



MIGHTY PEACE TEACHERS' CONVENTION

GRANDE PRAIRIE, AB • MARCH 5-6, 2020



The Alberta Teachers' Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE MPTCA PRESIDENT



Dear MPTC Teachers,

My name is Jodie Dell and 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 Greater Peace Local as a board member for MPTCA since 2012. I was a Program Committee member for 4 years and spent 3 years as the Program Chair.

Since starting to work for HFCRD at Glenmary School in Peace River in 2008, I have taught English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Religion courses at various Jr. High levels, along with taking on a Faith Coordinator role. I have also had 4 children, with another due in December.

I have loved being able to contribute my love of teaching to help with the growth and the professional development of teachers in our area. 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 by 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 2020 Convention!

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CONNECT WITH MPTCA

Email: mptconvention@gmail.com

Twitter: @mptconvention #mptc2019

Facebook Group: Mighty Peace
Teachers' Convention

Website: mptca.teachers.ab.ca

2019-2020 MPCTA BOARD

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First Aid and Mental Health First Aid Training

Please be advised that the First Aid Training will now be alternating each year with the Mental Health 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. First Aid Training will not be offered again until MPTC 2021.



MPTC 2020 Program

The Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention does not provide a printed copy of the program. We use an online service, called Sched. This program allows teachers to build a schedule of sessions they would like to attend. Teachers are encouraged to create an account, if they haven't already, and login to the site at <https://mptca2020.sched.com/>. By doing so, teachers will be sure to receive any announcements and information that we send before the start of Convention.

The program is expected to be completed by February 1st, 2020. We will send a notification to all teachers who have created accounts when it is ready.

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. Requests will only be considered from those members who meet all eligibility criteria and application deadlines. <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".

More information can be found on the ATA's website.

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). 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 22, 2020.



YOU ARE GOING TO WANT TO HEAR THESE SPEAKERS!

Dave Mitchell (<http://arithmecode.com/>)

Math, Music and Mayhem - Math songs, rap, math commercials, stories, puzzles, math puppet skits, origami and lots of off-the-wall ideas to make your math class memorable, meaningful and fun. Even if you don't teach math you'll want to attend because many of the ideas are transferable. If you don't experience major laughs at this session, it's because the world is ending!

Can You Fold Under Pressure? (Origami and Math/Art) Paper folding can be used in the classroom to promote an understanding of geometry and strengthen memory, while allowing students to have a tremendous amount of fun. Learn how to make several of the best paper wonders of the world. Math teachers and art teachers will enjoy the great ideas and the laughter at this session.

Temple Grandin (<https://www.templegrandin.com/>)

Dr. Grandin did not talk until she was three and a half years old. She was fortunate to get early speech therapy. Her teachers also taught her how to wait and take turns when playing board games. She was mainstreamed into a normal kindergarten at age five. When she was young, she was considered weird and teased and bullied in high school. The only place she had friends was activities where there was a shared interest such as horses, electronics, or model rockets. Mr. Carlock, her science teacher, was an important mentor who encouraged her interest in science. When she had a new goal of becoming a scientist, she had a reason for studying.

Dr. Grandin became a prominent author and speaker on both autism and animal behavior. Today she is a professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. She also has a successful career consulting on both livestock handling equipment design and animal welfare. She has been featured on NPR (National Public Radio) and a BBC Special - "The Woman Who Thinks Like a Cow". She has also appeared on National TV shows such as Larry King Live, 20/20, Sixty Minutes, Fox and Friends, and she has a 2010 TED Talk. Articles about Dr. Grandin have appeared in Time Magazine, New York Times, Discover Magazine, Forbes and USA Today. HBO made an Emmy Award winning movie about her life and she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2016.

Wilfred Buck: The Star Guy - <https://youtu.be/8l6nkacSH3U>

When most of us look at the night sky, we're used to seeing stories not of indigenous origin, but of Greek or Roman: Andromeda chained to a rock, Perseus staring down a sea monster, Hercules slaying a lion. But just as the people of early Western civilizations looked to the stars and told stories about them, so did indigenous people around the world. In North American communities, the stars hold bears, sweat lodges, thunderbirds, and more. Some of those stories are part of how indigenous people made sense of the world around them—a form of science separate from, but with kinship to, the enterprise of observation, prediction, and questioning built around what we call the scientific method. But how do you connect the two? That's where Wilfred Buck comes in. He's a part of a growing effort to reintroduce indigenous stories and traditions back to Cree and other indigenous communities.

<https://www.sciencefriday.com/articles/indigenous-peoples-astronomy/>

Mario Trono - True Story? Teachers in Film, TV, and Online

<https://youtu.be/LckjGqajvLk>

Mario Trono, a confessed visual culture addict, is a film and art reviewer obsessed with finding interesting things to look at and tell people about. He daylights as a film professor at Mount Royal University. You can follow him on Twitter at @MarioTrono.