



## Avis E. Glaze

International Education Adviser &  
Former Ontario Education Commissioner  
Website: [avisglaze.ca](http://avisglaze.ca).

Avis Glaze, one of Canada's outstanding educators, is known as an international leader in her field. With experience at the K-12 and post-secondary levels, as education officer in the Ontario Ministry of Education and as research coordinator at the Ontario Women's Directorate, she has worked with educators, policy makers, politicians and parents in some 50 jurisdictions worldwide to assist with educational reform. She knows first hand

what world class education looks like.

Avis has received numerous international awards for her work in areas such as curriculum, leadership development, character development, assessment and evaluation practices. She was awarded the prestigious Robert Owen Award, the first of its kind offered in Scotland. She was the first K-12 educator to receive the Order of Ontario for contributions to education and was sent to South Africa by the Canadian government to assist with education reform and national reconstruction at the invitation of Nelson Mandela in 1994. She was Founding CEO at the Ontario Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat which was established to improve student learning and achievement. The Rotary Club of Ladner, of which she is a member, recently named her "Rotarian of the Year" for her contributions to education and community. The King Charles 111 Coronation Medal was presented to her by her M.P. "in recognition of her valuable contribution to community and country."

Over the years, Avis has provided many scholarships including those for outstanding African Canadian students. She sponsored the Avis Glaze Scholarships with the Markham African Caribbean Association for university and college education, and a scholarship for a teacher at the University of Ottawa. Her support for the arts motivated her to provide a music scholarship at the Ontario Royal Conservatory of Music. Her commitment to volunteerism includes serving on the Board of Beedie Luminaries whose generous scholarships provide wrap-around support for promising students with financial challenges.

Avis was the only K-12 educator on Ontario's landmark Royal Commission on Learning. Many of the recommendations which were implemented have had lasting impact on education policy foundations. These include the reform of secondary education; parent-friendly report cards; mandatory community service for high school students; expansion of apprenticeship programs; school-to work initiatives; prior learning assessment guidelines; review of special education programs; Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test; guidance and career development; student trustees; codes of conduct; mandatory school councils; The Ontario College of Teachers and the establishment of the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) to provide curriculum-based assessments in selected grades.

Dr. Glaze's publications include articles and books such as *Breaking Barriers: Excellence and Equity for All*, *High School Graduation: K-12 Strategies that Work* and *Reaching the Heart of Leadership; Lessons Learned, Insights Gained, Actions Taken*, which was translated into Norwegian.

Academically, Avis has completed two master of education programs and a doctorate in education as well as courses in the assessment of emotional intelligence, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), "soft skills" implementation and Hattie's visible learning strategies. She was invited to present a keynote address to over 50,000 participants in 87 countries at the 2022 World Education Summit and was described by Peter Dewitt as "one of 18 women all educators should know."

As an educator, Avis exhorts us to continue to improve student learning and achievement with a sense of urgency. Her mantra remains: "the children cannot wait."