

SUMMER CAMP 2019

UNPLUGGED

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

8:15am to 3:30pm
Educators and parents, PreK – Grade 3
Fort Calgary

TICKETS: \$100

8:15 AM REGISTRATION, COFFEE & NETWORKING

8:45 AM WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

9:00 AM KEYNOTE MEGHAN COX GURDON, AUTHOR OF THE ENCHANTED HOUR.
The Enchanted Hour: The Miraculous Power of Reading Aloud in the Age of Distraction

10:15 AM BREAK & NETWORKING

10:45 AM ELIZABETH DOZOIS, WORD ON THE STREET LTD. Why Read?

12:00 PM LUNCH (PROVIDED) & NETWORKING – BOOK SIGNING WITH MEGHAN COX GURDON

1:00 PM MIRIAM RAMZY, PH.D. WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LITERACY AND LEARNING & MICHELLE BENCE, PH.D. STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CURRICULUM AND LEARNING PROGRAM. A Quick Guide To The Impact Of Screen Time On Early Learning

2:15 PM WRAP UP AND TOUR OF THE CHILDREN'S READING PLACE, INGLEWOOD

JOIN US AND BE INSPIRED!
NEW LEARNING, INSIGHTS AND PRACTICAL
IDEAS FROM ENGAGING LITERACY EXPERTS.

REGISTER NOW!

www.crcpd.ab.ca/program/4376

PARKING IS LIMITED – Fort Calgary has 140 stalls but don't guarantee that all will be available (it's the nature of their location) – car pooling and transit are suggested. Parking rates will be discounted each day to \$6 (from \$10).

THE ENCHANTED HOUR

The Enchanted Hour (Harper) is a conversation-changing look at how reading aloud makes adults and children smarter, happier, healthier, more successful and more closely attached, even as technology pulls in the other direction. Gurdon draws on the latest brain science and behavioural research, as well as from literature and personal anecdote, to explore the multifaceted power of a practice that has origins in antiquity and amazing relevance for today's tech-addled families. Amid the depleting distractions of screens and devices, she writes: "A miraculous alchemy takes place when one person reads to another, one that converts the ordinary stuff of life – a book, a voice, a place to sit, and a bit of time – into astonishing fuel for the heart, the mind, and the imagination."



PRESENTER MEGHAN COX GURDON

Meghan Cox Gurdon is an internationally-known children's book critic and the author of *The Enchanted Hour: The Miraculous Power of Reading Aloud in the Age of Distraction*. Her influential weekly column in the *Wall Street Journal*, which began running in 2005,

reaches more than 2 million readers every week. A mother of five, Gurdon is a sophisticated, eloquent and joyful advocate for reading aloud and the social, emotional, cultural, and literary pleasures and benefits that it offers. She's truly an enthusiast and has been reading aloud every evening since the first of her five children arrived 24 years ago and she not only refuses to stop, but she also hopes to persuade you to do the same!

Gurdon graduated Magna cum Laude from Bowdoin College in 1986, and after a stint as a television producer in New York, moved overseas to marry the English journalist, Hugo Gurdon, and begin work as a freelance foreign correspondent. Based first in Hong Kong, and later in Tokyo, London, Washington, and Toronto, Gurdon reported from dozens of international locales, including Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Somalia, Singapore, France, Germany and Israel. Her print and radio work has run in numerous outlets, such as the *Christian Science Monitor*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Washington Post*, *National Review*, *Monitor* radio, and the public radio show, *Marketplace*.

After 9/11, having had four children in three different countries, Gurdon and her husband decided to relocate one last time, to Washington DC, where they welcomed their fifth child a few short weeks after she began writing her column for the *Wall Street Journal*.

WHY READ?

Understanding how to read is a big focus of education, but understanding why to read is equally important, because without a compelling 'why,' we won't make it a priority. In this session, Elizabeth will explore why reading is critical to our individual and collective well-being, and offer some strategies for how to make more time for it.



PRESENTER ELIZABETH DOZOIS

Elizabeth Dozois (Word on the Street Ltd.) has been providing research, evaluation and strategic support to the non-profit and public sectors in Calgary for over 20 years. She has facilitated a range of learning, planning and consultative events throughout Alberta, including

focus groups, think tanks, strategic planning sessions, communities of practice, public consultations, and workshops. Elizabeth has developed a number of resources for Calgary Reads, including five Literacy in a Box modules, a self-directed course for educators (Y Read), wee read, and an English Language Learner program. She has a particular interest in supporting adaptive learning in complex and emergent initiatives and teaches a five-day course on adaptive learning through the Human Venture Institute (HVI).

A QUICK GUIDE TO THE IMPACT OF SCREEN TIME ON EARLY LEARNING

There are so many questions being posed about current research regarding the use of digital devices and the impact on children's physical development, oral language, and behaviour. Throughout this session, we will debunk myths by exploring the research, along with opportunities for conversation and questions related to the challenges which are confronted with on a daily basis. With this research in mind, we will provide practical recommendations around the use of digital devices with young children in the home and at school. Let's team up to provide a digital device plan in the best interest of our children's healthy brain development!

Specific session learnings:

- Synthesis of the current literature on technology/devices and learning
- Contributing factors to digital use
- How technoferece interrupts interactions and time spent together/learning
- Impacts of digital devices (social, emotional, physical, behavioural, sleep, attention, language and cognition)
- Managing digital device use and strategies for successful implementation



PRESENTER MIRIAM RAMZY

Miriam Ramzy has her Ph.D., from the Werklund School of Education, in Literacy and Learning. The focus of her education, teaching practice and professional development endeavours has been on early learning and literacy education. Her doctoral work focuses on early literacy

learning in a grade one setting, with emphasis on writing instruction, and the role of printing and spelling.



PRESENTER MICHELLE BENCE

Michelle Bence has been a teacher in Calgary for 17 years. She is a Ph.D. student at the University of Calgary in the Curriculum and Learning program. Michelle's areas of research interest include literacy teaching practices, oral language development and early written literacy. She is working on several early literacy education research projects.

THE CHILDREN'S READING PLACE IN INGLEWOOD

The Children's Reading Place is about spreading the joy of reading throughout our community. It's based on the simple idea that if you create a comfortable, fun space for children to read, they will. And when that happens, their imaginations are ignited and their confidence grows.

We've transformed a heritage house in Calgary's Inglewood neighbourhood into a welcoming hub of reading where school groups and families can come to experience the pleasure of curling up with a good book.

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