hats, scarves, vests and jackets.



Posted with permission: <https://www.facebook.com/SOARINGCIRCLE>. Fleece posted January 13, Shapes January 14, 2025. Accessed: January 27, 2025,

Beta Chapter Chatter

East Coast Leadership Academy, Fredericton



Chris Treadwell was thanked by Beta President Geri Kilburn

On Wednesday, October 2nd, we had the privilege of welcoming Chris Treadwell as our guest speaker. Chris shared insights about East Coast Leadership Academy (ECLA), the new K-6 private school he co-founded with Kara Angus, founder & president of Go-Go Group Inc.

With nearly 40 years of experience in education, Chris has held several prominent roles, including 31 years as a school principal, adjunct professor at both UNB and St. Thomas for over a decade, international consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank in the Caribbean, and most recently, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development for New Brunswick.

ECLA emerged from Kara's desire to provide her children with an exceptional private education. She contacted Chris who was delighted to offer his experience to assist her in creating a private school of exceptional quality, and after two and a half years of planning and navigating the challenges of launching a private institution, ECLA is now a reality.

The school's main campus is planned for Serenity Lane, where Kara has acquired approximately 12 acres from Serenity Baptist Church, as well as additional nearby properties, bringing the total future campus area to 20 acres. While the main site is under development, ECLA has purchased; and opened a pilot location in the former two-story church hall of St. Peter's Anglican Church, adjacent to Hartt Island Campground on Woodstock Road in Fredericton. Extensive renovations have transformed the space to accommodate 36 students this year, with many already enrolled for next year. The property, which borders the river and trail, will soon feature exciting new playground equipment, enhancing its outdoor space.

Inside, the building has been thoughtfully redesigned to promote flexible, progressive pedagogy. Furniture and equipment are highly adaptable, allowing for dynamic learning groupings. A standout feature is the top floor's 18-foot glass wall, offering students and staff stunning views of the St. John River, creating an inspiring learning environment filled with natural light. At the heart of ECLA's educational philosophy is the belief that each child should reach their full academic, social, and emotional potential. While students follow New Brunswick's curricular outcomes, instruction is not bound by traditional grade levels, particularly in numeracy and literacy. Instead, learning is personalized and paced according to each student's Zone of Proximal Development. The school emphasizes experiential, hands-on learning and makes extensive use of community resources through place-based learning.

ECLA has established strong connections with UNB, particularly with its Science, Management, and Renaissance College faculties. Students benefit from physical education led by various Varsity Reds teams at UNB's Lady Beaverbrook Gym and the BMO field. The school has also forged partnerships with a variety of community organizations, including the City of Fred-

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erickton, the Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement, Oasis Farmery, the Delta, Grant Thornton, and Little Ones Therapy. Bi-weekly art classes are even held at the Fredericton Beaverbrook Art Gallery.

ECLA's unique approach also extends to its educators, who are compensated on par with public school teachers, with competitive benefits. The school has brought in local experts across diverse fields such as veterinary science, medicine, puppetry, wilderness skills, anatomy, and mindfulness to provide enriching, weekly six-week block sessions.

In addition, ECLA is committed to accessibility. The school has established an Opportunity Fund to assist deserving students from families of modest means with tuition, which is set at \$10,500 annually. The fund will also support collaborations between ECLA and public schools, sharing resources and expertise.

ECLA's educational and financial advisory boards include highly respected educators, some recently retired, from esteemed institutions like Johns Hopkins and Mount Allison. These advisors help ensure ECLA's educators are equipped to excel in their roles.

The vision of ECLA is to provide students with a transformative learning experience, where they discover their passions and take ownership of their education. Leadership development, through advocacy, citizenship, and character-building, is an integral focus of the school's mission.

With a strong start and ambitious plans, ECLA is poised to make a lasting impact on Fredericton's educational landscape.

Submitted by Dianne Caron with permission from Chris Treadwell

Teaching in Yellowknife



Beta Chapter members enjoyed Annette Stehouwer's PowerPoint Presentation, *My Northern Experience*, at their November 6, 2024 meeting. She spoke on her life working in Yellowknife and smaller communities in the Northwest Territories, and displayed artifacts gathered from her two years teaching as a Literacy Coordinator and Coach in the north. Her presentation was very informative and members learned about the teaching communities and the culture of the northern traditions.

Submitted by Dianne Caron

President Geri Kilburn presented speaker Annette Stehouwer with a red rose.

Beta's Christmas Social



L to R: Alice Young, Geri Kilburn, Sunyoung Lee, Joan Somerville, Melanie Wood
Absent from photo: Yemisi Kehinde, Dianne Caron

Members of Beta Chapter shared a delicious potluck dinner at the Christmas Social on Dec. 4, 2024, at the Social Room of Kathie Berry. The program comprised several quoted serious and humorous reflections of what Christmas means.

As one of our annual service events, we collected books, games and funds for the children at Transition House. Thank you to Mary Hartt who volunteered to take the donations to the shelter.



Photos: D. Caron



We all know that a good example is more effective than advice so set a good example and it won't take long for others to follow. —*Anne Frank*

DKG NB and UNB Host a DKGIEF PD Day



Credit: D. Carroll Phillips

DKG NB members are pleased to be the recipient of a Lucile Cornet Seminar Professional Development Award to be offered to Teacher Candidates and Classroom Teachers on how to prepare for the challenges in today's classroom. Diane Carroll Phillips, B Ed, PPCC, STEM/STEAM, Aerospace Ed will be the keynote presenter for a session titled, *Creating a Co-Collaborative Classroom—Raise the Bar of Success for Teachers and Students*. This engaging, co-collaborative workshop will provide attendees with practical classroom intervention strategies to foster the development of responsible and productive students. They will learn how to design a co-collaboration plan template, recognize the different ways students learn in co-collaborative settings, and develop plans that emphasize the value of building upon students' knowledge, personal experiences, language abilities, and cultures that may affect the progress of learning. They will delve into simple interconnectedness activities necessary to establish trust between the students and teacher; learn how to design responsibility action plans that the students will be accountable to, and develop new tools to effectively support the creation of a partnership protocol for students.

DKG NB President Dianne Caron and Vice President Marjorie Sinclair have been consulting with UNB Dean of Education Dr. Mary Gene Saudelli and Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs Andrea Belczewski to ensure a successful day. The event will take place at Marshall d'Avray Hall on the UNB campus on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 9:00 AM-3:30 PM. The day will end with a Mindfulness Session led by Dean Saudelli. Registration forms will be available to UNB students on the Sharepoint Server and will be sent out to classroom teachers from ASD-W District Office.



The DKG Visionary Network Committee is thrilled to share this digital flyer announcing the next cycle for submitting a topic for a visionary network group. Please continue to support and encourage this exciting opportunity. Updates will be on the International website 1/27.2025.

HAVE AN AREA OF EXPERTISE TO SHARE WITH DKG MEMBERS?
NEED A PLATFORM TO SHARE THIS EXPERTISE?

THE DKG VISIONARY NETWORK WANTS YOU!



DKG VISIONARY NETWORK

VIRTUAL GROUPS

Proposals for the **2025 Spring/Summer** cycle of the DKG Visionary Network are now being accepted.

Members interested in facilitating a DKG Visionary Network group should complete the topic proposal application by **March 1, 2025**.

Group topics and facilitators announced by **April 1, 2025**.

Projected start date for groups is **mid-May**.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2025

Visit www.dkg.org > "Events" > "Virtual Events Around DKG" > "Visionary Network" for more information



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA



S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Teaching Workshop



**Saturday, March 29th, 2025
United Technologies Center
Bangor, Maine
8:30-2:30**



Save the Date

Keynote: “AI is Giving All the Feels” – Nicole Karod and Jeff Ireland

Nicole is the Emerging Technology Digital Specialist for the Maine Department of Education, where she has been supporting the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into classrooms across the state for the past three years. Jeff Ireland is a second-year ambassador for the MLTI Program at the Maine Department of Education. He has 28 years of experience in education in many roles, including being a classroom teacher, special educator, assistant principal, and principal, all at the middle school level. We explore how AI sparks a range of emotions—represented by the Inside Out characters: Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear, Disgust, and Anxiety. As educators, these feelings often arise when navigating any new technology, and AI is moving at a fast pace. How can we move forward with these emotions and find the Joy in learning and using AI? Let’s navigate these emotions and initial uncertainties and embrace AI as a powerful tool that can enhance teaching and learning for both educators and students, guiding us toward more engaging and effective classrooms.

Potential break-out session topics include: The Dolly Parton Imagination Library in early literacy, AI, vocabulary building, the power of connectedness, MakerEd, teacher voice in promoting our profession, support for early career educators, **and** more!

A certificate for 5.5 contact hours will be available.

As part of your registration, morning snacks and lunch will be served.

Registration Information will be available no later than mid-January 2025 at:

<https://dkgmaine.weebly.com/>

For more information contact: Mary Hyland at mishyland@gmail.com

S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Teaching workshop is open to **ALL educators!**

Quotes from 2024 participants: “This workshop was the best workshop that I have ever been to.” --- “I will be coming back for sure.” ---“Best lunch I have ever had at a workshop.” ---“The icing on the cake is this facility.” --

Avenue M Task Force

The Avenue M Task Force established three goals for the biennium:

1. Collaborating with other national and international professional organizations to attract members and enhance the profession.

2. Developing calls to action in eleven identified areas, with six main areas of focus:

Addressing educator burnout and the shortage of individuals entering the profession.

Responding to increased expectations placed on educators.

Encouraging individuals to join the Society through referrals for existing members.

Enhancing the value of DKG membership.

Creating connections among women educators.

Recruiting and attracting educators to the professional and to DKG membership.

3. Replacing the term Avenue M with #SecondCenturyDKG&Beyond.

As the objectives of Avenue M have been achieved, the work of DKG continues.

2025 International Conference

Building Our Next Century Together
Keynote Speaker: Merlyna Valentine

July 31-August 2, 2025

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
500 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA



DKG International Educators Foundation



Vision: Giving to Educate the World

March 1, 2025 DKGIEF Educational Project Application

May 1, 2025 DKGIEF Cornet CIPD Application

Deadlines for Submissions

February 1, 2025 Scholarship Applications

March 1, 2025 *Bulletin: Journal* Submissions

March 1, 2025 International Achievement Award Recommendations

February 15, 2025 Spring Art Gallery Submissions close

Open all year Leadership Discovery Centre Submissions

Save the Date

February 4, 2025 Inside International, 7:30 PM AT

February 5, 2025 DKG NB Beta Zoom Program 7:00 PM

July 10-13, 2025 Canadian Forum Conference, Brandon, Manitoba

July 18-20, 2025 European Forum Conference, Brighton, England

July 31-August 2, 2025 DKG International Conference, New Orleans, LA

NEXT PUBLICATION DEADLINE April 15, 2025

Beta members submit items to Dianne Caron dicaron47@gmail.com
Editorial Staff - Marjorie Sinclair, Dianne Caron