

## Feedback from Past ELF Forums 2007- 2015

"I have known Lyall since 2008 when he was a key planner and instigator of the Education Leaders Forums (ELF). He is smart and articulate around the educational issues that matter most and in my experience works hard to create events that connect interesting thinkers and doers." **Pam Hook, Director, Hooked on Thinking**

"Hi Lyall, I just wanted to say thanks for a great couple of days we have had at ELF. We really enjoyed our time with you and have come away with many thoughts and ideas to follow up on." **Liz Rhodes, Principal, Brooklyn School**

"Thanks for a very enlightening 2 days. I really appreciated the opportunity to mix with such a talented bunch of people." **Glenys Rogers, Principal, Mangaroa School**

"Thanks for a motivating few days." **Shirley Maihi, Principal, Findlayson Park School**

"A wonderful opportunity to network with leaders and think about new ways of learning for the future. Many thanks." **Karen Payne, Support earthquake, CHCH Catholic Education office**

"Great to have a cross-sector conference". **Gigi Hollyer, President, Central Otago Kindergarten Association**

"Congratulations on a great programme and well organised conference...." **Deborah James, Independent Schools of NZ**

"Enjoyable and worthwhile being able to converse and listen to different education sectors." **Angela Jacobson, Manager, Central Otago Kindergarten Association**

"Very good different ways of collaborating solving problems of leadership, ways forward. Really provoking thoughts for future learning. A wonderful balance of speakers." **Wendy Hansen, Senior Leader, Finlayson Park School**

"Great opportunity to some interesting perspectives on leadership and to engage with people in education with such interesting stories." **Anthony Fisher, Senior Lecturer, University of Waikato**

"Thought Provoking - good networking. Thoroughly enjoyed workshop - Helen Baxter, listening to students-refreshing." **Sandra Carley, AP, Finlayson Park School**

"I enjoyed the opportunity to participate and wish I had been able to spend more time there as the discussions were fascinating." **Louise Upston, Member of Parliament, Taupo**

"Thank you for the presenters who shared their knowledge and areas of expertise in this conference. The organisation committee for selecting a variety of workshops and papers, I have learnt a lot, something that I have to use and adapt in my own practice, to make changes in the educational environment." **Saili Aukuso, Senior Leader, Finlayson Park School**

"Very good, I came here to support this conference this is the 3rd one I've attended. Keep up the good work." **Kenneth Kennedy, Kaumatua, Waiariki Institute of Technology**

"Most enjoyed the 'working together' - breakout into groups, sharing ideas and experiences. Also enjoyed the mix of providers in the room - helps us to appreciate the pathways." **Christa George, Director Support Services, Waiariki Institute of Technology**

"This has been a unique experience for me. I have felt stimulated, challenged, respected. Thank you. Re Paul Dalziel - startling - beyond my expectation. Thank you for giving me this opportunity..." **Trudy Francis, C21 Learning Director**

"Was a wonderful sharing Learning Community. Gained a lot of stimulating knowledge from "all levels of Education and beyond -great to interact with so many various field. Was awesome thank you very much. Thanks so much really worthwhile and valuable to ECE too, especially 'Leadership' concepts." **Toni New, Manager/Early Childhood Teacher, Creative Kids Preschool**

"Well done, a successful event - you have my 'buy in' - met with new 'colleagues'." **Pam O'Connell, GM Consulting, Learning Media Ltd**

"Loved the waiata - what a moment. Thanks very much." **Kevin Ward, DP, Berhampore School, Wellington**

*"Some relevant guest speakers - insightful approaches discussed to support leadership strategies."*  
**Ngaira Hawker-Wilcox, Team Leader Waiariki Institute of Technology**

*"The structure was appropriate - liked the collab concept. Overall a relevant and stimulating experience. Well organised and run - thanks."* **Ross Hanna, Manager Evaluation Services, ERO**

*"Very successful team, Well done. I like and enjoyed the analogy and alignment of thinking."*  
**Pat Street, Manager Programmes and Learning , CHCH City Libraries**

*"Very inspiring with a diverse yet connected group of presenters. I will certainly recommend this as a most relevant conference to my colleagues."* **Jan Allott, AP, Glenview School, Hamilton**

*"Very good two days. Thank you to the team for the efforts in organising this conference/forum. Much appreciated."* **Joanna Leaman, SNR Advisor, RSNZ**

*"ELF provided me with that opportunity to think, that is often too difficult to find in everyday practice."*  
**Brigid McPherson, Lecturer, Waiariki Institute of Technology**

*"An excellent experience and look forward to returning next year. Excellent mind blowing. Re collabs - Fantastic group of expertise to work with."* **Greg Smith, Numeracy coordinator, Rutherford College**

*"I felt a little out of my depth. As a newcomer to leadership, it was very challenging but hugely valuable to network with some very 'rich' people."* **Tanya Thorogood, Head of Literacy, Rutherford College**

*"Excellent organisation."* **Gaye Tyler-Merrick, Past President Kidsfirst Kindergarten Association**

*" I was lucky enough to attend most of the presentations this year and found the forum to be very well run with great content. Look forward to seeing you next year."* **Mark Bloor, IT Manager, Waiariki Institute of Technology**

*"Enlightening, thought provoking. Meeting other from across the sectors a highlight."*  
**Beverley Purdie, Principal, Tauhara Primary School, Taupo**

*"It was stimulating to have the opportunity to hear from and talk with people from so many different sectors. It has given me real insights into the broader picture. Many thanks for a great event."*  
**Lesley Elia, Principal, Glenbrae School, Rotorua**

*"My first ELF. Excellent speakers. Thank you to wonderful organizers and our Maori Hosts. I very much appreciated the opportunity to connect with and learn from my peers throughout our wide education sector. Kia ora Tatou."*  
**Rosemary Searle, Professional Services Manager, Auckland Kindergarten Association**

*"Thank you. Thoroughly enjoyed the two days. Event management excellent."*  
**Maureen Kerr, Leadership and Management Adviser, Christchurch Catholic Education Office.**

*"I have had an amazing 2 days - thank you."*  
**Liz Rhodes, Associate Principal, Brooklyn School, Wellington**

*"Great key note speakers; we don't need overseas speakers!"*  
**Mary Day, Assessment and Evaluation Manager, The Correspondence School**

*"My first ELF experience. I was overwhelmed by it - totally new level of thinking about education. Lots of challenging points/issues to think about discuss and act upon."*  
**Liana Te Hau, Senior Teacher, Glenholme Primary School, Rotorua**

*"Really enjoyed the Knowledge Café format - increased my understanding of the work and issues of fellow participants. Thank you for providing the lovely Sandra and her people mover! The people from ELF's backroom were fantastic."* **Jenny Hayes, Manager, Early Childhood Services, The Correspondence School**

*"Exceeded expectations."* **Anne Cameron, Deputy Principal, Tauhara Primary School**

*"Well done - extremely useful. I would like to express my thanks to you all for a marvellous two days - one of the best education conferences I have attended."* **John Horsley, Head of School, Accounting & Management, Faculty of Business, MIT**

*"Congratulations on a great conference. My folk came back very enthused and full of praise and we were very pleased to be such a large part of it. I have seen the excellent compendiums with the Cognition Logo that were given to conference participants....."*  
**Dr John Langley ONZM, Chief Executive, Cognition Education Limited**

*"I thought the conference was fantastic - one of the most stimulating I have been to for a long time. The programme mix was great; it flowed well and it really was a leaders' forum given those who were there. I'm sure the Forum will now have a reputation as the unique place where a very wide range of people across the education sectors can get together and gain an understanding of where the world is going both in their sector but more importantly beyond the sector."*

**Neil Lancaster, Steering Team, Education Leaders Forum 09**

*"Really like to see more early childhood input/ involvement to improve cross sector dialogue and sharing etc."*

**Jean Sunko , Manager Early Childhood Services, Victoria University**

*"Thank you for the opportunity to provide an early childhood perspective. It was interesting hearing the diverse perspectives, and the keynote speakers were top quality."*

**Jenny Ritchie, Associate Professor Early Childhood Teacher Education, Unitec NZ**