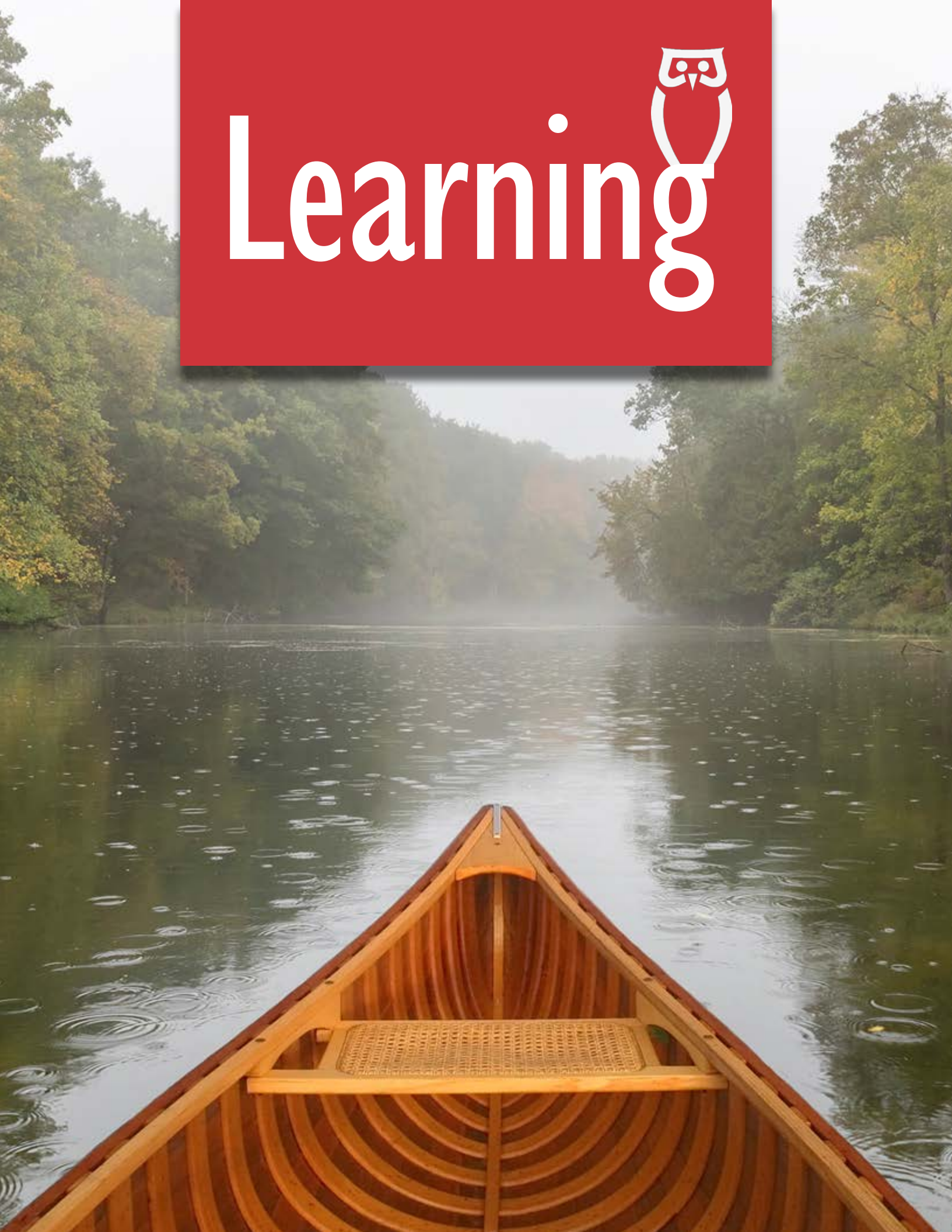


Learning



BCPVPA Professional Learning and Development Learn, Lead, Your Way

Your BCPVPA Professional Learning and Development Journey for 2026–2027

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Welcome to a year of professional learning designed around this principle: you are not the same leader you were three years ago, and you should not be expected to learn the same way every other leader does.

The BCPVPA's 2026–2027 programs give you a truly varied menu — virtual mornings, in-person workshops, retreat-style Destination Learning, and on-demand offerings tailored to your district and your team. Some are foundational. Some represent conversations we have been having for years. Some are entirely new. All of them are built by practitioners who have walked your hallways, and all of them connect back to the [BCPVPA Leadership Competencies](#).

We are calling this year **Learn, Lead, Your Way**, because learning is yours to shape, and leadership is yours to live. Whether you are seeking strategies early in your career, or are an experienced Principal carrying the weight of a long season, our 2026–2027 offerings give you the agency to choose the format, the pace, and the company that fits your year.

Our Conferences

Connecting Leaders 2026

October 22–24, 2026 | Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard Street, Vancouver

Connecting Leaders is our signature annual gathering of BC educational leaders — three days that begin with a Thursday evening Opening Reception (live music, conversation, and a healthy helping of connection), continue with a full day Friday of learning alongside [Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe](#), and close out Saturday morning with a constructive session on Navigating Difficult Conversations.

Dr. Robyne is a bestselling author, award-winning scholar, and one of very few educational behaviourists in the world. Her Friday session, *Everyday Resiliency™: How to Master Working & Living Well*, walks us through the five pillars — Belonging, Perspective, Acceptance, Hope, and Humour — and gives us practical tools for leading well through the seasons that ask the most of us.

On Saturday, we take part in a remarkable morning of learning as Dr. Sean Lessard from the Montreal Lake Cree Nation in Treaty 6 territory reflects on the importance of presence and trust when working with youth, and the role that educators and leaders play as advocates and allies.

IDEAS 2027

Friday February 5, 2027

IDEAS – Innovation, Dialogue, Education, Achievement, Synergy – is a full day focused on innovative and promising practices in Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Reconciliation, and student-centred leadership. Grounded in Compassionate Systems Leadership, the day creates space for dialogue, reflection, and collaborative inquiry, and elevates the voices and experiences of students, educators, and communities across British Columbia. If your year needs one day of leadership conversation that is both demanding and hopeful, this is the day.

Foundational Programs

Compass Leadership Academy

October 17–18, 2026 (in-person) + ongoing monthly webinars and Brightspace modules

Compass supports our new members and members new to their roles through a blended learning experience: a two-day in-person gathering, monthly online webinars, self-paced Brightspace modules, and role-based leadership exploration. Compass is designed to bridge theory and practice while creating ongoing networks of support during the years that matter most — the years when you are figuring it out as you go.

Foundations for New School Leaders

2027 dates TBA | Location TBA

Our flagship summer program for BC's Principals and Vice-Principals who have been in their roles for two to five years. Three days of immersive learning focused on leadership identity, relational leadership, systems awareness, and professional growth. As one past participant noted, *"It did not take long before all of us began to feel like a family at our table."* That family is the point.

Explorations for Aspiring School Leaders

Saturdays: January 9, 30, February 20, and March 6, 2027 | 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM PT | Virtual Webcasts

Designed for teacher leaders considering formal leadership roles, and grounded in the [BCPVPA Leadership Competencies](#), Explorations offers four focused sessions on the leadership mindsets and experiences that shape the next generation of school leaders. The simplest move BCPVPA members can make this fall is to identify the next potential school leader on your teaching staff, and to ask them about their aspirations, and if they are interested in Explorations.

Management Foundations Courses

The [Management Foundations courses](#) provide essential learning across the key areas of educational leadership and organizational practice. Courses are open to all members and are also included as part of the Compass Leadership Academy program. Sign up for one course — or for a two-year pass to complete the full series.

Each course includes two live webinars, a self-paced Brightspace course, reflection and application activities, and scenario-based learning opportunities. Participants who complete individual courses earn a digital badge; completion of the full series results in a Certificate of Completion.

Courses include:

- Relations with First Nations
- Governance
- Finance
- Working with People
- Leading Inclusion
- Evidence-Informed Decision-Making
- Planning for Impact

Together, these courses strengthen professional judgement, contextual literacy, relational leadership, and the confidence to make decisions that hold up over time.

Destination Learning Events

Destination Learning brings leadership learning together with intentional space for reflection, renewal, dialogue, and connection. There are three retreat-format experiences across the 2026–2027 year: each cohort is capped at 30 leaders, and each has two parallel offerings led by Peter and Andrea. Choose the location and the theme.



- The Inn at Laurel Point — Victoria, BC

November 26–28, 2026

Resilient Leadership: Leading Well Through Complexity

with Dr. Andrea McComb

Resilient Leadership explores the practices, mindsets, and leadership habits that help leaders remain grounded, purposeful, and well, in the midst of increasing complexity. Together, participants will explore sustainable leadership, emotional resilience, relational leadership, and the importance of leading in ways that protect both personal well-being and professional purpose. Leadership sustainability is part of how we steward our schools and communities.

Leadershift: The Eleven Essential Shifts

with Peter Johnston

Three days at the Inner Harbour with John Maxwell's *Leadershift* as the through line — the eleven essential shifts every BC school leader has been sensing, but may not yet have named. Identity shifts, practice shifts, legacy shifts. The book in the room. The framework in your hand. The afternoons kept free, because the leaders who return home often credit their walk along the waterfront as much as the session itself for their personal shift.

- Sparkling Hill Resort — Vernon, BC

April 8–10, 2027

Amplification for Experienced School Leaders

Amplification I — The Ripple Effect: Amplifying Leadership Through Purpose and Presence

with Dr. Andrea McComb

Leadership influence is often shaped less by big moments and more by the daily decisions, conversations, and interactions that gradually shape school culture over time. Amplification I invites experienced school leaders to reflect on the ripple effects of their leadership presence, practices, and purpose. Through dialogue, reflection, and systems-informed exploration, participants will consider how leadership identity, intentional action, and relational trust influence the growth of people and the culture of schools. This retreat is designed for leaders ready to deepen what they do, and how they lead.

Amplification II — The Purpose Code

with Peter Johnston

Three days at Sparkling Hill, weaving John Maxwell's *Intentional Living* with Jordan Grumet's *The Purpose Code*. Maxwell's pattern: I want to make a difference, doing something that makes a difference, with people who make a difference, at a time that makes a difference. Four practices to write your significance story — putting yourself in your story, putting significance in your story, putting your strengths in your story, and getting off the path of good intentions by doing instead of trying. Carry home a personalised purpose roadmap to the leadership life you are purposefully choosing.

- Tigh-Na-Mara — Parksville, Vancouver Island, BC

April 22–24, 2027

Leading a Culture of Learning

LCL I — Conversations that Build Trust: Navigating Challenge Through Partnership

with Dr. Andrea McComb

School leadership is deeply relational work. The conversations leaders have every day, especially during challenge, conflict, uncertainty, or strong emotion, shape the trust and culture of a school community. This retreat explores how leaders navigate difficult conversations with clarity, empathy, confidence, and integrity while preserving relationship and partnership. Participants will strengthen communication practices that support courageous dialogue, relational trust, collaborative problem-solving, and healthy school cultures. Because how we lead people matters as much as what we lead.

LCL II — The Culture Code

with Peter Johnston

Three days at Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort built around Daniel Coyle's *The Culture Code*, the book that delves into what actually creates the cultures every BC school leader wants to lead. You will leave with *The Culture Code Playbook* — the practical companion drawn from the book — yours to carry home and apply. Reflective dialogue, purposeful walk-and-talks along the shoreline, and collaborative exploration of how strong school cultures are built: through safety, belonging, and shared purpose. The culture-building work awaits you in your building, and this is the framework to actually do it.

Back by Popular Demand — You Asked for Them, We Delivered

Four conversations our members keep returning to. Each will run as an after-school series across the year — designed for working leaders, the hour that fits into your week, and the topics that matter most. Some dates TBA.

Transforming School Attendance

The conversation that began last year continues — and deepens. Chronic absenteeism, family re-engagement, and building an attendance culture that holds. Practical leadership actions grounded in BC realities. *One foundational question keeps surfacing: why do students stop showing up? The next series in this list begins to answer it.*

Artificial Intelligence in Education

Last year's AI Roundtable returns with a sharper lens: how AI shows up in your school this year, the policy questions on the Principal's desk, and the leadership actions that put relational integrity ahead of the technology.

Anti-Racism Guidelines

Following the work the BCPVPA has been doing across the province, this series continues the practical, leader-grounded conversation on anti-racism in BC schools. Real frameworks. Real cases. Real next steps.

Education in Times of Complexity, Chaos, and Collapse, with Will Richardson

September 23, October 1, 8, 14, 22, 28, November 5, 2026 | 3:30 - 5:00 PM PT

Old assumptions about education are breaking. What does this moment ask of us? A professional learning experience for educators, leaders, and others concerned with how education is responding to this challenging moment. Are we ready to move beyond quick fixes and into the inner resources, relational practices, and communal wisdom these times demand? Seven sessions with Will Richardson, asking the questions about education that most leadership work avoids. This year, the room is bigger: Principals and Vice-Principals, of course — and we are opening invitations to teachers, and where appropriate, students. Engagement is everyone's question.

Chapter and District Learning Opportunities

Professional Learning and Development brings BCPVPA programming — tailored to your local priorities and your leadership team's needs — directly to your Chapter or district on request. Whether you are planning a Chapter retreat, hosting a focused session for a small group of Principals and Vice-Principals, or designing a year-long leadership initiative, we will work with you on building the program.

Here are just some of the programs that we can bring to your Chapter and district:



- *From Dr. Andrea McComb*

Cognitive Coaching®

Cognitive Coaching® helps leaders strengthen the thinking, reflection, and professional agency of others through intentional, thoughtful dialogue. Rather than positioning leaders as problem-solvers, Cognitive Coaching supports leaders in becoming thinking partners who build efficacy, self-directedness, and professional growth within individuals and teams. Participants learn practical conversational tools that deepen reflection, support professional inquiry, surface assumptions, and strengthen leadership capacity across school communities.

Adaptive Schools®

Adaptive Schools® supports leaders in building collaborative cultures where dialogue, inquiry, collective efficacy, and shared responsibility can thrive. Grounded in the understanding that the quality of adult collaboration directly impacts student learning, participants strengthen practical facilitation skills, group development strategies, and approaches for navigating productive conflict. Leaders leave with tools and frameworks that help create psychologically safe environments where teams can think deeply, engage meaningfully, and move important work forward together.

Principal as Mentor

Designed for Principals committed to developing Vice-Principals as confident, capable, and aligned leaders within their schools and systems.

Difficult Conversations

Strategies for navigating conflict, giving meaningful feedback, addressing concerns with staff and families, and engaging in courageous dialogue while preserving trust and dignity.

- *From Peter Johnston*

The 5 Levels of Leadership

Maxwell's foundational framework for understanding where you are on the leadership ladder — and what it takes to climb the next rung. A practical lens that changes how Principals see their own influence.

Intentional Living

Finding purpose and significance in school leadership. The questions a Principal can stop avoiding, and the practices that make a long career meaningful, not just long.

The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

Maxwell's complete leadership canon: twenty-one laws that explain why some leaders keep getting better while others plateau. Available as a session, a series, or a multi-day workshop tailored to your district.

Developing the Leader Within You

Building leadership from the inside out. For Principals ready to invest in themselves as deliberately as they invest in their staff and students.

- *Co-led by Peter and Andrea*

Aspire

Aspire is a responsive district-based leadership program co-created with your team around your unique priorities. Grounded in the [BCPVPA Leadership Competencies](#), Aspire supports leaders in putting competency into practice through inquiry, reflection, dialogue, and applied leadership learning. Aspirational where it matters most: in your real Tuesday.

Leadership Coaching Opportunities

Professional Learning and Development also offers individual and group coaching opportunities designed to support leaders in navigating the complexities of educational leadership with reflection, intentionality, and relational support.

Coaching may focus on:

- Leadership growth and reflection
- Navigating complex challenges and conversations
- Building leadership confidence and capacity
- Communication and relational leadership
- Strategic and systems thinking
- Team and collaborative leadership development
- Working through a specific goal or a series of goals

Individual and group coaching packages may be requested by Chapters, districts, or leadership teams. Andrea provides the majority of our individual coaching and, beginning in 2026-2027, Peter is also accepting team coaching engagements — working with leadership teams through a specific goal or series of goals over a multi-month engagement. Coaching is designed to be accessible through nominal-fee structures whenever possible.

BTS Spark Leadership Learning Series

Led by Dr. Andrea McComb

Grounded in [BTS Spark](#) leadership content and connected to the realities of educational leadership, [these sessions](#) invite leaders to reflect on who they are becoming as leaders while strengthening practical leadership capacity. Through dialogue, reflection, and application, participants will explore leadership identity, values-centred leadership, resiliency, relational influence, and leading meaningful change within complex systems. The series is designed to create both practical insight and reflective space. Sessions run online on Thursdays, 3:30–5:00 PM PT, and are not recorded — because real conversation needs the trust that comes with showing up live.

- October 1, 2026 — Your Leadership Story
- November 5, 2026 — Values-Centred Leadership

- January 7, 2027 — Resiliency and Sustainable Leadership
- February 4, 2027 — Engaging Others Through Trust and Influence
- March 4, 2027 — Challenging the Way Things Are Done: Leading Change and Innovation

These sessions support leaders in strengthening culture, engagement, adaptability, and organisational effectiveness while deepening leadership impact and purpose.

John Maxwell Leadership Series — Plus One

Led by Peter Johnston, Maxwell Leadership Certified Speaker · Facilitator · Coach · DISC Behavioural Consultant

A multi-format leadership offering throughout the year. Free virtual mornings, paid book-study cohorts, and a member-requested in-person workshop — all built around the practical leadership frameworks our members have been responding to and requesting.

Four cohorts draw on John C. Maxwell's work. The fifth invites Brené Brown into the room as the natural complement — and the “Plus One” in the name. Maxwell's framework grows from influence and character. Brown's grows from social science and vulnerability. Both are human-centred. Both are a perfect fit for BC Principals and Vice-Principals.

Bring your coffee. Bring a colleague. Bring the leader you are still becoming.

Morning Caffeine — Free Virtual Cohorts

45 minutes · Wednesday mornings 7:30–8:15 AM PT

Free for BCPVPA members · BCPVPA Associates welcome · Capped at 12 — first come, first served

Small-cohort Maxwell sessions before the first bell. Real conversation, pre-reading sent in advance, sessions not recorded. The 12-seat cap is the point: enough room for every voice, small enough for real honesty.



Morning Caffeine: How to Work with Complicated People

October 1, October 7, October 14, 2026 - cohort at capacity

Maxwell's framework for the four most common difficult-people patterns, and the leadership action most of us miss: working on ourselves before we work on others. Every BC Principal has at least one complicated person in mind right now. This is the framework that helps decode them.

Morning Caffeine: The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth

Three Wednesdays: October 21, October 28, November 4, 2026 - cohort at capacity

Maxwell's fifteen laws across three sessions — Foundation, Process, Contribution. The leadership ceiling is real. These are the laws that raise it.

Breakfast Book Club (BBC) — Paid Virtual Cohorts

90 minutes · Wednesday mornings · Five-week cohorts

Fee covers the cost of your book - BCPVPA members \$59 per cohort · Non-members \$69 per cohort

Capped at 20 attendees

Yes, BBC — we borrowed the name on purpose. The formal flavour fits; the British accents are optional. Each cohort is a structured five-week book study, with pre-reading from the book and 90 minutes of real conversation each Wednesday. Four cohorts across the year, finishing each book before its natural seasonal close.

- BBC: *Leadershift*

Five Wednesdays: November 18, 25, December 2, 9, 16, 2026 | 7:00–8:30 AM PT

John C. Maxwell's *Leadershift*. Eleven essential shifts every leader must make. Finish the book by the winter break.

- BBC: *Everyone Communicates, Few Connect*

Five Wednesdays: January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17, 2027 | 7:30–9:00 AM PT

John C. Maxwell on the difference between talking to people and actually reaching them. A January cohort for the new year intention every Principal sets — and the practice that makes it stick.

- BBC: *Today Matters*

Five Wednesdays: April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 2027 | 7:00–8:30 AM PT

John C. Maxwell's twelve daily practices — the disciplines that compound across a career. The April cohort, coming out of spring break, before the year-end sprint begins.

- BBC: *Strong Ground* (Brené Brown)

Five Wednesdays: May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2027 | 7:30–9:00 AM PT

Brené Brown's newest book (released April 2026). The lessons of daring leadership, the tenacity of paradox, and the wisdom of the human spirit. A year-end cohort to walk into summer break stronger than you walked into May.

BCPVPA 2026-2027 Professional Learning & Development

Everyone Communicates, Few Connect — In-Person Workshop

Date and location: TBD

By member request — the Maxwell Connection Framework brought in person to your region of BC. If your region or district would like to host a one-day or two-day *Everyone Communicates, Few Connect* workshop, please contact pldinfo@bcpvpa.bc.ca to discuss dates and details.

The BCPVPA PLD Difference

Every program is designed specifically for practicing Principals and Vice-Principals, delivered in a safe and supportive learning environment. What sets us apart is our commitment to practitioner-led facilitation: our programs are led by former Principals who understand the work because they have done the work. Our Foundations and Explorations programs include current Principals and Vice-Principals as table and group facilitators, ensuring every learning experience is grounded in real-world relevance with immediate applicability to your daily practice.

Our learning is anchored in the [BCPVPA Leadership Competencies — Being in the Canoe](#), creating coherent pathways for your professional growth. All participants receive comprehensive materials so the learning can travel back to your school for continued reflection and application.

Whether you are seeking to grow your own capacity, foster a culture of curiosity and inquiry, develop contextual literacy, steward the future of all children, or bridge policy and practice, our 2026–2027 programming is built to meet you where you are.

Looking Ahead

The 2026–2027 season builds on a record-setting 2025–2026 year — more than 2,000 program registrations across the season, from an Association of approximately 2,700 members. That trust is unmistakable, and we feel it. These learning opportunities support leaders in growing their capacity to lead schools and systems with purpose, courage, curiosity, and care.

September is around the corner. The hallways will fill up again. The bell will ring. Your year will begin whether or not you have planned it.

This is the moment to plan it.

Choose one Morning Caffeine or one BTS Sparks session. Hold the dates for Connecting Leaders. Book a seat at Laurel Point, Sparkling Hill, or Tigh-Na-Mara. Sign up one of your teachers for Explorations.

Email pldinfo@bcpvpa.bc.ca to bring a session to your district. Pick the lane that fits your year... and we will see you there.

Wishing you a strong, generous, and good school year ahead.

For full program details and registration, contact pldinfo@bcpvpa.bc.ca

AT A GLANCE

September 2026

Education in Times of Complexity, Chaos, and Collapse
September 23, October 1, 8, 14, 22, 28, November 5, 2026

Management Foundations Courses

Online courses begin Fall 2026

October 2026

Morning Caffeine: How to Work with Complicated People

October 1, October 7, October 14, 2026 - *cohort at capacity*

BTS Spark

October 1, 2026 — Your Leadership Story

Compass Leadership Academy

October 17–18, 2026 (in-person) + monthly webinars and modules

Morning Caffeine: The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth

October 21, October 28, November 4, 2026 - *cohort at capacity*

Connecting Leaders 2026

October 22–24, 2026

November 2026

BTS Spark

November 5, 2026 — Values-Centred Leadership

BBC: Leadershift

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The Inn at Laurel Point — Victoria, BC

November 26–28, 2026

Resilient Leadership: Leading Well Through Complexity

Leadershift: The Eleven Essential Shifts

December 2026

Visit bcpvpa.org for updates

CHECK OUT

- Management Foundations Courses

Open to all members

- Transforming School Attendance

Dates to be announced

- Artificial Intelligence in Education

Dates to be announced

- Anti-Racism Guidelines

Dates to be announced

- *Coordinate these sessions for your Chapter:*

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- **Individual and Group Coaching Packages**

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January 2027

BTS Spark

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Explorations for Aspiring School Leaders

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BBC: Everyone Communicates, Few Connect

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February 2027

BTS Spark

February 4, 2027 — Engaging Others Through Trust and Influence

IDEAS 2027

February 5, 2027

March 2027

BTS Spark

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April 2027

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June 2027

Visit bcpvpa.org for updates

July 2027

Foundations for New School Leaders

Dates to be confirmed