

Learning in Canada's Northwest Territories

Learning Forward was in the Northwest Territories of Canada recently working with rural teachers, coaches, and school leaders in Inuvik to implement teacher-led learning teams in their schools.

More than 100 teachers, 30 school leaders, and 15 coaches from across the region participated in an exploration of the five-step learning team cycle, as well as effective leadership and coaching practices to support teachers in working through the cycle.

Teachers focused on how the learning team cycle facilitates collective efficacy and impacts instructional practice, then explored each of the

five stages: analyzing data, setting SMART goals, learning individually and collaboratively, implementing new learning, and monitoring, assessing, and adjusting practice.

Leaders explored their roles in supporting implementation of learning teams and factors that support meaningful collaboration, including vision and leadership, clear team goals, and commitment to collective responsibility. Coaches focused on a cycle of planning, implementing, modeling, co-teaching, observation, and reflection that supports teachers in transferring successful team learning into sustained practice.



Photo by MICHELLE BOWMAN
Sculpture at East Three Secondary School, Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

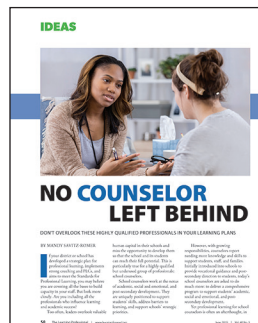
The work was sponsored by the Beaufort Delta Education Council, which serves eight communities in far northern Canada.

Twitter chat on school counselors

Learning Forward hosted a Twitter chat recently on the importance of professional learning for school counselors with experts Mandy Savitz-Romer of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Alice Anne Bailey of the Southern Regional Education Board.

The chat was based on Savitz-Romer's article in the June 2019 issue of *The Learning Professional*, "No counselor left behind." Guests and participants shared strategies for job-embedded professional learning with school counselors, resources about making counselors' roles and learning more strategic, and the value of the Standards for Professional Learning for counselors.

In case you missed it, you can read the chat using **#CollaborativePD**. To be notified of future Twitter chats, follow us **@LearningForward** and **#LearnFwdTLP**.



APPLY FOR THE 2019 LEARNING TEAM AWARD

We want to celebrate the great learning taking place in your school.

The Shirley Hord Teacher Learning Team Award honors a team of teachers that engages in a cycle of continuous improvement for professional learning that improves team members' own teaching and their students' learning.

To apply, submit a short video of your learning team in action along with the award application.

Learning Forward and award sponsor Corwin will celebrate the winning team at Learning Forward's 2019 Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. The winning team receives a cash gift of \$2,500 for the school, complimentary three-day registrations at the conference, airfare, and three hotel rooms for learning team members, and more.

The submission deadline is Oct. 26. Learn more and apply at **learningforward.org/get-involved/awards**.

FEATURED SOCIAL MEDIA POST



Kellie Ady @kellie80 Aug 23

The latest issue of *The Learning Professional* from @LearningForward is focused on personalizing learning (learningforward.org/journal/person...). The title and content reminded me of this powerful quote from @michaelbhorn:

Instead, I increasingly think of "personalizing learning" as a verb. Educators are personalizing learning for their students, or helping their students personalize their own learning. The key question right now shouldn't be about defining "it," but instead objectively observing, categorizing, and measuring the different ways educators and students are personalizing learning and understand which approaches are and are not getting the results they seek.

Follow us on social media. Share your insights and feedback about *The Learning Professional* by using **#LearnFwdTLP**.