



CPSN Newsletter

Happy 2023 and welcome to the first newsletter of the Canadian Playful Schools Network! It is intended for anyone who is curious and interested in learning more about the great adventure of the CPSN. We hope that you will share the good news with others and help our network grow.

A Year in Review

Let's look back at some of the memorable CPSN moments to see what we have achieved together!

Onboarding Sessions

During the months of September & October, all CPSN school teams participated in 90 minute onboarding sessions. The onboarding protocol and process are described in this [Learn to Play blog post](#).

Team Profiles

Learn more about the [CPSN participating schools](#) and their learning through play projects on our [interactive map](#).

The Virtual Launch

On October 26, 2022, more than 160 education professionals gathered for the very first time for the virtual launch of the Canadian Playful Schools Network (CPSN). Representatives from the 30 English language school teams joined the CPSN research team to discuss learning through play in the middle years, learn more about the network, get inspired and meet each other during the 'speed play dating' and playgroup breakout sessions.

- Rewatch CPSN [international advisor](#) Ann Marie Thomas's [Playful Address](#) and learn more about the 4 key elements of play: joy, whimsy, playing with new people, and surprise!
- What did we learn from you? How do CPSN teams define learning through play? CPSN research assistants Gladys Ayson and Sajani Karunaweera share their analysis from the onboarding sessions in their presentation which can be watched [here](#).

December Playgroups

During the first two weeks of December, the five CPSN and two RCÉL playgroups met to think and learn together, discuss successes and challenges and share resources, ideas, tips and tricks when it comes to the design and implementation of play-based learning in the middle years. Conversations continue on the playgroup Teams channels with January's Guiding Question: Is every student engaged in play? Who is included? Who is excluded?

Research & Publications

The CPSN research team is currently working on several projects to better define learning through play in Canadian school settings. Results from our five [scoping reviews](#) on green play (outdoor), screen play (digital), and machine play (maker-oriented), inclusive play and french language and play will be completed soon.

From the CPSN blog

In '[The Guiding Principles, Design and Implementation of the CPSN](#)' network co-lead Dr. Trista Hollweck describes some of the network principles that guide the design and development of the CPSN.

In '[A Reflection on the PlayJouer Onboarding Sessions](#)' network co-lead Dr. Trista Hollweck reflects on her experience during the onboarding sessions, further elaborating how a coaching stance during these meetings led to insightful and meaningful conversations.

Nothing short of a miracle' : A Strong First Impression of What's to Come'

CPSN Research Assistant Gladys Ayson reflects on her experience of the onboarding sessions.

Resources

Developed and adapted from the onboarding meeting protocol, '[Developing your learning through play ethos](#)' is an activity designed to help you unpack what learning through play means in your context and how it can benefit your students. You can download a ready-to-use, zero-cost, and printer friendly version [here](#).

Coming Soon...

CPSN School Showcase Stories!

This is an exciting one! In January, a call for submissions will be sent to all CPSN members to showcase your school's learning through play experience! These will be available directly on our website. For those interested, the sign-up form can be found [here](#). We look forward to promoting your stories!

Choose Your Own Adventure : Playful Professional Learning (PPL) Series

From February-May, a series of workshops and webinars led by CPSN researchers, international advisors and partners will be launched. Network members can choose their own professional learning adventure! All events will be added to [this page](#).

Open Call for "Lightning Presentations"

Contribute a 5-minute "lightening presentation" video to the free virtual 2023 [Playful Schools Conference](#) (March 27-29). Organizers are looking for inspiring examples of educators facilitating learning through play experiences in schools

(Deadline for 1 minute video proposal: January 25, 2023). The open call for submissions can be found [here](#).

Stay Connected !

Through our newsletters, website and social network channels, we hope you'll [stay connected](#), informed and inspired by the work of the CPSN. Don't forget to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#). If you have any inquiries, do not hesitate to reach out!

We look forward to many exciting adventures together in 2023! May the new year be full of magic, laughter, collaboration and PLAY!

