

Transforming Education

March 8 & 9, 2012



2012 Keynote Speakers



Tod Maffin

Tod Maffin is one of the country's go-to commentators on the impact of accelerated technological change and innovation on business and economic environments. One of Canada's podcasting pioneers, Maffin writes a blog that is followed by thousands of people in the media, technology and business communities around the world. He continues to report on national technology trends on CBC Radio and is the past host of *todradio dot com* and *Real Life Chronicles*. Tod Maffin's comprehensive understanding of Generation Y, high-velocity change and competition, hyper-innovation, and the accelerating pace of the world around

us offers teachers an insider's viewpoint of what the world holds in store and what lurks around the corner — whether it's six months, a year, or ten years away. His energetic, upbeat, jargon-free and highly entertaining presentation style ensures that audiences are not only captivated and engaged, but entertained and motivated.

Learn more about Tod online at todmaffin.com and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/todmaffin).

Wavelength

Wavelength was created in 1980 by Jim Winter, a former high school English teacher, after sitting through one too many boring staff development days. Since then, Wavelength has won acclaim from audiences around the world for its comedic focus on the serious issues in education and has performed for over one million people in educational organizations worldwide, including being a featured presenter at numerous educational conferences. Featuring a diverse cast of actors, Wavelength offers a fresh perspective on the key challenges in education today. Their programs are founded on the tenet that humour heals and enlightens. Wavelength will be performing [The Sense of Humor](#) as a session and for the closing keynote they will be presenting [The Seven Habits of Highly Ineffective Teachers](#).



Find them online at www.wavelengthinc.com, www.wavelengthplus.com and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wavelengthinc).

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- MPTCA Email: mptconvention@gmail.com
- Program Chair Email: kmcdace@hotmail.com
- Display Chair Email: nancyevans@gpcsd.ca

The 2012 convention program will be available online in February 2012.

Check the website mptca.teachers.ab.ca for more information.

You can also join our group on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mptca) for notifications!

2011-2012 CONVENTION BOARD

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RAISE MONEY FOR RIGHTS

Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention Association president, Julie Gummesen, and her grade 5/6 class from Rosary School in Manning would like to invite teachers to donate and recycle their old cell phones. Proceeds from the recycled cell phones are donated to Amnesty International to support human rights in Canada and around the world. There will be a box at the convention office, located in the GP Composite High School, for teachers to leave their cell phone donations. Please ensure that the phone is functional. For your peace of mind, please erase any data or photos on your device. The recycling company will test the device and wipe out any information stored in it.



How does it help Amnesty International?

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Every phone that is recycled raises much needed dollars to support Amnesty International. Your old Apple iPhone and iPad can help us raise up to \$300 each. Your old BlackBerry can help us earn up to \$130 each, and those unwanted smartphones and cell phones can help raise anywhere from \$1 to \$40. As well as raising money to protect and promote human rights, recycling also prevents your old cell phone from ending up in a land-fill site, where harmful chemicals can leak into the environment. It's a win-win situation!

Attendance Policy and Information About Being Absent From Convention

Teachers are obligated, professionally and legally, to attend and participate in teachers' convention. Section 78(1)(d) of the School Act defines "teaching day" to include the two days per year on which teachers' conventions are held. These days are for attending sessions at the convention authorized by the Alberta Teachers' Association. Convention days are, by law, teaching days for which teachers receive pay.

School boards have the right to deduct pay from teachers absent from convention without legitimate reason, and in fact, have done so. A charge of unprofessional conduct under Association discipline bylaws may also be lodged against a teacher who fails to attend and participate in teachers' convention.

- **If you are sick (or cannot attend convention for other personal reasons)** then the provisions in the collective agreement apply and you must follow the same procedures for obtaining sick leave (or other forms of leave) that you would if it was a normal teaching day.
- **Any teacher wishing to engage in other professional development activity** during teachers' convention must contact the attendance chairperson of the convention board. This person, in

conjunction with the attendance committee, will make a judgment regarding the request. Requests to be absent from the Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention for **reasons of alternate professional development** are to be made via written letter prior to **January 15, 2012**.

- **Any teacher required to coach at an ASAA Provincial Finals Event** during teachers' convention must complete the form available on either the ASAA or MPTCA website and send it to the attendance chairperson of the convention board.

Letters and forms can be sent to:

**Adrian Tanasichuk
12409-97B Street
Grande Prairie, AB
T8V 7K4**

or by fax to Adrian at **780-402-3982** or by email to **adriantanasichuk@pwsd76.ab.ca** and **stephmackay07@gmail.com** (please send the email to both members)

Other Convention Information

- There will be various vendors in the large and small gyms. **Display hours are Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**
- If you need to stay in a hotel during convention you should book your room soon. Sometimes there are other conventions taking place in Grande Prairie at the same time.
- There are staff and students in the schools where sessions are held who have peanut allergies so please do not bring food items with peanuts in them.
- We are very fortunate to be able to use the schools to host sessions. Please be courteous and treat the spaces like you would expect others to treat your classroom.
- We are trying to reduce waste created during convention. This year we are encouraging teachers to bring their own reusable coffee and water containers.
- Children are not allowed to attend convention. Please find childcare for them. Muskoseepi Park usually runs a day camp for the two days of convention but it does fill up quickly. Call (780) 538-0451 or e-mail musko_contact@cityofgp.com for details.
- The Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention Association will be providing teachers with lanyards that they will be able to place their ATA member card in. Stay tuned for more information!