

Professional Development Plan (Part 1): 10 Activities

Here are 10 things I plan to do for my personal development:

[1. BCScTA Catalyst Conference \(October 22-24, 2026\)](#)

Catalyst is a conference put on by the BC Science Teacher's Association, and often features many fantastic science-specific workshops to help science teachers get together and share ideas. I attended last year as a TC and found it very valuable to chat with other TCs and teachers, and intend to attend again this year to continue networking and gathering resources that will help me as I begin my career.

[2. BCTF New Teacher's Conference \(February 27, 2026\)](#)

This conference is designed for TCs and new teachers (within the first 5 years of teaching) to attend workshops and network with other new teachers. I am really interested in attending because I would like to get some teaching resources and ideas from non-science teachers to help broaden my toolkit of teaching strategies and resources.

[3. EDUC 5041 - Diversity: Constructing Social Realities](#)

This course deals heavily in the intersection of society and education, and I am interested in learning further how these intersect so that I can better support my students. In particular, I would like to take the course when it is run by Dr. Tanya Manning-Lewis, as she focuses on anti-racism in education, which is a field of study I am greatly interested in.

[4. Indigenous Canada Course \(University of Alberta\)](#)

This course can be taken for free through the University of Alberta and covers the history and perspectives of Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island. I am interested in taking this course to help my understanding of Indigenous perspectives that I may not have gotten in my colonially-influenced public school education.

[5. Master of Education \(Thompson Rivers University\)](#)

The Master of Education program at TRU helps teachers move beyond their teaching skills to explore specific teaching areas of interest. While I already have a Masters, I am considering taking the M.Ed. to further explore my interest of anti-racism in education.

[6. Surrey Teachers Association Professional Development Conference \(dates TBD\)](#)

This conference is an opportunity to connect with teachers across all grades and disciplines in the Surrey School District (SD36). I attended it this past year and plan on attending it again (once hired into the district) to continue to explore different teaching strategies and resources as I found it to be a very valuable experience.

[7. FNEESC Education Conference \(December 3-5, 2026\)](#)

FNEESC has a lot of resources for Indigenous and land-based education, and I am interested in attending this conference so as to better equip myself to actively engage Indigenous perspectives in the classroom.

[8. Episode 39: Wayfinding Through the Human Genome \(Podcast\)](#)

This podcast details a Indigenous genome scientist (Dr. Keolu Fox) who is seeking to study the human genome in an effort to improve outcomes for Indigenous Peoples. I am interested in listening to this because as a biologist and someone interested in anti-racist education, I am interested in learning more about Dr. Fox's work.

[9. Indigenous Data Sovereignty in Salmon Systems \(Webinar\)](#)

This webinar discusses the importance of Indigenous Data Sovereignty within Salmon Systems, and how Indigenous Peoples are being pressured to make their data [open source by Western scientists](#). I have heard about Indigenous Data Sovereignty, and am interested in learning more about it so that I can make sure that any Indigenous Knowledge or perspectives I share in the classroom are done respectfully and with permission.

[10. BCTF Women's Institute \(January 21, 2027\)](#)

The BCTF Women's Institute is a conference that centres the experiences of women and gender non-conforming individuals in education. I am interested in attending to learn more about the challenges individuals in this space face, and how we can work together to address them.

Professional Development Plan (Part 2): Design Your ProD Day

Topic: Anti-racist education and promoting diverse perspectives

Duration: 1 day

Outline: Conference (1 keynote, 2 workshops, 1 lunch break)

1. Keynote: Dr. Tanya Manning-Lewis on Promoting Inclusive Education
 - a. [Example of one of Dr. Manning-Lewis' talks](#)
 - b. I would like her to share her research on promoting inclusive education and incorporating diverse perspectives.
2. Morning Workshop: [Out in Schools](#)
 - a. Out in Schools is an initiative by the Vancouver Foundation that helps support and champion LGBTQ2S+ voices in the education system
 - b. I would like them to discuss challenges they have observed in the school system and facilitate discussion on how educators can promote inclusion
3. Lunch & Resource Exhibit

- a. Vendors providing educational resources that intersect with diverse perspectives in education (e.g., [Ocean Networks Canada](#) has resources co-developed with Indigenous communities) can showcase their resources at this time.
- 4. Afternoon Workshop: [Bernice Jensen \(Knowledge Keeper\)](#)
 - a. Bernice Jensen is a local Knowledge Keeper in Kamloops who has facilitated workshops on Indigenous and LGBTQ2+ education.