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# Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention Association

December 2021  
Newsletter

March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

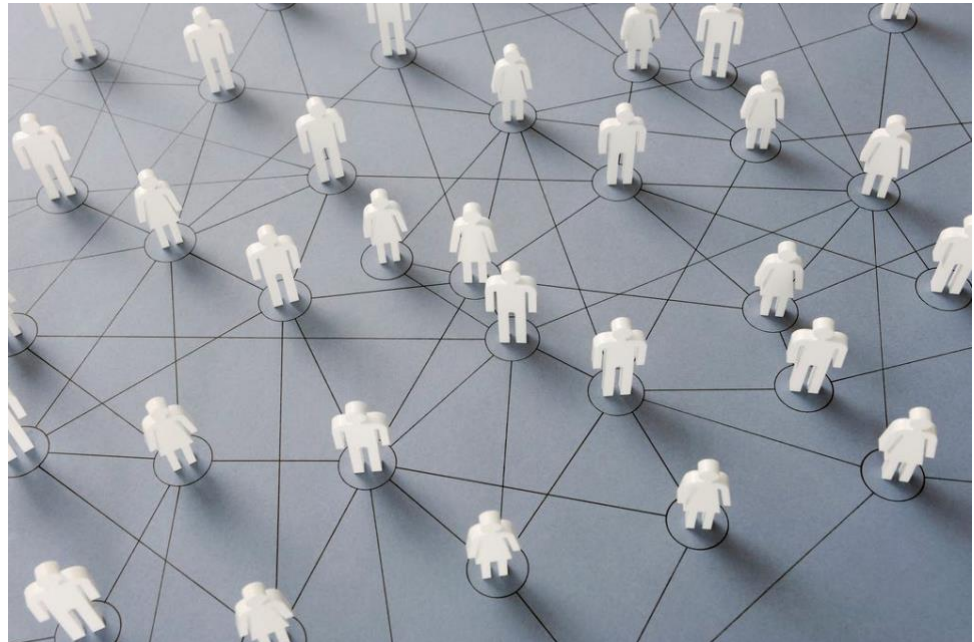
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(program will be available in February)

## Virtual Convention - Round 2!

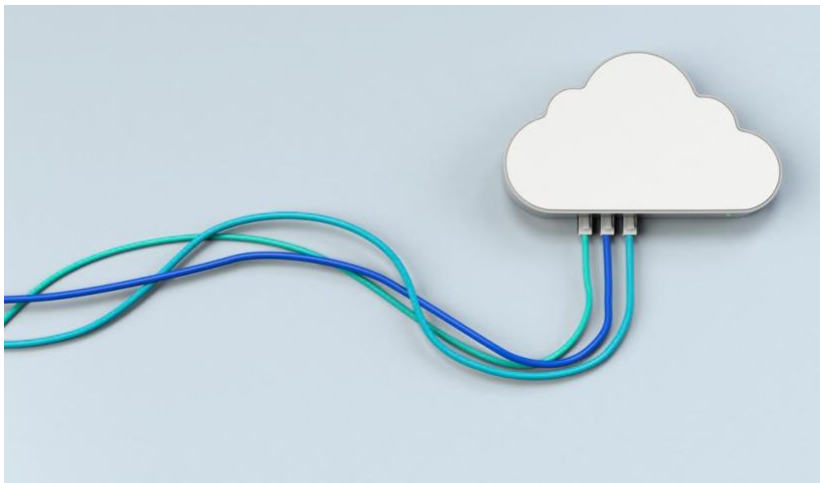
- Jodie Dell, MPTCA President

Dear MPTC Teachers,

My name is Jodie Dell and I am the President for the Mighty Peace Teachers Convention. I have been representing teachers of the Greater Peace Local as a board member for MPTCA since 2012 in various roles from Program Committee for 4 years, 3 years as Program Chair and now this being year 3 as President. I have worked for HFCRD in Peace River since 2008, teaching various Jr. High level courses of English, Social, and Religion. This year I have moved to teaching all subjects for Grade 6. So more than ever, I need excellent PD to help build my confidence in the new subject areas. Being part of the MPTCA board has allowed me to discover many inspiring professionals and I know I will get something to take back to my classroom.

As a board we have one year under our belt on offering a virtual convention, and we are excited to do it again. Although we truly do miss being in person and socializing we want to provide a safe situation to gain professional development.

I would like to express a sincere thank you to all teachers who are putting themselves out there by being leaders and submitting session proposals to support professional growth amongst our peers. Your skills, knowledge and expertise are greatly appreciated. Finally, I want to thank our strong team of board members who work tirelessly in order to offer all teachers in Northwest Alberta a fantastic and purposeful 2022 Convention!



## Friday's Keynote

Bev Busson

**One of Canada's most powerful women, Bev draws on her years of experience with the RCMP to demonstrate why she feels women are natural born leaders.**

Being one of the first female members of the RCMP, back in 1974 when she joined, Bev will explore how the most valuable attributes of a truly effective leader are to know that kindness and authority, as well as empathy and strength are not opposing terms.

## Thursday's Keynote

Aaron Paquette

**In great demand, Aaron is an engaging, exciting, and inspiring speaker and gives generously of his spirit in laughter, joy, and learning.**

Aaron, one of Canada's best-known First Nations, Métis and Inuit personalities, will reveal the truth of Canada's identity. A best-selling author, he will answer hot topic questions such as "What does reconciliation mean?", "Who is it for?", "How do we get there?" as well as how teachers can affect the change needed in our K through 12 classrooms.

## Surprise Keynote Sponsored by Morgex

Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe

**Dr. Robyne will be joining us for breakfast from 7:45 to 8:45 on Thursday to discuss the ever-elusive work/life balance.**

She comes highly recommended and will be sharing strategies on how to master life with work integration for optimal performance and wellness. For those who enjoy sleeping in, her session will be recorded and can be watched at a later time.



# 2021-2022 MPTCA Board Members

**President** - Jodie Dell, [mptcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:mptcpresident@gmail.com)

**Past President** - Gerald Logan, [glogan@me.com](mailto:glogan@me.com)

**Vice President** - Debbie Harris,  
[mptconvention@gmail.com](mailto:mptconvention@gmail.com)

**Program Chair** - Melissa Putman,  
[mptcprogramchair@gmail.com](mailto:mptcprogramchair@gmail.com)

**Program Assistants** - Annie Forney & Genevieve  
Payeur

**Treasurer** - Chantal Gallant,  
[mptcatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mptcatreasurer@gmail.com)

**Secretary** - Ashleigh Barsalou,  
[secretary.mptca@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.mptca@gmail.com)

**Communications Director** - Suzanne Ross,  
[mptcainfo@gmail.com](mailto:mptcainfo@gmail.com)

**Displays Chair** - Tasha Zboya-Keith,  
[mptcdisplays@gmail.com](mailto:mptcdisplays@gmail.com)

**Social Director** - Josie Thibeault,  
[mptca.social@gmail.com](mailto:mptca.social@gmail.com)

**Social Assistant** - Susan Hauser

**Board Members** - Dena Lanktree, Jeanne Lawrence &  
Janet Wallentiny

**Moderator Coordinator** - Heather McIlroy

**ATA District Representative** - Peter MacKay,  
[peter.mackay@ata.ab.ca](mailto:peter.mackay@ata.ab.ca)

**ATA Professional Development Staff Officer** -  
Monique Gravel, [monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca](mailto:monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca)

**ARPDC Representative** - Sandra Ciurysek,  
[sandra.ciurysek@arpdc.ab.ca](mailto:sandra.ciurysek@arpdc.ab.ca)

**NWARTA Representative** - Joan Godbout,  
[nwarta.president@gmail.com](mailto:nwarta.president@gmail.com)

# Protocol for Convention Attendance

1. All active members of the Alberta Teachers' Association under contract to public, separate, and Francophone school divisions have legal as well as professional obligations to attend the annual teachers' convention to which they are assigned.
2. Members are expected to consider their convention dates as a professional priority when planning for the school year and as an essential component of their ongoing professional development.
3. School divisions, Association subgroups, school staff and individual teachers shall not organize any activities on convention dates that conflict with members' obligations to attend their assigned convention. Any activities so scheduled may be contrary to the Education Act.
4. No person at the school or division level has the authority to direct a member to not attend their assigned convention. Requests from members regarding the use of negotiated leave provisions may be approved only by those personnel specified in the member's collective agreement. All other requests concerning convention attendance must be made to the Association.
5. Although worthy enterprises, the following are not sufficient reasons for requesting to be absent from convention:
  - School, division, or government meetings/events
  - Travel for school, division, or government meetings or events
  - Supervision of school field trips, activities or exchanges
  - Volunteering or other employment
  - Personal meetings, events, travel or recreation
  - Self-directed study, university classes, course work or research
  - Individual or group planning, marking, or administrative work
  - Diploma exam marking or provincial curriculum writing
6. In exceptional circumstances, members may contact the Association to request release from their convention attendance obligations or to seek permission to attend a convention other than the one to which they are assigned or to attend alternate PD during the dates of their assigned Convention. Requests will only be considered from those members who meet all eligibility criteria and application deadlines. Members must complete and submit an online application through the Association's website at least six weeks before the dates of their assigned convention (January 27th, 2022). Late requests may be considered in some cases. Applications will be reviewed and either approved or denied by the Association's convention lead, whose decision is final. The online application form can be accessed at <https://ATA.smapply.ca>.
7. Unless released from their convention attendance obligations, a charge of unprofessional conduct under the Teaching Profession Act and/or Association discipline bylaws may be lodged against any active member who fails to attend their assigned convention. School divisions have the right to deduct pay from any teacher who is absent from their assigned convention without proper authorization.
8. For the purposes of defining convention attendance in relation to negotiated assignable time limits, Joint Interpretation Bulletin No. 1-2017 (August 25, 2017) between the Association and the Teacher's Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) states, "Six (6) hours are allotted to each day of Teachers' Convention".
9. The ATA Code of Professional Conduct, Items 18 and 19, state:
  18. The teacher acts in a manner which maintains the honour and dignity of the profession.
  19. The teacher does not engage in activities which adversely affect the quality of the teacher's professional service. The teachers' choice of convention attendance location must be considered with respect to maintaining the honour and dignity of the profession, and with respect to the effect on their professional service.