

# Connected or Disconnected? Technology and Canadian Youth

# MAY 1 2014

Barnett House, Alberta Teachers Association  
11010 142 street NW Edmonton, AB

6:00 PM | Registration and reception (hors d'oeuvre)

7:00 PM–9:30 PM | Public lectures and discussions

**T**echnologies are reshaping our society at an unprecedented rate. In this time of rapid change, Albertans need to consider the impact of online digital activities for offline health and mental wellbeing. On May 1, 2014 the Alberta Teachers' Association, in partnership with the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research, is pleased to invite Dr. Michael Rich and Dr. Valerie Steeves to Edmonton for a discussion on how technology is impacting children, youth and society. This is a continuation of our series of evening public lectures with world renowned and distinguished speakers including Sir Ken Robinson, Dr. Sherry Turkle, Dr. Yong Zhao, Dr. Dennis Shirley, Dr. Linda Duxbury, Dr. Jean Twenge, and Carl Honore.

## SPEAKERS

### Michael Rich, MD, MPH

*Michael Rich, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health at Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, United States.*



Michael came to medicine after a 12-year career as a filmmaker. His current areas of health research and clinical work combine his experience and expertise in medicine and media, making him the world's first "mediatrician." In this role, he uses scientific evidence about the positive and negative effects of media to advise children and those who care for them on how to use media in ways that optimize personal development.

- Centre on Media and Child Health – Explore Dr. Rich's extensive work on behalf of Children's Hospital Boston, Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health
- CBC national panel discussion on Youth and Technology (February 2014)
- Ask the "Mediatrician" a question

### Valerie Steeves, PhD

*Associate professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa and principal investigator of the largest Canadian research study on children & teens' online habits.*



Valerie is the lead researcher for MediaSmart's Young Canadians in a Wired World project, which has tracked young people's uses and perceptions of networked technologies since 1999. She is also the co-principal investigator of the eGirls Project, which explores girls experiences on social media. She has also authored several award-winning educational games designed to teach children how to protect their human rights in cyberspace. *Cyberbullying: Dealing with Online Meanness, Cruelty and Threats*

- Online Privacy, Online Publicity
- Life Online



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## Learning our way as aspiring Albertans

This lecture is part of an ongoing commitment for engaging Albertans in a public dialogue about our shared future.

Beginning in 2004, the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) hosted a series of public lectures and invitational symposia focused on the role that public education will play in co-creating the future of Alberta. These public lectures featured leading thinkers including Michael Adams, Gwynne Dyer, Andy Hargreaves, Thomas Homer-Dixon, Carl Honore, Stephen Murgatroyd, David Peat, Sir Ken Robinson, Pasi Sahlberg, Justin Trudeau, Sherry Turkle, Jean Twenge and Margaret Wheatley.

## Strategic foresight needed at Alberta's crossroads

Over the past years, three questions have come to occupy these public conversations about the future of the province:

- What is the Alberta that the world needs to see?
- What kind of Albertans do we need to become to get us there?
- How will leadership in learning help us become our best selves?

These three questions, are points of departure for an engaging public dialogue as Albertans are poised to become leaders in learning and innovation in the world.

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The Alberta Teachers' Association



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