



# March 7 & 8, 2019



## MIGHTY PEACE TEACHERS' CONVENTION

Nov. 18, 2018

### Inside this issue:

Message from the President	1
First-Aid & Mental Health First Aid Update	1
2018-19 MPTCA Board Members	2
Thursday Opening Keynote	2
Attendance Policy	3
Friday Opening Keynote	3

### Message from the President

My name is Chantal Gallant. As you may have heard, I am the new President of the Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention Association. I wish to take this time to introduce myself.

I have been representing teachers of the Trumpeter Local as a board member and secretary for MPTCA since 2013. I am the Grade 6 Late Entry French Immersion Teacher for École Montrose with the Grande Prairie Public School District. Professional Development is a true passion of mine! I love learning and being inspired. Being part of the MPTCA board has allowed me to discover many inspiring professionals. I am genuinely looking forward to having the opportunity to connect with you all in March. I would like to express a sincere thank you to all teachers who are putting themselves out there by being leaders and submit 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 2019 Convention!

- Chantal Gallant

### Connect with MPTCA

Email: [mptconvention@gmail.com](mailto:mptconvention@gmail.com)

Twitter: [#mptc2019](https://twitter.com/mptconvention)

Facebook Group: [Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention](https://www.facebook.com/MightyPeaceTeachersConvention)

Website: [mptca.teachers.ab.ca](http://mptca.teachers.ab.ca)

2019 Program Session Proposals are now being selected and contracts are being sent out. An email will be sent out to anyone who sent in a proposal. Our focus for choosing sessions this year was their alignment to the new Teaching Quality Standards (TQS).

### First Aid and Mental Health First Aid Training Update

Please be advised that the First Aid Training will now be alternating each year with the Mental Health First Aid Training. MPTC 2019 will offer the First Aid Training. MPTC 2020 will offer the Mental Health First Aid Training. This alternating approach is to support the needs of all our teachers. If you are looking to renew your First Aid Training at the MPTC 2020, you may want to consider signing up to do it in 2019 because the First Aid Training will not be offered again until MPTC 2021.



# 2018-2019 Convention Board

## President

Chantal Gallant -  
mptcpresident@gmail.com

## Past President

Julie Gummesen - edge@abnorth.com

## Vice President

Gerald Logan - glogan@me.com

## Treasurer

Barb Winia -  
treasurer.mptca@gmail.com

## Secretary

Ashleigh Barsalou -  
secretary.mptca@gmail.com

## Communications Director

Debbie Harris -  
mptconvention@gmail.com

## Social Director

Adrian Tanasichuk -  
socrates0319@yahoo.ca

## Displays Chair

Tasha Zboya-Keith -  
mptcdisplays@gmail.com

## Displays Assistant

Derice Layher - djlayher@telusplanet.net

## Program Chair

Jodie Dell -  
mptcprogramchair@gmail.com

## Program Assistants

Melissa Putman -  
melissa.putman.mptc@gmail.com

Jen Clevette - jenclevette@gmail.com

Jeanne Lawrence -  
jeanne.lawrence.MPTC@outlook.com

## GP Composite High School Host

Heather McIlroy -  
heathermcilroy3@gmail.com

## PWA School Hosts

Josie Thibault-  
josiethibault@pwpsd.ca

Julian Camsell  
juliancamsell@pwpsd.ca

## Members

Laura Storey - storey.mptc@gmail.com  
Janet Wallentiny - wallentj@prsd.ab.ca  
Dena Lanktree

## ATA District Representatives

Peter MacKay -  
peter.mackay@teachers.ab.ca

## NRLC Representative

Sandra Ciurysek -  
sandra.ciurysek@gppsd.ab.ca

## NWARTA Representative

Joan Godbout - joan7here@gmail.com

## Thursday Opening Keynote - Dr. Jody Carrington



My “story” of becoming a psychologist started at Red Deer College. I transferred to the University of Alberta, where I earned my Bachelor of Arts with distinction in 1998. I completed a year-long internship during that degree with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and became very passionate about police work and the significant toll that trauma can take on people. I was also lucky enough to spend some time working with some amazing families through Ronald McDonald House and I also volunteered with Victim Services. I then continued my studies at the University of Regina with the thought of pursuing a career in Police Psychology. Although I loved that work, my passion began to shift to families, especially those who experienced trauma. I completed my pre-doctoral residency in Nova Scotia in 2006 where I trained primarily in Cognitive-Behavioural and Narrative approaches. I completed rotations both with adults and children and learned that I really enjoyed understanding the “stories” of children—particularly those who had difficult experiences.

### THE POWER IN BEING CRAZY ABOUT KIDS IN THE CLASSROOM

In slowly developing relationships with local school boards, an initial “lunch time chat” with teachers and educational assistants has evolved into a workshop where we have come to understand the importance of helping teachers and school staff remember and harness their power of relationship. Their power to be crazy about kids. Their power to change lives. And the ever-important reminder that “the only way to their minds is through their hearts”. Throughout this process, and as the mental health “crisis” in our classrooms grow, we talk most importantly about looking after ourselves, and each other, in this process.

# Attendance Policy

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.

- **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 complete the Alternate PD application form from the MPTCA website ([mptca.teachers.ab.ca](http://mptca.teachers.ab.ca)). Based on specific criteria set out by the provincial ATA, 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 prior to **January 24, 2019**.
- **Part-time teachers** are being paid "only for the time the teacher teaches" (*School Act* (Section 103(b)). Your teaching assignment is your *shift*, which is a defined time. Any addition to or adjustment of time must be done with your agreement and proper compensation. In simplest terms, whatever is consistent with your assignment for that day is your obligation. Notwithstanding all of the above, part-time teachers **aren't prevented from voluntarily attending sessions**.
- **Any teacher required to coach at an ASAA Provincial Finals Event** during teachers' convention must complete the online form <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConventionAttendance2019>. Teachers are not excused from Convention to coach zone events.
- **Substitute teachers can attend Convention!** As soon as a substitute teacher teaches for one day in any of our member locals they are an Associate Member of the ATA and are eligible to attend Convention at no cost. Substitute teachers can register on Wednesday between 1 - 5:00 p.m. or on Thursday or Friday during regular convention hours. Proof that they have taught during the current school year is required. Since adult supervisors do not hold an Alberta teaching certificate they are not entitled to Convention privileges.

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.

More details can be found online <https://goo.gl/vFDAwS>.

## Friday Opening Keynote – Shelley Moore



Based in Vancouver, British Columbia Canada, Shelley Moore consults locally, provincially and beyond. Her presentations include school, district and provincial professional development days throughout British Columbia, as well as various leading conferences throughout North America, including CEC, CSSE, AERA, IRA and NCTE. Her interactive presentations are constructed based on contexts of specific schools and communities and integrate theory and effective practices of inclusion, special education & curriculum. She completed an undergraduate degree in Special Education at the University of Alberta, her masters at Simon Fraser University, and is currently a SSHRC funded PhD scholar at the University of British Columbia.

Along with her best selling book, [One Without the Other: Stories of unity through diversity and inclusion](#), Shelley is award winning SSHRC research [storyteller](#) and a [TEDx](#) speaker highlighting her work in presuming competence.