

## CONVENTION 2014 NOW ONLINE

Our 2014 convention program, which was distributed along with registration materials to all boards last week, is now available online. The [program](#) provides an overview of the three days, with a listing of events and sessions. Detailed descriptions of keynote presentations and workshops, along with information about presenters, can be found in a separate [speakers and sessions](#) document. A detailed, timed agenda will be distributed to school boards in advance of convention, and will be included in delegate kits.



## SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW



We've made a couple of changes to the 2014 convention format that you'll want to note. In 2014, the board chairs' meeting with the minister will once again be held at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 15. While this meeting, which is restricted to board chairs or their designates, had been held on Saturday morning for many years,

you may recall that it was scheduled for a different time last year. You will also note that the President's Banquet has been rebranded as the President's Party. After all, it's our 50th convention, and we wanted to shake things up a little! We'll still start with a scrumptious meal and a few formalities, but after that, we're asking everyone to stay and join us for a good old Manitoba social. In response to popular demand, we're bringing back **Those Guys**—the hit of our 2013 banquet—to kick off the party. Once **Those Guys** warm up the audience, recorded music featuring hits from the past five decades will have everyone tapping their toes, or maybe even showing off their best dance moves!

## IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING . . .

Just a reminder, you can find all convention related material on our dedicated convention page. This currently includes the list of [nominations](#) received to-date, as well as information about three awards with pending nomination deadlines: the [Premier Award for School Board Innovation](#) (January 31), the [Long Service Trustee Award](#) (February 7), and the [Presidents' Council Award](#) (February 14). In late February, we will also be posting candidate profiles, as provided by those individuals who have been nominated for provincial executive office, and the full package of resolutions that will be considered at our convention.

## SAVE THE DATE

We are pleased to be working with our partners from MASBO and MASS to offer an intensive and consultative one-day workshop on the ever-evolving role of secretary-treasurer. This interactive session will look beyond legal requirements and job descriptions in an exploration of the contribution this key leadership position can make—and is making—to improved divisional operations and student outcomes. The session, which is targeted at divisional teams of board and finance committee chairs, secretary/assistant secretary-treasurers and superintendents, will be held on Friday, April 25, at the Victoria Inn in Brandon. Watch for program and registration details in the coming weeks!



## CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY UPDATE

In 1989, Canada's House of Commons unanimously passed an all-party resolution to end child poverty in Canada by the year 2000. Campaign 2000 is a cross-Canada public education movement that began in 1991 out of concern about the lack of government progress towards this goal. Campaign 2000, of which the Manitoba School Boards Association is a long-standing member, is non-partisan in urging all Canadian elected officials to keep their promise to Canada's children. Campaign 2000 Manitoba has just released its [Child and Family Report Card 2013](#), which looks specifically at poverty in the context of Aboriginal children and families. The report includes recommendations in three areas: early childhood development and parenting supports, creating opportunities for youth, and closing the gap for Aboriginal Manitobans.

