



## Could this be Grace?



PRESENTED BY

**Dr. Dianne McConnell**



SERIES SESSIONS

Date	Time
January 26, 2023	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM



LOCATION

**Zoom Online Meeting - Zoom**

FEE

**\$20.00**

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us:

**403-381-5580**

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit our website to register:

**sapdc.ca**

### Learning Opportunity

At some point in our lives, most of us will encounter adverse experiences in some form or other. These experiences likely interrupt our comfortable and safe daily routines and can be unpleasant and painful. Could This Be Grace is a powerful story about Dianne's personal journey through multiple adverse experiences created by raising two boys who died from a devastating, very rare genetic disease. She describes many of her experiences as painful, crushing, breath-stealing moments that had a huge impact on her life and the lives of family members. The lessons Dianne learned as a result of her situation had a positive impact on her life as a parent and as a teacher.

LEARN HOW...

- Adverse experiences impact our quality of life
- Asking a simple question helps us see opportunity in the face of adversity
- The experience of an adverse situation challenges or threatens our identity
- To regain hope when you are feeling that you have lost it

TQS: #4 Establishing Inclusive Learning Environments

LQS: #9 Understanding and Responding to the Larger Societal Context

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### Presenters

## Dr. Dianne McConnell

Dianne began her career as a teacher with the Parkland School Division. She has completed her PhD in Special Education and is also a registered psychologist. She has worked as a Vision Consultant (Teacher for the Visually Impaired), Director of Student Services at multiple school divisions, led the Alberta Provincial initiative for inclusion (Setting the Direction) and has been the Associate Superintendent with Parkland School Division over the past eight years. While her list of career accomplishments is indeed extensive, perhaps more important has been her role as a parent. She is also the mother of three children, two of which have complex health conditions, including vision loss. She has been involved in advocacy in the field of Blindness and Visual Impairment at both the provincial and national levels for over 30 years. Dianne brings a unique perspective to this subject matter. Through her experience as an educator and a parent of children with severe disabilities, she is well-versed on the ongoing challenges families and practitioners face in dealing with complex situations. She has worked as a service provider and has also been the benefactor of service provision. She has been a dedicated advocate throughout her career and is passionate about making a difference for children and their families.



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## Registration Notes

This learning opportunity is possible through funding from Alberta Education.



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