MESSAGE FROM ELLEN ELLIS

Conference co-chair

Dear participants,

You will be given many opportunities during this conference to consider how and why we teach history in this country. Each presenter will provide a small glimpse of the answer and from that we will make changes in our philosophy, strategies and techniques in teaching history.

British Columbian teachers will be given an opportunity to evaluate our model of teaching history through a curriculum review in the near future. You will be asked to think beyond the confines of the current model and envision the classroom of the future. What do you dream about teaching? How would you teach it? How would technology change your classroom?

This is the time to think big, do not be limited by the past. Our students deserve it.

The Association for Canadian Studies asked the BCSSTA a year ago to co-sponsor a national conference for history teachers. We were excited by the possibilities and have worked during the past year to bring together students and teachers of history from across Canada and from all levels of the education system.

The workshops, plenaries, learning exhibition and publishers displays bring together the teachers, resources and partners in education to promote Canadian history. We thank you for participating, the presenters for sharing their ideas and expertise, and the organizing committees for the time and energy in planning an outstanding conference.

Ellen Ellis
President, British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association