



For Immediate Release

Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2010 announced 32 outstanding principals to be honoured in February

TORONTO – January 19, 2010 – Great principals build great schools. They communicate a compelling vision, they engage their communities, they nurture their staff and they create an environment that increases student success.

32 exceptional leaders in education from across the country have been chosen as *Canada's Outstanding Principals™* for 2010.

The Canada's Outstanding Principals (COP) program is in its 6th year and this year's winners will join the assembly of 155 previous recipients of this prestigious honour. The award is an initiative of The Learning Partnership, a national not-for-profit organization that has championed public education in Canada since 1993.

The award is presented to principals who have made a measurable difference in the lives of their students and their own local communities. They help ensure that Canada's young people continue to receive a quality world-class education.

“Strong leadership is what makes Canada's education system one of the finest in the world,” says **Veronica Lacey**, President & CEO of The Learning Partnership. “Our principals set the tone for a school and their communities and children across the country are benefitting from the work of these remarkable men and women.”

Canada's Outstanding Principals program utilizes the expertise of University of Toronto's Joseph L. Rotman School of Management to provide executive leadership training and resources. This year's principals will join their colleagues from the National Academy of Canada's Outstanding Principals. Through the experience of connecting with other outstanding leaders the principals will form the foundation for a national network of knowledge that can be applied to their school, local community and province.

Reflecting the desire to recognize the unique challenges that educational leaders face in on-reserve schools, Linda Gadwa, principal of Kehewin Community Education Centre, Kehewin, Alberta will receive a special award from The Learning Partnership for her exceptional leadership.

-30-

For information and interview scheduling of Veronica Lacey and winners:

Carrie Shibinsky- The Learning Partnership

Tel: (416) 440-5124 - Email: cshibinsky@thelearningpartnership.ca

The following two pages provide winners' names and background on the program

Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2010 are:

Alberta

Kathleen Finnigan	St. Patrick's Community School	Red Deer, Alberta
Sandra Levesque	Falconridge School	Calgary, Alberta

Mike Bolder	Blessed John XXIII Elementary and Junior High School	Calgary, Alberta
-------------	---	------------------

Linda Gadwa	Kehewin Community Education Centre	Kehewin, Alberta
-------------	---------------------------------------	------------------

British Columbia

David Derpak	Vancouver Technical Secondary School	Vancouver, British Columbia
--------------	---	--------------------------------

Lisa McCullough	Mount Boucherie Secondary School	Kelowna, British Columbia
-----------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------

Rhonda Ovelson	A.S. Matheson Elementary School	Kelowna, British Columbia
----------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------

Lynne Moorhouse	View Royal Elementary School	Victoria, British Columbia
-----------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------

Manitoba

Laurie Bachewich	Onanole Elementary School	Onanole, Manitoba
------------------	---------------------------	-------------------

New Brunswick

Mike BeLong	Hillcrest School	Moncton, New Brunswick
Elizabeth Horgan	St. Malachy's Memorial High School	Saint John, New Brunswick

Newfoundland

Barry Jenkins	Villanova Junior High	Conception Bay South Newfoundland and Labrador
---------------	-----------------------	---

Vaughn Granter	Corner Brook Regional High	Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador
----------------	-------------------------------	---

Northwest Territories

Janette Vlanich

Sir Alexander MacKenzie School

Inuvik, Northwest
Territories**Nova Scotia**Debbie Metherall
Terry WaddenRockingstone Heights School
Sir John A. Macdonald
High School,Halifax, Nova Scotia
Upper Tantallon,
Nova Scotia**Nunavut**

Cathy Lee

Attagoyuk Ilisavik,

Pangnirtung, Nunavut

OntarioJan Olsson
Cindy Zwicker RestonHuntsville High School
Bendale Business and
Technical InstituteHuntsville, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario

Theresa Harper-Dubé

Loyola School of Adult and
Continuing Education

Napanee, Ontario

Marlyne King
Beverley MuirLancaster Public School
Humberwood Downs Junior
Middle AcademyMississauga, Ontario
Toronto, OntarioJoanne Lombardi
Beverley Ohashi
Ron CurridorSt. James Catholic School
Earl Haig Secondary School
Monsignor J. H. O'Neil
Catholic Elementary SchoolSeaforth, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Tillsonburg, OntarioAgnes Cudmore
Wes HahnSt. Mary's Catholic School
R.A. Riddell Elementary SchoolBlind River, Ontario
Hamilton, Ontario**Prince Edward Island**

Kevin Stonefield

Montague Intermediate School

Montague,
Prince Edward Island**Quebec**

Myra Kestler

Harold Napper School

Brossard, Quebec

Saskatchewan

Faye Elke

Evan Hardy Collegiate Institute

Saskatoon,
Saskatchewan

Garth Anderson

Foam Lake Composite School

Foam Lake,
Saskatchewan**Yukon**

Ted Hupé

Holy Family Elementary School

Whitehorse, Yukon

Nominations were received from every province and territory and selection was on a representation by population basis. Judging was conducted by a distinguished group of Canadian education, community and private sector leaders. Each candidate was scored in the categories of: characteristics of outstanding principals; evidence of partnerships with parents and community; a personal story illustrating successful change and innovation which resulted in improved student achievement as well as letters of support.

In February, the winning principals are invited to a five-day Executive Leadership Training Program at the prestigious University of Toronto's Joseph L. Rotman School of Management where they will have the opportunity to dialogue and reflect on leadership issues with other leaders from the educational, social, cultural and business communities. This year's winners join an illustrious group of 155 principals who have already been awarded this prestigious honour. In addition, on February 23, the winners will be formally honoured for their contributions at the *Canada's Outstanding Principals Gala Awards Celebration*, which is being held in Toronto at the Delta Chelsea Hotel.

Canada's Outstanding Principals[™] is made possible through the generous sponsorship of CIBC and Deloitte.

Established in 1993, The Learning Partnership is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to championing a strong public education system in Canada through innovative programs, executive leadership, credible research, policy initiatives and public engagement with its partners. Since its inception, more than four million students and leaders in education have participated in one or more of TLP's programs, including *Take Our Kids to Work*[™], *Welcome to Kindergarten*[™], and *Entrepreneurial Adventure*. More information can be found at www.thelearningpartnership.ca and www.canadasoutstandingprincipals.ca.