



September
2013

Volume 8, Issue 53

Leaders & Learners

THE VOICE OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS / L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ADMINISTRATEURS ET DES ADMINISTRATRICES SCOLAIRES
WWW.CASA-ACAS.CA

Inside this issue:

Preconference Activities: Sea Kayaking Tour	2
Preconference Activities: St. John's And Beyond	3
The Navigators Live In Concert	4
2013 Opening Ceremonies	5
EXL Awards	7
Pedagogy to Technology: Breakout Sessions	8
Interactions And Connections: Meeting Sponsors	11
Salutations And Celebrations: Partners Dinner	13
Fall Update: Our New Name And New Website	14
CASA People	15
Contact CASA	15

The 2013 CASA Annual Conference: Success In St. John's

It's hard to imagine how CASA could top the success of recent conferences like Whistler, but that's what happened this July in St. John's.

Participants, speakers and sponsors (and their families, too) came from across Canada to experience the best of St. John's and Newfoundland culture and hospitality.

This year's conference included engaging sessions, the return of the popular sponsor passport, exhilarating recreation opportunities and the gorgeous backdrop of historic St. John's.

To organize a conference like this requires a lot of behind-the-scenes work. Thank you to everyone who played a part. See you all next year in Calgary, Alberta!

Top: CASA president **Roger Nippard**, Phil **Geiger**, senior vice president at Maximus, and **Barry Wowk**, CASA Western Director.

Middle: **Kevin Skelcher** of Thoughtstream takes a picture of colleague **Lea Thuot** at a lookout point at Quidi Vidi.

Bottom: **Joan** and **Kevin Andrea**, staff from Northern Gateway Public Schools, enjoy a sea kayaking adventure.



Preconference Activities: Stan Cook Sea Kayaking Go And Tow Tour



Above: It looks easy when you are still in dry dock. It gets a bit trickier when your kayak is actually in the water.

Right: A postcard-perfect background for sea kayaking.



Left: Joan Andrea demonstrates her pro-style paddling method.

Right: Is this what they mean by using the buddy system? Hey guys, that doesn't look like an official paddling technique.



Left: Green, yellow, red—these colours correspond with how fast the kayaks go, right?

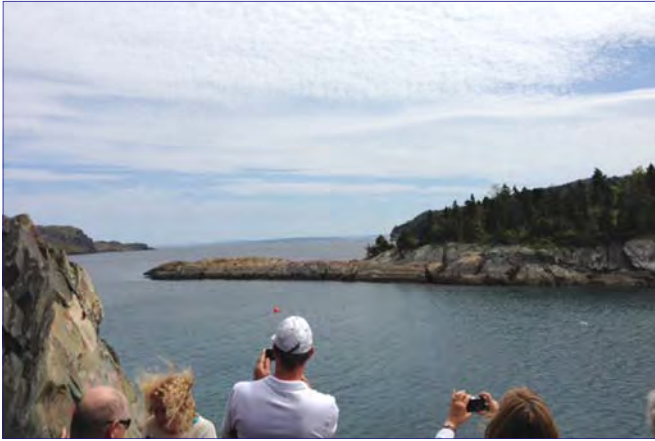
Below: Penny and Peter Joshua paddling through the water (and life) together.



In most cases
being a good boss
means hiring
talented people
and then getting
out of the way.

—Tina Fey

Preconference Activities: St. John's And Beyond

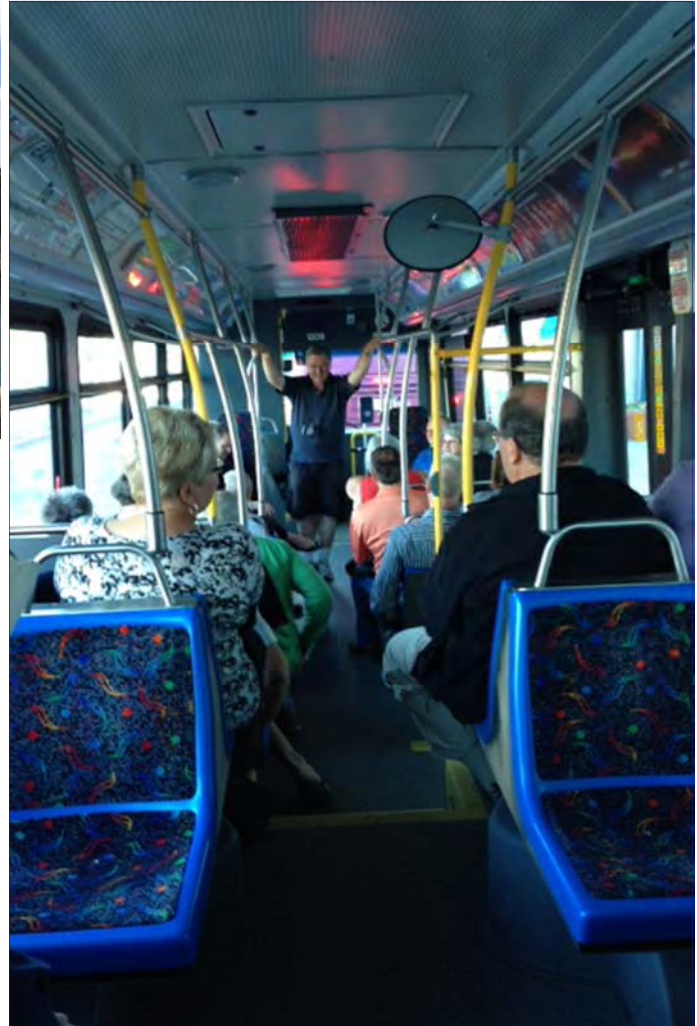


Above: A photo opportunity at “The Tunnel” in Brigus, a hole blown out of the side of a cliff by settlers in 1860.

Right: On the road again—CASA preconference activities often involve bus rides to exciting destinations.

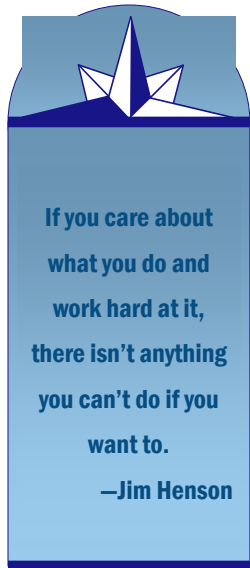
Below: It's Friday night—time to head down to George Street to sample the famous nightlife of downtown St. John's. In other words, time for a Rally in the Alley!

All photos on this page by Brad White, excluding bottom left



Below, left: CASA president **Roger Nippard**, raised in Newfoundland, with brother **Dave**, still a resident.

Below: At an archaeological dig in Cupids Cove.



If you care about what you do and work hard at it, there isn't anything you can't do if you want to.

—Jim Henson

The Navigators Live In Concert



Above: One of Newfoundland's finest New Celtic bands, The Navigators, entertained folks with a couple of rollicking sets on the opening night.


Above, left: **Claudia Parker** can't help but dance a little barefoot jig while The Navigators play.

Right: For those who want more of the music from that night, The Navigators' latest album *Soldiers and Sailors* is available through the band's website at www.thenavigators.com. Previous releases *Sea Miner* (2009) and *Dance and Sing* (2002) can also be purchased through the website.



Right (left and right): Multi-instrumentalists **Arthur O'Brien** and **Fred Jorgensen** of The Navigators.

This popular traditional Celtic rock group has toured across Canada, the US and Europe, was nominated for an East Coast Music Award and won a MUSICNL Award for Folks/Roots Group of the Year. They're also a traditional favourite for CASA conferences held in St. John's.



Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else.

—JM Barrie

The 2013 CASA Conference Opening Ceremonies



Above, left: **Blair Norton** and **Dana Robb**, staff from Northern Lights School Division in Alberta.



Above, right: **Janice Schoening**, vice president of publishing at Nelson Education Limited, one of our conference sponsors, sits with **Eldred Barnes**, who serves as the executive director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Directors of Education, or NLADE.



Above: **Rosemary Lucia** and **Robert Allan**, colleagues from conference sponsor Maximus.


Below: CASA president **Roger Nippard**.



Left: The mayor of St. John's, **Dennis O'Keefe**, delivering remarks at the opening of the 2013 conference.

The mayor is a former teacher, having served as an educator for 30 years before entering politics in 1997.

Below: The Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) president **Jameel Aziz**.



Life is like a dogsled team. If you ain't the lead dog, the scenery never changes.
—Lewis Grizzard

The 2013 CASA Conference Opening Ceremonies, cont'd



Above, left: More great sponsors on hand for the opening ceremonies in St. John's. **Phil Geiger** and **Al Wong** represent Maximus K-12 Education.




Above, right: **Jeff Thompson**, the president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Directors of Education, the 2013 conference's host association.



Left: **Jane** and **Roy Ripkens**, a secondary school principal and deputy superintendent from the Northern Lights School Division in northeastern Alberta.

Below, right: **Susan Sullivan**, the minister of Health and Community Services for Newfoundland and Labrador, was on hand to provide welcoming remarks at the 2013 conference opening ceremonies.

Below: **Kelly Tams** and **Yolanda Lis**, school board coordinator and outside sales coordinator for sponsor EF Educational Tours, share some smiles over refreshments.



When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt.

—Henry J. Kaiser



Left to right: Xerox's **Randy Brydges**, EXL Award nominee **Pam Reinholdt** (OPSOA), nominee **Tom D'Amico** (OCSOA), 2013 EXL Award winner **Kim Jenkins** (CASS), nominee **Lyse Gendron-Brodeur** (AAESQ), **Claudia Parker** (NWTSA) and Xerox's **Steve Chevarie**.

Recognizing Excellence: The 2013 CASA EXL Awards

As was announced in Issue 52 of *Leaders & Learners*, the 2013 Canadian Superintendent of the Year is **Kim Jenkins**. Kim is the winner of this year's Xerox Excellence in Educational Leadership Award, also known as the EXL Award.

Biographies of each of this year's deserving nominees can be found in the previous issue of this newsletter.


The award was presented by **Randy Brydges**, director of Xerox–Western Canada Operations, and **Steve Chevarie**, an executive with Xerox–Service and Solutions, on July 4 at the Avalon Ballroom (Salon A) in the Delta St. John's.

Congratulations to Kim and to each of the nominees. A sincere thank you to Randy and Steve and the team at Xerox for their continued support.

Randy Brydges (left) and **Steve Chevarie** (right), on behalf of Xerox, present **Kim Jenkins** with his 2013 EXL Award.



Left to right: **Lyse Gendron-Brodeur**, **Tom D'Amico** and **Pam Reinholdt** during the EXL Award ceremony.



"I can't do it" never yet accomplished anything; "I will try" has performed wonders.

—George P. Burnham

Pedagogy To Technology: Breakout Sessions



Counter-clockwise from above:

1. Listening intently to the session speaker.
2. **Sheila Kublek** of Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board.
3. Taking notes during a session.



4. **Barb Sonier**, Thames Valley District School Board superintendent.

5. **Pierre Alexandre Germain**, a co-presenter of the SMART: Transforming Classroom Practices Through Technology session.



6. **Jeanette Peoples**, education solutions specialist at SMART Technologies and the second co-presenter of the SMART breakout session.



It's easy to figure out who isn't a team player. They'll constantly remind the coach just how good they are.

—Brian G. Jett

Pedagogy To Technology: Breakout Sessions, continued



Above: **Tim Monds** of Parkland SD.

Right: Sharing notes during a presentation.

Below: Presenter **Barry Hannah**.


Below, right: Presenter **Chris MacPhee**.



Left: Presenter **Reg Klassen**.

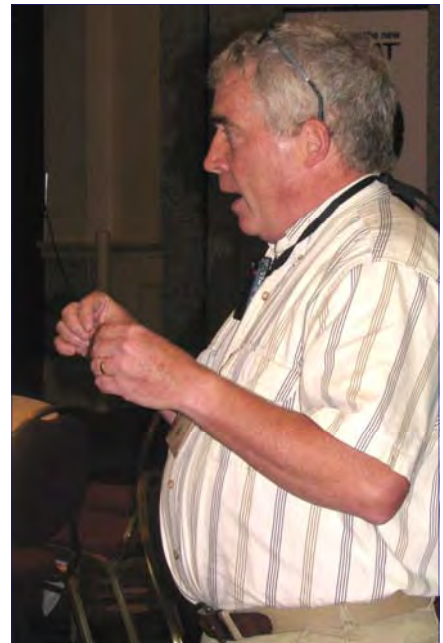


Below: Presenter **Peter Joshua**.



The highest reward
for a person's toil is
not what they get for
it, but what they
become by it.
—John Ruskin

Pedagogy To Technology: Breakout Sessions, continued



Above, left: **Dr. John Malloy** presented a session called Engaging Our Learners to be Critical, Creative and Innovative Thinkers in a Positive School Climate along with his Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board colleagues **Vicki Corcoran** and **Peter Joshua** (not pictured).


Above, right: **Paul Maguire**, a principal from the Ottawa area, presented An Introduction to the Changing World of Social Media.

Left: CASA executive director **Ken Bain** sits in on a breakout session.



Below, left: **Craig Foley**, the president of the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS), presented a session on Leveraging Technology.

Below, right: **Blair Norton**, director of Learning Human Resources at Northern Lights School Division, co-presented a session on InFORMing Others Through Data Collection with his colleague **Dana Robb** (not pictured).



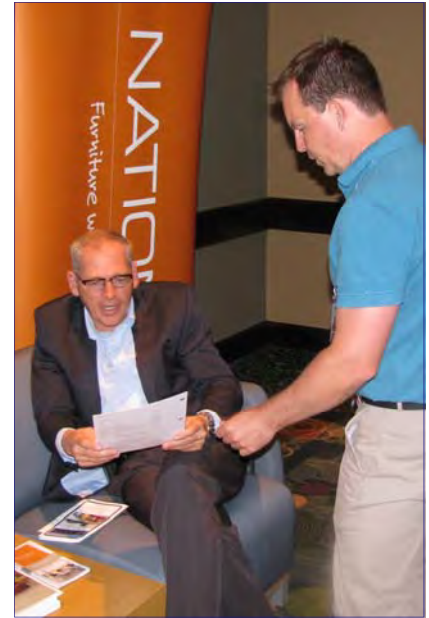
Failure doesn't mean you are a failure; it just means you haven't succeeded yet.

—Robert H. Schuller

Interactions And Connections: Meeting Sponsors



Above: **Meaghan Quinn** (seated) greets folks at the Physical and Health Education Association of Canada sponsor booth.



Above, right: **Kevin Andrea** (left) talks to **Michael Hayward** of Wintergreen.

Right: **Bernie Grenier** and **Jeremy Baisch** describe Baragar Systems to **Barry Wowk**.




Left: **Michael Hauptman** learns about School Appointments from **Mark Festor**.



Below, left: Xerox's **Randy Brydges** (left).

Below, right: **Janice Tomlinson** and **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells** visit the Wintergreen team.



I don't really like coffee, she said, but I don't really like it when my head hits my desk when I fall asleep either.

—Brian Andreas

Interactions And Connections: Meeting Sponsors, cont'd



Above: Dr. Carol Gerber (right) explains Positive Action to Janice Tomlinson.



Above, right: Claudia Parker (right) visits Jennifer Nightingale at the Pearson sponsor booth.


Right: Robert Allan of Maximus talks about the company to David Hansen (HWCDSD) and Theresa Harris (OCSDA).



Left: Wintergreen's Marcel Gagne (left) and Michael Hayward (centre) with a client at the Wintergreen booth.

Below, left: Thoughtstream's Kevin Skelcher.

Below, right: Kim Bell from Lightspeed explains her company's products.



Don't mistake
activity with
achievement.
—John Wooden

Salutations And Celebrations: Partners Dinner

Saturday night offered a chance for conference sponsor staff, CASA executive and their families to gather at Quidi Vidi Village for a meeting and dinner.

It's events like this that make CASA's annual conference more than just a few days of sharing information together. It's about building and strengthening relationships within the organization, and with our sponsoring partners, through formal and recreational activities.

Right: What a beautiful baby! **Michael Hayward**, president of conference sponsor Wintergreen, and **Natalie Scott** sit with daughter **Willow**.



Above, left: **Kath Rhyason, Andy Fediuk, Marion Holmes** (of PD PROs) and **Lourene Cork** relax at the end of the conference. Great job, Marion!

Above, right: **Eileen** and **Ken Bain** and **Barry Wowk**.

Left: Nelson's **Lorraine Young** and **Janice Schoening** share a laugh.



Pleasure in the job
puts perfection in
the work.
—Aristotle

Fall Update: Our New Name And New Website

Fall is here, and with it the start of a new school year. Especially for those working in education, that can often mean a time of renewal.

It's no different for our own organization. For many years, we've been known as the Canadian Association of School Administrators, or CASA. That's what it says right on the front page of this newsletter.

And that's changing.

You may have read executive director **Ken Bain**'s message about the name change in the last issue of *Leaders & Learners* (Volume 8, Issue 52) or on the CASA website.

You may also have noticed changes to the former CASA website in recent weeks.

The board of directors unanimously approved a new name at the 2013 annual general meeting. We're now known as the Canadian Association of School System Administrators, or CASSA. (En français: Association canadienne des gestionnaires de commissions scolaires/ACGCS.)

It was important to include the word "system" in the organization's name. This inclusion stems from discussions held at the board's last two strategic planning sessions, following a review of the communications audit recommendations a few years ago.

Identifying this organization's membership as "school system administrators" rather than "school administrators" is an important step in clarifying our focus and purpose.

As part of the organization's refresh, we've also launched a redesigned website, powered by Blackboard Engage.

The website can be found at both the old address, which is www.casa-acas.ca, or at www.cassa-acgcs.ca.



Brenda Langburt of Blackboard was on hand at the 2013 conference in St. John's to unveil the new website.

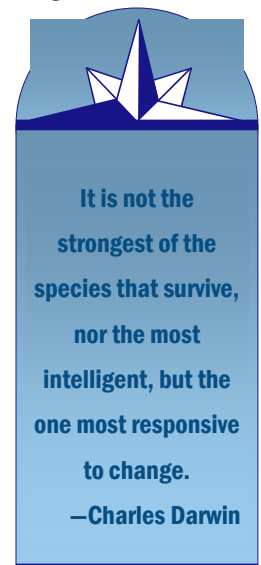
As mentioned in the last issue of the newsletter, we'll be gradually incorporating the new name and design elements into the production and publication of this newsletter.

This is the last newsletter in which we'll refer to the organization in the present tense as "CASA."

We look forward to your feedback on these changes.



The new look of the Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA) website.



CASA PEOPLE: Famous Last Words (And Pictures)



Left: **Kelly Tams** and **Yolanda Lis** from EF Educational Tours relax together at the partners dinner.

Right: **Michael Hayward**, president of Wintergreen, with his daughter **Willow**, most likely the youngest 2013 conference participant.



Above: **Peter Joshua** from Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board ready for a sea kayaking adventure.

Below: Kayak—check. Sunglasses—check. Ocean—not so much.



**Contact CASA:
1123 Glenashton Drive
Oakville, ON
L6H 5M1
Canada**

**T: (905) 845-2345
F: (905) 845-2044
www.casa-acas.ca**

Editor: Tara Lee Wittchen

**Conference photos by Ed Wittchen
except where noted.**

©2013 CASA