

# C21 CANADA: A NATIONAL NETWORK FRAMEWORK FOR THE DIFFUSION AND SCALING OF AI IN K-20 EDUCATION



Celebrating **15 Years** of Learning & Innovation

Partnership Initiative with



# AI in K20 EDUCATION:

NATIONAL USE CASES PHASE III

**LAUNCHED**



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## Spring 2025 Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education: Transforming Learning

An AI Use Case Initiative for Canadian Education



C21 Canadians for 21st Century Learning & Innovation PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE DELL Technologies

*"May your choices reflect your hopes and not your fears."* Nelson Mandela

The K-20 AI Use Case partnership between C21 Canada and Board Advisory partner Dell Technologies highlights how educators are leveraging AI to transform learning. These Use Case exemplars focus on addressing real-world Problems of Practice faced by students, staff and educators in K-12 and post-secondary districts and institutions across the country. Respectful mentoring and coaching relationships are grounded in learner-centred, inquiry-driven models that are intentional, and focused on learning impact, balance, and wellbeing. Media-rich Use Case exemplars inspire the way forward for leading AI literacy with an inquiring mindset and embracing the unique cultures of school systems and communities from coast to coast. As the pace of AI accelerates, so does creative inquiry and innovation. Evolving Use Cases are expanding in meaning and impact, pointing the way toward further network inquiry where big changes begin to stick.

VISION	PROFESSIONAL LEARNING (PL)	CANADA-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION
Transform educational practices through AI	PL Coaches play a critical role in supporting Use Case implementation. Their responsibilities include:	Read more about lessons learned in the first round of Use Cases listed below.
<b>GOALS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enhance student achievement</li><li>Support student and teacher well-being</li><li>Improve administrative efficiencies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assisting teams in defining clear objectives and implementation plans.</li><li>Providing ongoing support and PL support to ensure effective use of AI tools as required.</li></ul>	
<b>KEY POINTS</b>		

X @C21CAN <http://c21canada.org>

# *C21 Canada: A National Network Framework for the Diffusion and Scaling of AI in K-20 Education*

***“There is something hugely powerful about human collaboration. I think it’s our superpower as a species.”***

*School Beyond COVID-19, Accelerating the Changes that Matter for K-12 Learners in Canada*

*Dr. Michael Ryan, Executive Director,  
Health Emergencies Programme, World Health Organization*

- How does C21 Canada facilitate a national network for School System leaders to overcome jurisdiction, diversity and the absence of federal direction and work together to create a PanCanadian vision for AI?
- How can local and regional school system clusters build shared AI capacity collectively, sustainably and equally without each district having to figure it out on their own?

*Karen Yamada, Chief Learning Officer, C21 Canada, Inc.*

*Chris Kennedy, Superintendent & CEO, West Vancouver School District  
Founding member of the CEO Academy*



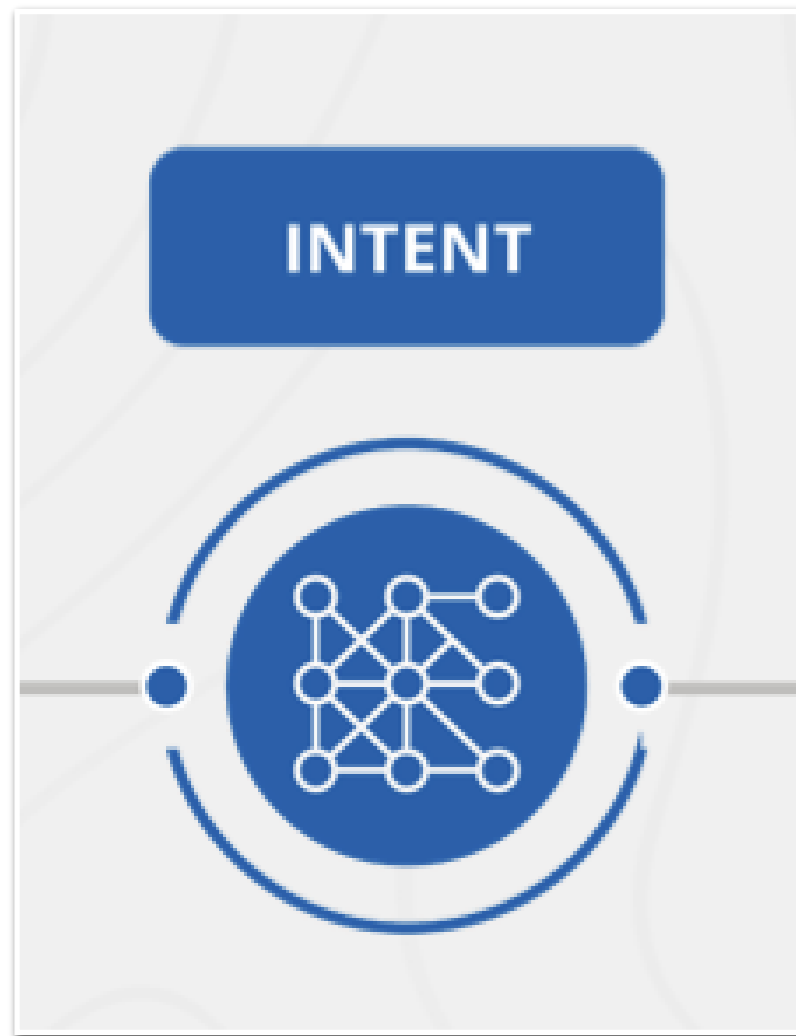
# CEO ACADEMY: *Shifting Minds Shifting Systems since 2011*

*“The integration of AI in K-12 school systems builds on a strong foundation of transformative system leadership and learning competencies (7Cs) needed to leverage digital technologies since the inception of **C21 Canada: Canadians for 21st Century Learning and Innovation** in 2011.”*

**Karen Yamada, Chief Learning Officer,  
C21 Canada, Inc.**

[CLICK](#)

**Dr. Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools,  
West Vancouver School District  
CEO Academy Founding member**

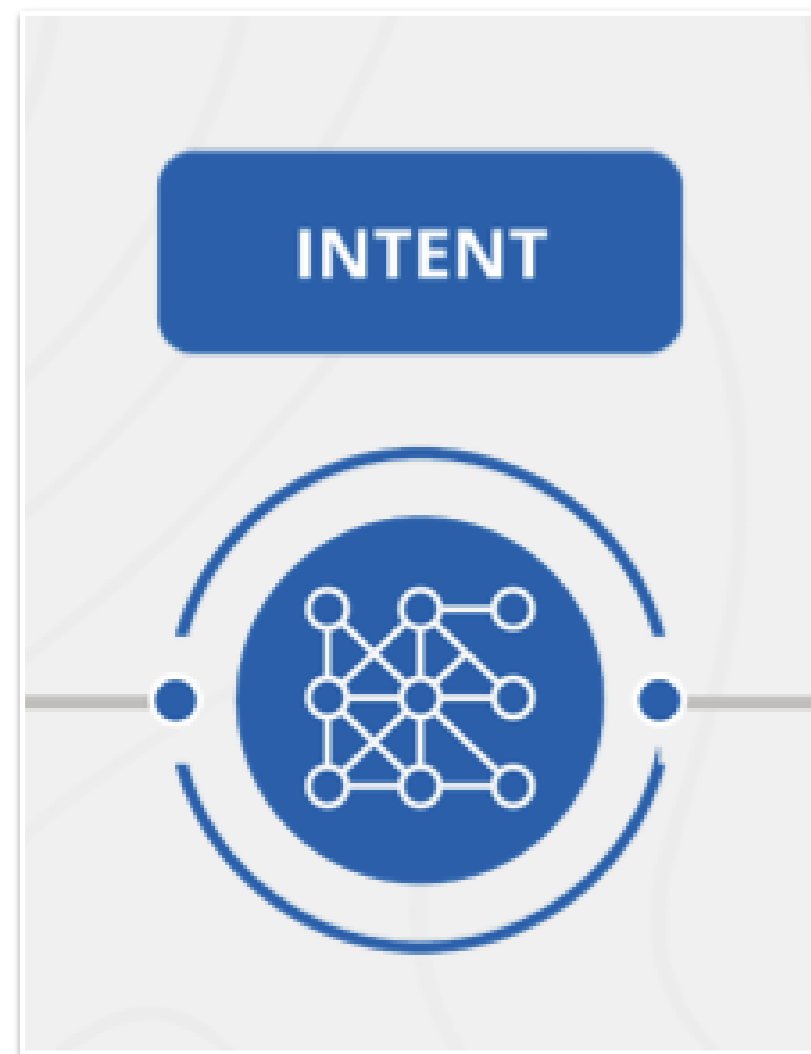


## C21 CANADA LEARNING FOUNDATIONS

**C21 CANADA ACTION RESEARCH and GUIDING PRINCIPLES  
2015 to 2025**

**C21 Canada Learning Foundations**





# C21 Canada Digital Learning Foundations

Products developed from CEO Academy network inquiry by K-12 School System Directors and Superintendents



## SHIFTING MINDS ~ SHIFTING SYSTEMS

Shifting Systems proposes a move away from hierarchical policy-driven leadership toward networks of strong, responsive school cultures, that focus on capacity building, collaborating continuously and diffusing knowledge both horizontally and vertically.

C21 Canadian for 21st Century Learning & Innovation presents

### the Spiral Playbook

A playbook to transform how you learn and lead

In schools, boardrooms and beyond, educators need a team-driven way to delve into three big questions:

- What is going on for our learners?
- How do we know?
- Why does it matter?

2016

C21 Canadian for 21st Century Learning & Innovation

C21 Canada Presents:

### GLOBAL COMPETENCIES

7Cs

A 21ST CENTURY VISION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR CANADA

2012

C21 Canada  
www.c21canada.org

2012

C21 Canadian for 21st Century Learning & Innovation

2015

### Shifting Minds 3.0

Redefining the Learning Landscape in Canada

SYSTEM ENABLERS

2015

C21 Canada  
May 2015  
www.c21canada.org

FIRST PEOPLES

### PRINCIPLES OF LEARNING

Learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits, and the ancestors.

Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place).

Learning involves recognizing the consequences of one's actions.

Learning involves generational roles and responsibilities.

Learning recognizes the role of indigenous knowledge.

Learning is embedded in memory, history, and story.

Learning involves patience and time.

Learning requires exploration of one's identity.

Learning involves recognizing that some knowledge is sacred and only shared with permission and/or in certain situations.

2007

For First Peoples classroom resources visit: www.fnesc.ca

fnesc

WISDOM and WORLD VIEW Leads the Way Forward...

# CEO Academy AI Network Diffusion

*Professional leading and learning designed to support role-specific conversations, spread narratives of practice and celebrate unique cultures and contexts.*

**CEO Academy ConCalls** 6-one-hour Virtual Closed conversations for CEO leaders to engage in CEO-specific Problems of Practice facing digital and AI implementation. **ConCall Archive 2019 to 2026**

**Friday Email Bi-monthly circulation** features sharing of curated stories and exemplars of learning and innovation foundations across the CEO Academy K-12 Learning Landscape and Advisory Board partnerships and professional learning. **Friday Email Archive 2019 to 2026**

**C21 CEO Academy In-Person Annual Summits** an opportunity for CEO Academy members, C21 Canada Board Advisors, CIO Alliance members, CEO Academy Alumni members to align practice, deepen relationships and commit action.

**Webinars** aligning key AI priorities across *Board, CEO and CIO perspectives and connecting to past successful CEO practices and network engagement for closing the gap and spreading digital innovation.*

**Podcasts** featuring individual CEO leader deep dive and celebrating local context

**THE CEO ACADEMY: A Pan Canadian Network model for coherence and scaling Problems of Practice facing Directors and Superintendents of K-12 School System Leaders**



# HUMAN IMPACT



**C21 Canada Webinar Series: The Future of AI in K12 Education**  
*Navigating the Evolution of AI in K-12 Education Across Canada*  
 Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 4 PM ET

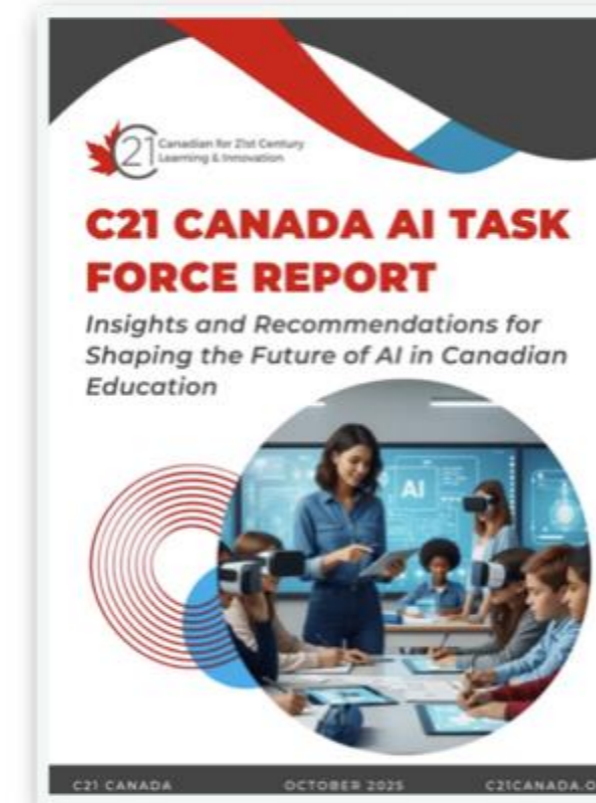
 <b>ROBERT MARTELLACCI</b> CEO & Co-founder C21 Canada	 <b>PETER SINGH</b> Executive Officer – IT Services TDSB	 <b>DR. BONNIE SCHMIDT</b> Founder & President Let's Talk Science	 <b>DR. CHRIS KENNEDY</b> Superintendent of Schools / CEO West Vancouver School District	 <b>KATINA PAPULKAS</b> Senior Education Strategist Dell Technologies
				

CEO Academy, Board Advisors and CIO Alliance align purpose and support.



**May 16th, 2024 CEO Academy Spring Summit:**

- C21 Canada presents the Landmark CIO Alliance report on **The Future of AI in K-12 Education** and a Task Force is struck to gather recommendations for action.
- **Dell Technologies** announces funding for a partnership with C21 Canada to create an incubator for AI action research across the C21 Canada network. The **C21/DELL AI Use Case** builds on a decade of CEO Academy Learning Foundations in a local culture and context of Problems of Practice and local networks.



**August 2025: A C21 Canada AI Summer Institute** convened the C21 Canada membership in a design session to co-create the content and context for the **C21 Canada AI Task Force Report** including Lessons learned, 21 Calls to Action, a living roadmap that balances innovation with ethics, privacy, equity, and student well-being.

**October 30, 2025: Canadian EdTech AI Summit** at the University of Toronto Mississauga. With over 400 education stakeholders contributing insights in real time, this report will be presented to Canada's new Minister of AI and Digital Innovation as part of our request to include K-12 education in the national AI strategy and task force.

*"The Government of Canada is moving quickly toward our vision for AI and digital sovereignty. The AI Strategy Task Force and the ideas gathered through our national sprint will generate bold, pragmatic, and actionable recommendations to guide Canada's next AI strategy."*

**The Honourable Evan Solomon,**  
 Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation

**C21 Canada Webinar Series:**  
**Future of AI in K12 Use Case Project Leadership Insights**  
 Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 4 PM ET

Moderator

 <b>ROBERT MARTELLACCI</b> CEO & Co-founder C21 Canada	 <b>TOM D'AMICO</b> Director of Education Ottawa Catholic School Board	 <b>MARIANNE MAZZORATO</b> Director of Education Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board	 <b>JASON DRENT</b> Associate Superintendent Chinook's Edge School Division	 <b>KATINA PAPULKAS</b> Senior Education Strategist Dell Technologies	 <b>RANDOLPH MACLEAN</b> Superintendent of Schools / CEO at Anglophone East School District
					












# DIGITAL IMPACT

Relatable learner-centred problems inspire grassroots uptake on AI solutions.

...working together in reciprocal inquiry within the context and cultures of school systems is where big ideas are beginning to stick.



## AI USE CASE INITIATIVE FOR CANADIAN EDUCATION

 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher Agency &amp; GenAI</li> <li>• Learning Kits for Teachers</li> </ul> <p>Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute</p>	 <p>How can AI leverage data for a better understanding of Student Mental Health and address its impact on Learning Needs?</p> <p>Headwater Learning Foundation, Alberta</p>	 <p>Assessment: Integrating the AI Assessment Scale (AIAS) into Education Practices</p> <p>Parkland School Division, Alberta</p>	 <p>Centering First Nations Identity and Voice Through Data and Story: A Culturally Grounded AI Exploration</p> <p>Manitoba First Nations School System, Manitoba</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connecting with Parents through a School Chatbot</li> <li>• AI for Personalized Reading Recommendations</li> </ul>
 <p>Exposing and Challenging Bias in AI through Critical Discourse Analysis</p> <p>Seven Oaks School Division, Manitoba</p>	 <p>Developing a Framework and Toolkits to guide Legal, Ethical, and Pedagogical AI Integration</p> <p>New Frontiers School Board, Quebec</p>	 <p>Alternate Realities and Real Ethics: Using Alternate Reality Games to Teach and Mobilize Responsible AI</p> <p>University of Regina, Saskatchewan</p>	 <p>Enhancing Business Productivity and Improving the Student Learning and Engagement experience by increasing AI staff capacity</p> <p>Nova Scotia Community College, Nova Scotia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's their World: Engaging Students in Critical Thinking to Address Bias in AI</li> </ul>



Partnership Initiative with 

Scan to learn more



“As we move forward, let’s remember that the goal isn’t to replicate success stories but to create the conditions where each teacher, school and district can write its own story of AI integration – one that reflects its unique community, challenges, and aspirations.”

When AI meets Education: The Power of Diffusion Over Replication, Culture of Yes, November 4, 2024  
~ Dr. Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools and CEO, West Vancouver School District

[www.C21Canada.org](http://www.C21Canada.org)

# C21 CANADA in an AI WORLD:





[Read more.](#)

**MEDIA RELEASE** **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**East Coast AI Education Cluster launches at Leadership Summit in New Brunswick**

Regional collaboration builds on the C21 Canada National strategy to advance AI in Education Nationwide



**Indicators of AI Literacy and Scaling**

MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS SCHOOL SYSTEM

**Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc.**

When Schools Stop Competing and Start Learning Together



How do Metro Vancouver school districts build shared AI capacity collectively, sustainably, and equitably without each district having to figure it out alone?

**NETWORKS:**

- System
- Community
- Regional
- Provincial
- National
- International

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**




**Pacific Region CEO Academy Summit**

Thursday, May 7th to Friday, May 8th, 2026

**"Assessment in an AI World"**

**Pan-Canadian AI Network Cluster**

launches at CEO Academy Summit in Vancouver. with influence from the East Coast cluster launch

**Education Leaders unite to Scale AI Nationwide.**

In Partnership with:
 

