

## **Celebrating Great Teaching Retreat**

In many respects, the title Great Teaching is misleading. This seminar is not so much an assembly of great teachers as it is a group of dedicated faculty in search of great teaching.

Date: May 14-16, 2012

Place: Isaiah Tubbs Resort  
Picton, Ontario

### **Who will benefit?**

Teachers who:

- have more than five years of teaching experience
- are comfortable with collaborative learning
- are comfortable with an open-ended learning environment
- are willing to share their teaching experiences and resources
- are open to new ideas
- are comfortable working in a multi-disciplinary environment

### **Underlining beliefs/philosophy**

- Assumes that within a group of experienced faculty there are the resources needed to develop and present a seminar on issues related to teaching
- Allows for participants to create an agenda of issues and to design a format that allows for the working through of those issues
- It is a concept that recognizes that significant levels of excellent teaching occurs within the college system and that faculty, given the opportunity, can be a valuable resource to each other
- Gottshall suggests that placing the participants in a relaxed and unstructured environment enhances the process. Hence, the retreat-like nature of the program

### **Goals**

- to celebrate great teaching
- to stimulate creative problem solving
- to explore new ideas
- to renew self both professionally and personally
- to capture the expertise of seasoned faculty
- to showcase best practices

### **What to Expect...**

David Gottshall, an American college teacher, is credited with the development of the Great Teachers concept more than three decades ago. It is a simple concept that uses adult learning principles to capture and build on the experience and expertise that participants bring to the seminar. Certain procedures and ground rules that have been developed in the great teacher movement over the past thirty years guarantee a positive and productive experience for all who attend.

Participants share teaching experiences as identified in two very brief papers prepared before the seminar. From the discussion and processing of these experiences, themes and issues relevant to the group are identified and prioritized. Finally, a series of activities are organized to facilitate the sharing of resources and promote creative thinking and problem solving to address the issues and topics.



## The Site

**Isaiah Tubbs** offers relaxation, activities, spectacular sunsets and great accommodation choices.

The resort offers walking trails, private beach, outdoor heated pool and lots of country charm.

Fabulous dining on-site and easy access to the antique shops, wineries, galleries, events and festivals that make the County a year round delight.

For more information, and for directions, visit the website at:

[isaiahtubbs.com](http://isaiahtubbs.com)

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For more information, and to register, please visit the website:

<http://www.algonquincollege.com/retreat/>

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