

# SEAL<sup>+</sup> CANADA BY THE NUMBERS

Standards in Excellence And Learning

Since receiving the mandate from the membership to form a new national organization seven months ago, we have been focusing on our mission to develop and promote educational excellence, school improvement, and organizational leadership in independent schools.

Here are some numbers worth noting:

- + Over 450 people from seven provinces attended the presentation by Sir Ken Robinson as part of the 2010 Best Practices Conference: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning: Show me how
- + Over 200 school leaders have met at the Business Officers, Junior Schools Heads, Assistant Heads and Admissions Officers conferences
- + Five Visiting Committees have assembled in four provinces to conduct accreditation reviews
- + Fifty people from five provinces attended the Spring Leadership Institute
- + The Collaborative Boarding Pilot Project has been launched with the twenty seven boarding schools
- + Our Executive Director has met with members and visited schools in six provinces (AB, BC, NL, ON, QU, SK) and will visit one more (NB) before June; she has addressed audiences in Chicago (Association of French Schools of North America) and Toronto on Governance for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools; and she spoke to the 130 students at the Leadership Conference at Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School
- + Our new name, Standards in Excellence And Learning, has been launched internally to 1200 people and many schools have already included the logo on websites and promotional materials
- + Fifty Heads at three regional meetings in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec have discussed the strategic plan
- + Five national Professional Development conference calls have gathered views from 23 schools
- + Four Board Task Forces are dedicated to developing the strategic plan with Bob Snowden, Steve Johnson, Kim Gordon and David Hadden, as Chairs
- + 12 schools committed to the World War I Vigil within one week of notifying schools of this national student leadership opportunity.

We continue to be impressed by the sheer number of people interested in volunteering to improve the landscape of independent education in Canada and to create national networking opportunities. There is a sincere dedication among our membership to contribute. To do accreditation and professional development well is a time commitment, and it is generous on the part of schools to lend people's time and talent to help us learn, improve, and lead. This time away from your schools helps all schools and strengthens us collectively.

From coast to coast, we would like to acknowledge individuals for their dedication to the betterment of independent education. This issue of our Newsletter is truly about celebrating all of you.

Thank you for your energy over these past six months. We are keen to enhance meaningful cross-country engagement and take the opportunity to build a new organization that is national and valuable. There is much to be done, but we are on an energetic path with a bold new look and an exciting brand that will take shape as our strategic plan becomes reality. Your participation has been truly humbling.



# GETTING TO KNOW THE SEAL BOARD

SEAL is fortunate to have an involved and accomplished Board of Directors working to make the new organization the voice of independent education in Canada. In addition to demanding jobs and commitments, our Board members are willing to give their time and expertise to our 95 schools. In this issue, we are pleased to introduce to you the Board members currently focusing their time and talent to develop a strategic plan for SEAL.



## Patricia Dawson - Co-Chair

Pat Dawson completed her undergraduate degree in Family Studies at the University of Guelph, her Master's in Education at the University of Windsor, and her Ed.D. at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. Pat worked in public education for 19 years before joining the Faculty of Ridley College. She is currently Head of Crofton House School, a grade 1-12 day school for girls in Vancouver, BC, a position she has held since 2000.



## Jeff Paikin - Co-Chair

Jeff Paikin graduated from Hillfield Strathallan College and earned a Commerce degree at Mount Allison University. He is a past board member of the Mount Allison Alumni Association, and the junior Achievement Board of Directors. He is also a past director of the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation and a member of the Children's Aid Society Capital Campaign for Hamilton. He has been a committee member of B'Nai Brith Sports Celebrity Dinner since 1984, the largest annual fundraising dinner in Hamilton. Since 1994, Jeff has been the President of New Horizon Homes. He is currently a Partner and Board Member with the Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Club. Jeff has a keen interest in education and was Chair of Hillfield Strathallan's Board from 2005 to 2008.



## Robert Campbell - Strategic Plan Task Force

Robert Campbell is President and Vice-Chancellor of Mount Allison University. He was educated at Trent University, the University of Toronto and the London School of Economics where he received his PhD. He taught Political Science and Canadian Public Policy at Trent for two decades, where he became Provost and Dean of Arts and Science, before moving to Wilfrid Laurier University as its first Dean of Arts. He is the author of nine books in economic policy and postal policy, has edited the Journal of Canadian Studies, and has been Chair of its Board. Robert is a Director of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Co-Chair of the Southeast New Brunswick Education Industry Council and is on the Executive of the Association of Atlantic Universities.



## Karen Murton - Strategic Plan Task Force

Since 1998, Karen has served as Principal of Branksome Hall, an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School for girls in JK through Grade 12. Karen spearheaded the introduction of the IB at Branksome Hall in 2001, the first Toronto girls' school to implement the renowned program. Karen was Principal of A.Y. Jackson Secondary School, Vice-Principal of Victoria Park Secondary School and Lawrence Heights Middle School, and a teacher at various Ontario public and independent schools, including Havergal College.



## Bob Snowden - Chair, Strategic Plan Task Force

Robert Snowden received his BA in English and Philosophy from University of Toronto. A boarding student himself during high school, he has always lived and worked at schools where boarding is a significant part of the life. Bob served on the Board of the CAIS and as President of the Independent Schools Association of British Columbia. In 1995 he moved to Victoria to become Head of School at St. Michaels University School, where he has overseen a review of the school's Mission and Strategic Plan and a subsequent facilities redevelopment plan amounting to \$30 million.



### **Nancy Birt - Chair, Finance Committee**

Nancy Birt is currently is a senior principal with KPMG and serves as National Director, Audit Marketing. Nancy is a Board Governor at Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School in Okotoks, Alberta where she has served on various Board Committees such as: Governance, Risk Management and Academic. Nancy has qualified for the ICD.D designation from the Institute of Corporate Directors and is a certified management consultant. Nancy is Chair of the SEAL Finance Committee and joined the Board in December of 2007.



### **Steve Johnson - Chair, Communications Task Force**

Steve Johnson completed his undergraduate degree in History and Zoology at Iowa State University and his MA and Ph.D. in Russian history at the University of Manitoba. He began his teaching career at St. John's-Ravenscourt where he was Head of History. His administrative career began at GNS where he served as Assistant Head/Senior School and Director of the Junior Boys Campus. Queen Margaret's School was his first Headship, followed by Head of the Prep at UCC. He and his wife opened Raha International School in the UAE before he returned to SJR as Head of School in January 2007.



### **Paul Kitchen - Chair, Collaborative Boarding Project, Communications**

Paul Kitchen was appointed Head of Rothesay Netherwood School in 1987. He began his teaching career at Ridley College and became the Athletic Director in 1978. In 1981 he returned to his alma mater, St. Andrew's College, teaching math and science and was appointed a residential houseparent a year later. Since becoming Head of RNS, Paul has led two major fundraising campaigns and has recently begun another. Paul was president of the CAIS for 2000/2001 and was a member of the CESI board from 2000-2008.



### **Tina Woodside - Chair, Governance Committee**

Tina is currently the head of the Corporate Finance Department in Gowlings' Toronto office. Since 2001, Tina has been a member of the firm's National Executive Committee and Chair of the National Professional Development and Associates Committee and Chair of the firm's Governance Committee. Tina practices corporate and securities law with particular emphasis on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance matters. A graduate of the Institute of Corporate Directors/Rotman School of Business Directors' Education Program, she became a certified director and was awarded the ICD Corporate Governance College designation ICD.D in May 2005. Currently, Tina is a director of General Minerals Corporation, and a director of the Smart Systems for Health Agency.

## **Announcement: SEAL Strategic Plan**

The strategic planning process has included regional meetings, individual consultations, professional development conference calls, and surveying. The Board is committed to continuing to pursue their established Guiding Principles throughout the process: to ensure a transparent, inclusive and consultative process; strategically focus on the future and the potential; and to continuously pursue and observe a 'best practice' mentality.

Pat Dawson and Jeff Paikin, Co-Chairs of the Board, will send out a separate letter to all Heads and Chairs by the end of May outlining the process of the Strategic Plan.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: volunteers making it happen

Volunteers have been busy organizing conferences over the last six months. From Okotoks, Alberta to Montreal Quebec, nearly one thousand SEAL members attended professional development workshops that were kindly organized by dedicated colleagues. SEAL thanks the following organizing committees:

## **Assistant Head's Conference Montreal, QC**

Antonia Zannis (The Study)  
Linda Gendron (Lower Canada College)  
Colin Boyle (Selwyn House)

## **Business Manager's Conference Gravenhurst, ON**

Elliott Brodtkin (Toronto French School)  
Kelly Giannoccaro (Greenwood College School)  
Andy Whiteley (Royal St. George's School)  
Ken Barnard (Crescent School)  
Annette Whiteley (The York School)

## **Junior Head's Conference Toronto, ON**

Catherine Kirkland (Royal St. George's School)  
Don Kawasoe (Upper Canada College)

## **Admissions Conference Cornwall, ON**

Clare Reed (The Sterling Hall School)  
Jamie Loughheed (Greenwood College School)  
Tom Stevens (Royal St. George's School)  
Sarah Scandrett (The Bishop Strachan School)  
Struan Robertson (Upper Canada College)

## **Best Practices Conference Toronto, ON**

Steve Dubrick (Crescent School)  
Robin Hinnell (ISABC)  
George Briggs (CIS)  
Matthew MoPatt (Halifax Grammar School)  
Patrick Peotto (Lower Canada College)

## **Student Leadership Conference Okotoks, AB**

Andrea Weber (Staff Advisor, Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School)

## **Student Directors:**

Alexa Burges  
Mary Hansen  
Thomas Jacobs  
Anny Peplinski

In addition to our conferences, The Spring Leadership Institute was held this year at Branksome Hall, and the Governance For 21st Century Schools Presentation with Anne-Marie Kee and Pat Bassett was hosted by The Bishop Strachan School. Thank you to our conference organizers for opening your schools and investing time in the creation of meaningful professional development opportunities for our membership.

**This spring, five open conference calls were held to discuss professional development and the national organization. Thank you to our Facilitator, Kim Gordon, and to these individuals from six provinces who joined the conversation:**

Blayne Addley (Halifax Grammar School)  
Kristopher Churchhill (Trinity College School)  
Ezio Crescenzi (The York School)  
Rosemary Evans (Branksome Hall)  
Gary Godkin (St. Andrew's College)  
Hal HannaFord (Selwyn House)  
Cooki Levy (Akiva School)  
Rob McGuinness (Appleby College)  
Bruce Neal (St. John's-Ravenscourt)  
John Reid (Collingwood School)  
Sarah Scandrett (The Bishop Strachan School)  
Andrew Whiteley (Royal St. George's College)

Mark Ayotte (Southridge School)  
Steve Clarke (Ridley College)  
Margaret Dornance (Strathcona-Tweedsmuir)  
Linda Grendon (Lower Canada College)  
Carol Grant-Watt (West Island College)  
Ian Kennedy (Collingwood School)  
Michel LaFrance (St. George's School Montreal)  
Barb McLean (The Bishop Strachan School)  
Bud Patel (St. George's School)  
Stephanie Sajatovich (Armbrae Academy)  
Ted Staunton (Saltus Grammar School)  
Glenn Zederayko (Toronto Montessori Schools)

# ACCREDITATION:

volunteers making it happen

Central to our accreditation process is the value of peer-review. Thank you to the following individuals and their schools for supporting the growth of their member schools:

## Meadowridge School (BC)

Chair: Ian Robinson (The Sterling Hall School, ON)

Marc Ayotte (Southridge School, BC)  
Patricia Donnelly (Sacred Heart School of Halifax, NS)  
Kevin Goodridge (St. Mildred's-Lightbourn, ON)  
Ian Kennedy (Collingwood, BC)  
Peter Ostrom (Ashbury College, ON)  
Stephanie Sajatovich (Armbrae Academy, NS)  
Judith Steek (Balmoral Hall, MB)  
Peter Sturup (Pickering College, ON)  
Jan Sullivan (The Bishop Strachan School, ON)  
Darcy Wallace (Hillfield Strathallan College, ON)

## Trafalgar Castle School (ON)

Chair: Jane Wightman (St. Mildred's-Lightbourn, ON)

Sharon Klein (Queen Margaret School, BC)  
Rob Palmarin (Athol Murray College of Notre Dame, SK)  
Steven Porter (King's-Edgehill School, NS)  
Cindy Rust (Ashbury College, ON)

## Lycee Louis Pasteur (AB)

Chair: Norman Southward (St. John's-Kilmarnock, ON)

Alain Delaune (Toronto French School, ON)  
Michel LaFrance (St. George's School of Montreal, QC)  
Nathalie Lemelin (Lower Canada College, QC)  
Maureen Steltman (Fraser Academy, BC)  
Susan Wells (Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's, QC)

## Toronto French School (ON)

Chair: Tam Matthews (Ashbury College, ON)

Bill Brooks (Sacred Heart School of Halifax, NS)  
Margaret Dorrance (Strathcona-Tweedsmuir, AB)  
Binnie Druker (Solomon Schechter Academy, QC)  
Shimshon Hamerman (Solomon Schechter Academy, QC)  
Raymond Lepage (Seminair Salesient, QC)  
Nathalie Ligerot (Lycee Louis Pasteur, AB)  
Guy McLean (Appleby College, ON)  
Jennifer Meacham (Somersfield Academy, Bermuda)  
Serge Melancon (Lower Canada College, QC)  
Bob Neibert (Hillfield Strathallan College, ON)  
Benjamin Orillon (Lycee Louis Pasteur, AB)  
Chris StaFleu (Holy Trinity School, ON)  
Wanda Swiderski (The Study, QC)

## Trafalgar School for Girls (QC)

Chair: Gary O'Meara (Armbrae Academy, NS)

Leanne Foster (St. Clement's School, ON)  
Linda McGregor (St. Margaret's School, BC)  
Irving Robinovitch (UTT/Herzliah, QC)  
Carole Rasmussen (Selwyn House School, QC)  
Jane Ridout (Retired, ON)



Eight more accreditation visits are upcoming, and we would like to acknowledge the following Heads in advance for their investment of time and talent in Charing Visiting Committees:

**Paul Kitchen** (Rothesay Netherwood School, NB) for **Athol Murray College of Notre Dame, SK**  
**Deryn Lavell** (The Bishop Strachan School, ON) for **The Study, QC**  
**David Robertson** (Shawnigan Lake School, BC) for **Ridley College, ON**  
**Bob Snowden** (St. Michael's University School, BC) for **Appleby College, ON**  
**Claire Sumerlus** (United Synagogue Day Schools, ON) for **Armbrae Academy, NS**  
**David Thompson** (Lakefield College School, ON) for **Kingsway College School, ON**  
**Jane Wightman** (St. Mildred's-Lightbourn, ON) for **Sacred Heart School of Halifax, NS**  
**Glenn Zederayko** (Toronto Montessori Schools, ON) for **Solomon Schechter Academy, QC**

# the art of leadership series

Hosted this year at Appleby College in Oakville ON, the Summer Leadership Institute is looking forward to another successful program. This year, we will be celebrating 10 years of the LI. In addition to our participants, we welcome all grads to join us. We are proud to announce the addition of an Alumni Program, scheduled for Monday June 27- Wednesday June 30. All LI Alumni, as well as anyone from our membership, are invited to attend the evening programming, even if you are not attending the sessions this summer. We hope you can join us to celebrate your accomplishments, network with your LI peers, and gain insight from established leaders in the Canadian independent school community.

**June 28, 2010:** Alumni Dinner: Celebrating Leaders in Canadian Independent Schools

Featuring guest speaker Kevin McHenry, Headmaster, St. Andrew's College and a graduate of the LI. The Alumni Dinner celebrates the accomplishments of our school leaders and graduates of our programs.

**June 29, 2010:** Awards Dinner: The Art of Leadership

A new initiative, The Art of Leadership Series invites established independent school leaders who have contributed to independent school education beyond their school and province, who have mentored others, and who have been nominated by their colleagues. Kim Gordon, Former Head of The Bishop Strachan School and David Hadden, Former Head of Lakefield College School, will speak at this year's Awards Dinner.

Registration for both events is available at [http://www.cais.ca/dinner\\_registration](http://www.cais.ca/dinner_registration)

To learn more about the 2010 Leadership Institute, please visit [http://www.cais.ca/leadership\\_institute](http://www.cais.ca/leadership_institute)

## Engaging Canadian Students In A Unique Project of Remembrance

November 4-11, 2010

Canada 1914-1918 Ypres is a remembrance project to encourage students to create Vigils in schools across Canada in November 2010. For the seven days leading up to Remembrance Day students in participating schools will project, one by one, the names of each of the WWI war dead. We also want to link students to a Vigil taking place in the centre of the city of Ypres, Belgium where so many Canadians were killed. The Ypres salient was where Canadians were stationed for much of WWI. The Menin Gate in Ypres is a haunting monument to the 55,896 soldiers whose bodies were never found. 6,940 Canadian names are engraved on the monument.

The goal is to create a network of at least 300 schools from St. John's, Newfoundland to Victoria, British Columbia that will take part in this historic event.

Canada 1914-1918 Ypres is a national schools vigil presented by International Churchill Society Canada and the Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy and produced by Martin Conboy and R.H. Thomson.

SEAL is a proud partner to this national project. Schools wishing to participate can email [vigilcanada@gmail.com](mailto:vigilcanada@gmail.com)

### SEAL the date upcoming events

June 27-July 2: 2010 Summer Leadership Institute, Oakville, ON

July 12-13 - SEAL Strategic Planning Retreat, Toronto, ON

October 4 - Governance for 21st Century Schools, Montreal, QC

October 14-17: Heads and Chairs Conference, Victoria, BC

December 7 - Governance for 21st Century Schools, Vancouver, BC