

**Linda Laidlaw**  
Curriculum Vitae

January 2017

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**PERSONAL**

**Address and Telephone Numbers:**

Department of Elementary Education  
551 Education South  
Edmonton, Alberta  
CANADA T6G 2G5

Phone: 780.492.0884

Email: llaidlaw@ualberta.ca

**Degrees:**

**Ph.D** York University, 2001 (Language, Culture, Teaching)  
Dissertation title: Travelling by Text: An Inquiry into Writing,  
Learning, and Human Experience

**M.A.** Simon Fraser University, 1997 (Curriculum/Language Arts)  
Thesis title: Dangerous Writing: Life, Death and Curriculum

**B.Ed.** University of Toronto, 1989, (Primary/Junior)  
Dean's Honor List

**B.A.** University of Victoria, 1984 (Child and Youth Care)  
First Class

**Professional Qualification:** Permanent Professional Teaching Certificate (British Columbia,  
Ontario certification)

**Current Position:**

Current	Professor Department of Elementary Education Faculty of Education, University of Alberta
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**Previous Positions and Related Professional Experience:**

July 2015 – January 2016	Associate Professor and Faculty Director, Child Study Centre Department of Elementary Education Faculty of Education, University of Alberta
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July 2014 – July 2015	Associate Professor and Associate Chair, Graduate Department of Elementary Education Faculty of Education, University of Alberta
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July 2005 – July 2014	Associate Professor, Literacy Education
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Department of Elementary Education  
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta

July 2001 – 2005

Assistant Professor, Literacy Education  
Department of Elementary Education  
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta

Summer 2000

**Sessional Lecturer**, Simon Fraser University  
Faculty of Education, Graduate Studies  
Kamloops First Nations/Secwepemc Cultural Education Society  
Faculty of Education, Undergraduate Programs  
Kamloops First Nations/Secwepemc Cultural Education Society

Fall 1999

**Course Director**, York University  
Faculty of Education, Durham Consecutive Program

Fall - Spring  
1997/98

**Visiting Lecturer**, University of Victoria  
Faculty of Education, Department of Arts in Education  
• full-time instructor (5 sections - 2 semester course)

Sept. 1991  
- June 1997  
Oct. 1989  
- June 1990

**Teacher**, Burnaby School District, Burnaby, BC

**Teacher**, Vancouver Island North School District, Port Alice, BC

### **Administrative Experience**

July 2015 – January 2016

Faculty Director, Child Study Centre  
Department of Elementary Education, University of Alberta

July 2014 – July 2015

Associate Chair Graduate Program  
Department of Elementary Education, University of Alberta

### **Honors and Awards for Scholarship:**

Canadian Centre for Research on Literacy Fellowship 2009/2010 (\$8,000)

Language Arts Researchers in Canada, Masters Research Award, 2000 (\$500)

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

### **Publications**

#### Summary:

Books – 1  
Chapters in Books – 5  
Articles in Refereed Journals – 17  
Book Reviews – 2  
Conference Proceedings - 1  
Articles in Teachers' Professional Journals – 5  
Other Articles – 3  
Ministry of Education Publications – 1  
Refereed Conference Presentations – 1 Featured Symposium; 35 International; 14 National/Provincial  
Keynote Addresses – 1  
Invited International Presentations - 2  
Professional Workshops and Presentations – 21  
Works in Progress – 2

### **Funding**

#### Summary:

Research and Funding – 13 (\$446, 838)

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#### Books

Laidlaw, L. (2005). *Reinventing curriculum: A complex perspective on literacy and writing*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

#### Chapters in Books

Laidlaw, L., O'Mara, J. & Wong, S. (2015). "Daddy, look at the video I made on my iPad": Reconceptualizing 'Readiness' in the digital age. In J.M. Iorio & W. Parnell (Eds.), *Rethinking readiness in Early Childhood Education: Implications for policy and practice* (pp. 65-76). New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Laidlaw, L. & O'Mara, J. with Makovichuk, L. (2013). With rest and time and a little hope: Moving into virtual worlds through multi-modal literacy forms. In A. Goodwyn, L. Reid & C Durrant (Eds.), *International perspectives on teaching English in a globalized world* (pp. 223-234). London, UK: Taylor & Francis.

Sumara, D., Davis, B. & Laidlaw, L. (2011). Ecological postmodernism and curriculum theory: The example of Canada [reprint]. In D. Stanley & K. Young (Eds.), *Contemporary studies in Canadian curriculum: Principles, portraits and practices* (pp. 22-45. Calgary, AB: Detselig.

Laidlaw, L. (2010). Medical mayhem and miracles: A story of pediatric Lyme disease. In H. Ferrie (Ed.), *Ending denial: The Lyme disease epidemic: A public health disaster* (pp. 286–301). Caledon, ON: Kos Publishing).

Laidlaw, L. (2001). Commonplace books, commonplace Practices: Uncovering the bones of complex pedagogy. In J. Hoffman, D. Schallert, C. Fairbanks, J. Worthy & B. Maloch (Eds.), *50<sup>th</sup> Yearbook of the National Reading Conference*. Oak Creek, WI: National Reading Conference.

#### Articles in Refereed Journals

Laidlaw, L. & Wong, S. (2016). Complexity, pedagogy, play: On using technology within emergent learning structures with young learners. *Complicity: An International Journal of Complexity and Education* 13 (1): 3 – 42.

Laidlaw, L. & O'Mara, J. (2015). Rethinking difference in the iWorld: Possibilities, challenges and 'unexpected consequences of digital tools in literacy education. *Language & Literacy: A Canadian Educational E-journal. Special Issue: A Landscape View of Literacy Studies in Canada* 17 (2): 59 - 74. Available:  
<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/langandlit/issue/view/1684>

Laidlaw, L. & Wong, S. (2013). The trouble with "getting personal": New narratives for new times in classroom writing assignments. *English Teaching: Practice and Critique* 12(3):102-115. Available:  
<http://edlinked.soe.waikato.ac.nz/research/journal/view.php?article=true&id=864&p=1>

O'Mara, J. & Laidlaw, L. (2011). Living in the iWorld: Two literacy researchers reflect on the changing texts and literacy practices of childhood. *English Teaching: Practice and Critique* 10 (4): 149-159. Available:  
<http://edlinked.soe.waikato.ac.nz/research/journal/view.php?article=true&id=754&p=1>

Wong, S. & Laidlaw, L. (2011). An annotated bibliography of children's literature with adoption themes. *School Libraries in Canada (SLIC): A Journal of the Canadian Association for School Libraries* 29 (3). Available: <http://clatoolbox.ca/casl/slicv29n3/293adoption.html>

Laidlaw, L. (2010). New families, new texts: An exploration of viewing, text, and schooling from the perspective of being an 'other kind of family'. *Language & Literacy: A Canadian Educational E-journal* 12 (1): 76-96. Available:  
<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/langandlit/issue/view/586>

Laidlaw, L. (2006, Winter). Learning to "do family" differently: Towards more complex notions of family, culture, and schooling. *Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies*, 4 (2), 41-54. Available:  
[http://www.csse.ca/CACS/JCACS/V4N2/PDFContent/3.\\_laidlaw\\_4.2\\_jcacs\\_formatted.pdf](http://www.csse.ca/CACS/JCACS/V4N2/PDFContent/3._laidlaw_4.2_jcacs_formatted.pdf)

Laidlaw, L. (2004). On learning to write her name: An example of research informed by literary anthropology. *Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies (JCACS)* 2 (1), 197-210. Available: [http://www.csse.ca/CACS/JCACS/PDF%20Content/essay\\_laidlaw.pdf](http://www.csse.ca/CACS/JCACS/PDF%20Content/essay_laidlaw.pdf)

Laidlaw, L. (2004). On the importance of little details: Pedagogy, complexity, and emergence. *Educational Insights* 9 (1), 1-13. Available:  
<http://www.ccfi.educ.ubc.ca/publication/insights/v09n01/articles/laidlaw.html>

Laidlaw, L. (2003). Translated by text: A complex perspective on writing instruction. *English Quarterly* 35, no. 1: 9-13.

Sumara, D., Davis, B. & Laidlaw, L. (2001). Canadian identity and curriculum theory: An ecological postmodern perspective. *Canadian Journal of Education*, 26 (2), 144-163.

Laidlaw, L. (2001). Teaching at the edge: Drama and complexity. *Youth Theatre Journal* 15: 15-22.

Laidlaw, L. & Sumara, D.J. (2000). Transforming pedagogical time. *JCT: Journal of Curriculum Theorizing* 16, no. 1: 9-22.

Laidlaw, L. (1999). Taboo readings, willful girls. *Language and Literacy* 1 (1). Available: <http://www.langandlit.ualberta.ca/archives/vol11papers/taboo.htm>

Laidlaw, L. (1998). Finding 'real' lives: Writing and identity. *Language Arts* 75, no. 2: 126-131.

Laidlaw, L. (1996). Dangerous writing: Life, death, and curriculum. *Journal of Curriculum Theorizing* 12, no. 4: 44-46.

Laidlaw, L. (1996). Something revealed: A story of teacher as writer. *English Quarterly* 28, no. 2 & 3: 43-50.

#### Conference Proceedings

Laidlaw, L. (2003). The egg stories: A complex analysis of classroom experience. Proceedings of the 2003 Complexity and Educational Research Conference, October 16-18, Edmonton, Alberta: 201-206.

#### Other Articles

Laidlaw, L. (2014). Perspectives on diversity. Excerpt included in C. Peck, Elementary Social Studies instruction and student Diversity, in J. Andrews and J. Lupart, *Diversity education: Understanding and addressing student diversity*. Toronto: Cengage Nelson.

#### Ministry of Education Publications

*British Columbia Ministry of Education, English Language Arts K to 7, Integrated Resource Package*. (1996). Victoria, BC: The Queen's Printer. (Co-writer for the primary K-3 section).

#### Refereed Conference Presentations (selected)

##### Featured Symposia

Dec. 2014                      'Mobile touch-screen devices and techno-literacies: Emergent policies and practices in Canada and Australia.' Symposium presented with Jill Blackmore, Julianne Lynch, Joanne O'Mara, Terri Redpath, and Suzanna Wong, for the Joint Conference between the Australian Association for Research in Education and New Zealand Association for Research in Education, Brisbane, Australia.

## International

- July 2016 Navigating new digital divides in early literacy instruction. Paper presented with Suzanna Wong and Joanne O'Mara at the United Kingdom Literacy Association (UKLA), Bristol, UK.
- Apr. 2016 *Navigating new "digital divides" in early childhood: Home and school.* Paper presented with Suzanna Wong and Maureen Dockendorf at the 3rd Global Summit on Childhood, for the Association for Childhood Education International, San José, Costa Rica.
- Apr. 2016 *Children's digital practices at home and in school.* Electronic multimedia presentation presented with Suzanna Wong at the 3rd Global Summit on Childhood, for the Association for Childhood Education International, San José, Costa Rica.
- Apr. 2015 *Rethinking Literacy: Digital Devices and Practices at School and at Home with Young Learners.* Paper presented with Joanne O'Mara, Suzanna Wong and Maureen Dockendorf at the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Apr. 2015 *Mobile touch-screen devices and techno-literacies: Emergent policies and practices in Canada and Australia.* Symposium presented with Joanne O'Mara, Julianne Lynch, Terri Redpath, Jill Blackmore, Dennis Sumara, and Suzanna Wong, at the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Dec. 2014 *Digital Technology Policies in Canada and Australia: An Analysis of New Rules for 'New Tech.'* Paper presented with Joanne O'Mara, Jill Blackmore and Dennis Sumara, at the Joint Conference between the Australian Association for Research in Education and New Zealand Association for Research in Education, Brisbane, Australia.
- Dec. 2014 *"I Surprised My Mom with My New Twitter Account": Rethinking Normative Perspectives on Reading, Writing, and Disability in the Digital Era.* Paper presented with Joanne O'Mara and Dennis Sumara, at the Joint Conference between the Australian Association for Research in Education and New Zealand Association for Research in Education, Brisbane, Australia.
- April 2014 *Changing literacies in Changing Childhoods.* Paper presented with Suzanna Wong, Maureen Dockendorf and Joanne O'Mara at the ACEI Global Summit on Childhood, Vancouver, BC.
- Apr. 2013 *Complexity, pedagogy, play: On using technology within emergent learning structures with young learners.* Paper presented with Suzanna Wong at the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Dec. 2012 *Is there an app for that? Looking at possibilities and challenges of digital tools for literacy education.* Paper presented with Joanne O'Mara,

Suzanna Wong and Lee Makovichuk at the World Educational Research Association (WERA), Sydney, Australia.

- Dec. 2012 *Firsts, good wine and conversation: Emergence of ideas within an unconventional teacher research group.* Paper presented with Suzanna Wong, Lee Makovichuk, and Joanne O'Mara at the Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE), Sydney, Australia.
- July 2012 *On an emergent, ecological approach to narrative, drama and technology with young learners.* Paper presented with Lee Makovichuk at the International Innovations in ECE Forum: A Canadian Forum on Early Childhood Frameworks, Victoria, BC.
- May 2012 *The problem with getting personal: Why 'share your life story' assignments don't work for all students.* Paper presented with Suzanna So-Har Wong at Transcultural Dialogues II: Contemporary Educational Research in Canada and China, An International Symposium jointly organized by the Faculty of Education and the School of Education Science, East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB.
- Apr. 2012 *Shifting Spaces and pedagogical manoeuvres: Teacher experiences of space and place.* Symposium paper presented with Lee Makovichuk and Joanne O'Mara at the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, BC.
- April 2011 *Changing families, changing classrooms: An exploration of "new families" diversity, and teacher education.* Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans. LA.
- July 2010 *Diversity and change in Canadian families: Reflections from parents of Chinese international adoptees.* Paper presented at Transcultural Dialogues on Contemporary Educational Research in Canada and China," An International Symposium jointly organized by the Faculty of Education and the School of Education Science, East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC.

#### National and Provincial

- June 2016 "This is Your Brain On Devices": A Close Reading of Media Accounts of Children's Use of Digital Technologies and Classroom Practice, presented with Suzanna Wong at the Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, Calgary, AB.
- June 2015 Fear, surveillance and an expanding world of 'Unruly devices': Parent, educator and public perspectives on mobile technology for young learners. President's Spotlight Paper Session presented with Suzanna Wong at the Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, Ottawa, ON.

- June 2013 Old questions, new tools, shifting literacy practices for young learners. Paper presented with Suzanna Wong, Maureen Dockendorf and Carol Walters at the Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, Victoria, BC.
- June 2013 Rethinking difference in the iWorld: Possibilities, challenges and 'unexpected consequences' of digital tools in literacy education. Paper presented at the Language and Literacy Researchers of Canada (LLRC) CSSE Preconference, Victoria, BC.
- Oct. 2011 *Rethinking technology: On an emergent, ecological approach to narrative and technology with young learners.* Paper presented with Lee Makovichuk at the Canadian Association of Curriculum Studies 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Provoking Curriculum Conference, Edmonton, AB.
- May 2009 *Navigating family trees and baby pictures: The 'global' family goes to school.* Paper presented at the Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, Ottawa, ON.

#### Keynote Addresses

- Feb. 2003 *Structuring Literacy: Research in Early Learning and Teaching Practice.* Keynote presentation given for the Edmonton Regional Early Childhood Education Council, Edmonton, AB.

#### Works in Progress

#### Chapters

- O'Mara, J., Laidlaw, L. & Blackmore, J. (in press). The new digital divide: Digital technology policies and provision in Canada and Australia. In C. Burnett, G. Merchant, A. Simpson & M. Walsh (Eds.), *The case of the iPad: Mobile literacies in education*. London, UK: Springer.

#### **Funding**

##### Research and Funding (selected)

- 2016 Kule Institute for Advanced Study (KIAS) *International Perspectives on Children's Digital Media Practices*, Research Team Grant, cofounded by the Faculty of Education. Laidlaw, Canadian Lead Researcher and PI, with Felicitas Macgilchrist, Georg Eckert Institute, Braunschweig, German lead researcher, and Joanne O'Mara, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australian lead researcher. Amount: \$12500
- 2014 Kule Institute for Advanced Study (KIAS) Research Team Grant. Lead researcher for the Leibniz Association-University of Alberta Collaboration on Digital Media in Education, with Felicitas Macgilchrist, Georg Eckert Institute, Braunschweig, German lead researcher, and Joanne O'Mara, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australian lead researcher. Proposed



project draft title: Digital Practices: An International Comparative Exploration of Children's, Parents' and Teachers' Accounts and Experiences of engaging with digital Tools and Media. Amount: \$7,500.

- 2013 Principal Investigator for *A Comparative Investigation of Pedagogical Possibilities of Digital Tools for Family and School Early Literacy Education* (with Dennis Sumara, CI, Joanne O'Mara and Jill Blackmore, Col). Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC-IG – 4 year project). Amount: \$233,699
- 2011 & 2012 Roger Smith undergraduate student position award for *Changing Learning: A Study of Innovation and Schooling Practices*. Amount: \$5,000 X 2 = \$10,000
- 2011 Principal Investigator for *Literacy Learning in Playful Spaces: Using Multimodal Strategies to Develop Narrative with Young Children*. (with Joanne O'Mara, CI and Lee Makovichuk, Col). Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC-IDG). Amount: \$66,402
- 2004 Principal Investigator for *Changing Families, Changing Schools: A Study of International Adoption and Normative Structures in Education: Phase 1 of a Longitudinal Study* (with Dennis Sumara). Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Amount: \$85,067.

## Graduate Courses Taught

### University of Alberta

2014 Summer - Spring 2015	EDEL 599 – <i>Capstone Exercise</i>
2015 Winter	EDEL 561– <i>Process of Curriculum Development</i> (Online)
2014 Fall	EDEL 660 – <i>Advanced Research in Education</i>
2014 Summer & Fall	EDEL 599 – <i>Capstone Exercise</i>
2014 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i> (Online)
2014 Winter	EDEL 567 – <i>Introduction to Educational Research</i> (Online)
2013 Summer	EDEL 567 – <i>Introduction to Educational Research</i> (Online)
2013 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i> (Blended Instruction)
2012 Winter	EDEL 561– <i>Process of Curriculum Development</i> (Online)
2012 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>
2010 Spring	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i> (Blended Instruction)
2009 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>
2005 Summer	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>
2004	EDEL 900 – Graduate Capping Project Seminars (both semesters)
2003 Fall	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>
2003 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>
2002 Winter	EDEL 514 – <i>Early Literacy Development</i>

## Undergraduate Courses Taught

### University of Alberta

2011 Fall	EDEL 411— <i>Literacy Development through Drama and Literature</i>
2009 Fall	EDEL 404 – <i>Developing Literacy: Preschool to Grade 3</i>
2009 Fall	EDEL 408 – <i>Writing in the Elementary School</i>
2009 Winter	EDEL 305 - <i>Language Arts in the Elementary School</i>
2006 Fall	EDEL 404 – <i>Developing Literacy: Preschool to Grade 3</i>
2005 Fall & Winter	EDEL 404 – <i>Developing Literacy: Preschool to Grade 3</i>
2005 & 2006 Fall	EDEL 408 – <i>Writing in the Elementary School</i>
2004 Winter	EDEL 404 – <i>Developing Literacy: Preschool to Grade 3</i>
2003 Fall	EDEL 411 – <i>Literacy Development through Drama and Literature</i> (Blue Quills Aboriginal Teacher Education Programme)
2003 Winter	EDEL 404 – <i>Developing Literacy: Preschool to Grade 3</i>
2002 Fall	EDEL 305 – <i>Language Arts in the Elementary School</i> (Blue Quills Aboriginal Teacher Education Programme)
2002 Winter	EDEL 305 - <i>Language Arts in the Elementary School</i>
2001 Fall	EDEL 305 - <i>Language Arts in the Elementary School</i>

## Undergraduate/Graduate Combined Courses Taught

2016 Fall	EDEL 408 – <i>Writing in the Elementary School</i> / EDEL 515 – <i>Developing Writing Abilities</i>
2013 Fall	EDEL 411/595— <i>Literacy Development through Drama and Literature</i>
2012 Fall	EDEL 411/595— <i>Literacy Development through Drama and Literature</i>

## Media Interviews

- June 3, 2016 U of A professors say early coverage overreacted about risk to kids using smartphones, tablets. Salmaan Farooqui, Calgary Herald. Available: [http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/u-of-a-professors-say-early-coverage-of-kids-and-technology-overreacted-to-risk?utm\\_source=Daily%20News%20Email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Daily%20News:%20June%207,%202016&utm\\_content=1696550](http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/u-of-a-professors-say-early-coverage-of-kids-and-technology-overreacted-to-risk?utm_source=Daily%20News%20Email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20News:%20June%207,%202016&utm_content=1696550)
- June 1, 2016 Interview with host Portia Clark on CBC Radio's Radio Active on "This is your brain on devices", research presented at CSSE
- Sept. 2, 2014 "Technology in the Classroom," Global News. Available: <http://globalnews.ca/video/1540277/technology-in-the-classroom>
- Aug. 27, 2014 Edmonton students urged to "Bring Your Own Device" for new school year." Metro Edmonton. Available: <http://metronews.ca/news/edmonton/1138639/edmonton-students-urged-to-bring-your-own-device-for-new-school-year/>