



NEWS RELEASE

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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For Immediate Release

Monday, April 6, 2015

Darren E. Lund from the University of Calgary to Speak at NLTA BGM

St. John's, NL ... Dr. Darren E. Lund, a Professor in the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary will be the keynote speaker at the NLTA's Biennial General Meeting. Dr. Lund will address the assembly at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8. The title of Dr. Lund's address is *Preserving Our Past, Embracing Our Future: Putting Social Justice at the Heart of Education*.

Educators are correctly being encouraged to attend to equity and social justice issues in their practice, but for many teachers this effort can seem daunting. Dr. Lund offers a timely reminder that addressing the challenges faced by Canadian teachers includes more than simply envisioning harmony in our classrooms and schools. Rather, working with the community to bring about social and institutional change requires respectful collaborations and activism with shared goals. His talk will offer specific strategies and rich examples that include both the joys and challenges of this complex work. In standing up for equity and social justice, we can collectively create better learning environments with renewed confidence to embrace our future, even in the face of some significant barriers.

Dr. Lund was a high school teacher for 16 years, and in his rookie year, formed an award-winning student activist program, *Students and Teachers Opposing Prejudice* (STOP). He has published over 300 articles, books, and book chapters, and has been recognized with a number of honours, including the inaugural 2013 Alberta Hate Crimes Awareness Award, the 2012 Scholar-Activist Award from the American Educational Research Association (Critical Educators for Social Justice), being named a Reader's Digest National Leader in Education, and one of Red Deer, Alberta's Top Educators of the Century.

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