

The Pruning Principle: How Strategic Subtraction Can Unlock Meaningful Progress



PRESENTED BY

Dr. Simon Breakspear



SERIES SESSIONS

| Date | Time |
|------------------|-------------------|
| October 22, 2025 | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM |



LOCATION

WinSport - 88 Canada Olympic Road SW

FEE

\$175.00

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us:

calgary@aplc.ca

[403-291-0967](tel:403-291-0967)

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit our website to register:

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Learning Opportunity

Target Audience: K-12 System leaders, administrators, instructional leaders and lead teachers are encouraged to attend.

What if the answer to inducing positive change in our teams, organisations, and systems lies in doing less but better?

Educators and school leaders are overloaded and exhausted, caught in a relentless cycle of adding more commitments, programmes, and initiatives without considering what to remove. This workshop challenges the assumption that improvement always means doing more and makes the case for strategic subtraction—focusing on less but better. Participants will explore The Pruning Principle, learning to streamline efforts, create space for what truly matters, and build the discipline to subtract with purpose.

Participants will learn to:

- Unravel the misguided tendency to keep adding more.
- Surface the power of strategic subtraction and unpack the 3 phases of the pruning cycle
- Explore how to apply The Pruning Cycle across roles and contexts.
- Use simple strategies and practical tools to run pruning experiments.
- Recognise why pruning requires courage, creativity, and collective action.

This one-day workshop provides a bold and practical approach to rethinking priorities, ensuring leaders can cut through the noise, refocus energy, and drive meaningful, sustainable improvement. There will be time to engage in collaborative decision-making with colleagues and make commitments to small, manageable changes.

Presenters

Dr. Simon Breakspear

Dr. Simon Breakspear is a globally recognised researcher, advisor, and speaker on educational leadership, policy, and change. As founder of Strategic Schools, he develops frameworks, tools and programs that make evidence-based ideas actionable and easy to understand. Over the last decade, his capability-building work has given him the opportunity to work with over 100,000 educators across more than ten countries.

Simon is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer in the School of Education at UNSW and the author of *Teaching Sprints: How Overloaded Educators Can Keep Getting Better*. He has been an advisor to the NSW Department of Education and sits on the expert steering committee for the Australia Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL). Simon holds a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Cambridge, where he was a Gates Scholar. He began his work in education as a high school teacher.

Registration Notes

Lunch will be provided.



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