

Biographies



Nadene Guiltner is a recently retired public school teacher. She completed a bachelor of arts degree at the University of Calgary. Changing careers mid-life, she then entered the faculty of education at UBC, obtaining a professional certificate in 1986.

During her 20-year teaching career her main assignment was with a multi-grade class of five to nine year old students. As often happens in small rural schools, she also wore other hats. Over the years she developed programs for gifted students from K to 10. She also worked with children who had a variety of learning disabilities. As it was her feeling that families play a crucial role in their children's education, she developed a series of workshops for parents.

As part of a research project in children's art, she travelled several times to Reggio Emilia, in Italy, to study their world famous early education programs. She was able to adapt many of the ideas used in the Italian schools to her own practice. In particular, she was interested in the role the environment plays in learning.

Nadene has presented many workshops for teachers in her own district as well as for those in other parts of the province. She has also been a guest lecturer at SFU and the University of Calgary. She was invited by the Alberta Teachers' Association to present a workshop on her Reggio experiences at their annual Teachers' Convention.

Writing has always played an important part of Nadene's life and she has written articles and book reviews for the *Journal of Early Education*, a column for the *Raven*, and has made regular contributions to The Drawing Network at UBC. She has written segments for two books written by Bob Steele (UBC). The first book, *Draw Me A Story*, featured examples of artwork from Nadene's students along with comments about classroom life. The second book, *The Drawing Path for Children*, was based on the reflections of Nadene and four other teachers. Nadene is married and has two children and three granddaughters.



Dr. Shirley McBride received her M.Ed. in Educational Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan, and her Ph.D. in Special Education at the University of Illinois. During her career she has been a teacher, school psychologist, and administrator at the school, school district, and provincial levels. She has taught courses in special education as adjunct professor at the University of Saskatchewan, Simon Fraser University, and the University of British Columbia.

In 2000, Dr. McBride retired from her position as Director, Special Programs for the British Columbia Ministry of Education, to enter the private sector. In that capacity, she has provided consulting services to government across Western Canada, the government of Canada, school districts, Aboriginal bands, and non-government agencies. Internationally, she has headed a UNESCO project in Lebanon, and provided consultation and training for the Ministries of Education in Brunei and Jordan.

The author of several publications, she has been a speaker at conferences in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and across North America.

Dr. McBride is the recipient of several awards for her work, including the Hazel Davie Award from the BC Special Education Association, Harrie M. Selznick Distinguished Service award presented by the Council of Administrators of Special Education (International), the DISES International Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Council for Exceptional Children (International) award for Outstanding Public Service.



Mike Suddaby is a former superintendent of schools for SD 42 (Maple Ridge), secondary school principal, and classroom teacher. He has extensive background in school accreditation and the district review process.

Among other initiatives during his superintendency, District 42 developed the “Full Service Neighborhood School” model of service delivery, and piloted a “Special Education Accreditation” process for the Ministry of Education.

Suddaby has been an adjunct professor/sessional instructor at UBC on several occasions, teaching in the fields of “supervision,” “school administration, and “educational finance.” Prior to the legislated separation of administrators from teachers, he had extensive experience in mediation as a member and chair of the BCTF Professional Relation Advisors’ Committee, and continued assisting in the design and implementation of “Program For Quality Teaching,” a program of peer supervision and reflection offered jointly by the BCTF and participating districts.

He has a B.Ed, and an M.A., both from the University of British Columbia.