



QUEST THURSDAY/FRIDAY CONFERENCE WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORM

THE YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD presents...

**The Quest for Increased Student Achievement and Well Being:
Realizing Equitable, Inclusive and Engaging Schools**

**Thursday, November 15 and Friday, November 16, 2012
Sheraton Parkway Hotel and Conference Centre,
Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada**

Quest is a world-renowned educational conference designed and delivered by the York Region District School Board in Ontario, Canada. The York Region District School Board has established a clear vision, focused planning and consistently successful practice for improving student achievement and well being.

Last year's Quest 2011 Workshops shared strategies for "building" equitable, inclusive and engaging schools.

This year's Quest 2012 Workshops will 'realize' successful practice that help develop an education system where, in an equitable and inclusive learning and working environment, each student and all staff has the opportunity to achieve their highest potential. 'We strive for equity, inclusiveness and diversity in all our programs, practice, facilities, and people'. (YRDSB Value Statement)

Your workshop, if selected will assist participants to understand, identify and eliminate the biases, barriers and power dynamics that limit student prospects for learning and growing and fully contributing to society. **ONLY** workshop proposals that can highlight proven practice will be selected.

Please complete the Workshop Proposal Application and return no later than Friday March 16, 2012. If you require additional information contact Dean Bodkin, Quest Conference Coordinator at: dean.bodkin@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Please complete page 2, 3, 4, 5 Workshop Proposal Application.

SECTION A: QUEST EXPENSES

Quest will cover the costs for only the Key Presenter and one Co-Presenter (2 presenters in total). The day(s) of your presentation include registration for the 2 presenters. If you wish to attend additional days you must pay the daily fee. Quest will cover the costs of transportation beyond 100 km. from the Conference location. Air transportation if required will be economy/coach only. The Quest Travel Agency will book ALL required flights with no exceptions.

If travel is beyond 100 km. accommodations will be provided in the Best Western Hotel (attached to the Sheraton Parkway) for the night preceding your presentation only. Additional nights must be approved by Dean Bodkin. We will organize accommodation in doubles (for presenter and co-presenter) wherever possible.

SECTION B: IMPORTANT DUE DATE FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

Workshop Proposal Application must be submitted electronically by Friday, March 16th, to Dean Bodkin, Quest Conference Coordinator at dean.bodkin@vrdsb.edu.on.ca

SECTION C: WORKSHOP INFORMATION

1. Equity/Inclusivity Barriers Please identify the systemic or other barrier(s) that are addressed in your workshop (you may be addressing more than one):

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Age | Ancestry | Culture |
| Ethnicity | Gender | Gender Identity |
| Intellectual Ability | Language | Physical Ability |
| Power and Privilege | Religion | Race |
| Sexual Orientation | Socio-Economic Status | |

2. **Equity/Inclusivity Areas of Focus** Please identify the areas of focus that best reflect your workshop (you may be addressing more than one):

Board/District policies, programs, guidelines, practices.....

Shared and committed leadership.....

School and community relationships.....

Inclusive curriculum and assessment practices.....

School climate and the prevention of discrimination and harassment.....

Professional learning.....

Accountability and transparency.....

Religious accommodation.....

3. **Title** This will be the **exact** title that will appear in the Quest Program:

4. **Intended Audience** Please identify the audience(s) that your workshop addresses (you may be addressing more than 1):

All registrants

Students

Elementary School educator

Secondary School educator

Supervisory Officers

Ministry/Government staff

School Trustee/Elected Official

Community member/Parent

Other (please identify)

5. Workshop Description: This will be the exact workshop description that will appear in the Quest Program (50 word maximum).

6. Additional Information: A. Please provide any additional information that deepens our understanding of the successful practices your work has had on equity, inclusion and well-being. This would focus on proof.

B. Share how you will assist participants attending your workshop to consider opportunities for follow-up action when they return to their respective responsibilities.

Decisions regarding the program design and length of workshops has yet to be finalized. Past practice has been that workshops are offered in 90 minute sessions.

ONLY THOSE SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOPS WILL BE CONTACTED BY MID-APRIL. Decisions will be based on your submission, and our need to ensure a balanced program related to the barriers identified in the Quest 2012 Conference Workshop Proposal.

7. Date Available Indicate which date(s) you are available to present:

Thursday, November 15 only

Friday, November 16 only

Thursday and Friday November 15 and 16

SECTION D: KEY PRESENTER AND CO-PRESENTER INFORMATION

| <i>Key Presenter:</i> | <i>Co-Presenter:</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Job Title: | Job Title: |
| Employer's name: | Employer's name: |
| Email: | Email: |
| Phone #: | Phone #: |

SECTION E: AND FINALLY...

We are thrilled that you are interested in joining a team of Quest presenters at our upcoming Quest Conference. We are proud that Quest attracts world-class international and local presenters and has become one of the most impactful educational conferences globally.

If you have any questions, or require additional information please contact Dean Bodkin at dean.bodkin@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

The Quest continues...