

## FINAL COUNTDOWN TO CONVENTION

With only one week to go until convention, it's a good time to remind everyone about some of the changes you'll be seeing this year.

- Our program will be starting a little earlier, at 8:45 a.m. on both Thursday and Friday. Breakfast will be available starting at 7:30 a.m.
- The final call for nominations will take place at the call to order on Thursday, March 15. To find out more about current nominees, check out the [report of the nominating committee and candidate profiles](#) on our website.
- Elections, [resolutions and special business](#), and reports from the President and Executive Director will all take place on Friday, March 16.
- The board chairs meeting with the Minister of Education and Training takes place at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, in the Assiniboine B room on the concourse level of the Delta Hotel.
- Award presentations have been incorporated throughout the program. Student awards will be presented at lunch on Thursday, and the Premier Award for School Board Innovation on Friday. The Presidents' Council Award presentation and long service trustee and retiring executive recognition will take place at the Friday evening President's Banquet.

The full [program](#) is posted on our website. It will also be included in delegate kits.



## ADVOCACY UPDATE

Several additions have been made to our [advocacy page](#) in recent weeks. These include:

- an [editorial](#) by association President Ken Cameron, in response to the most recent provincial schools funding announcement;
- a [letter](#) to James Wilson, Deputy Minister of Education and Training, expressing the association's appreciation for the past work that has been done by the Manitoba Education Research Network (MERN), and asking that the department explore alternate means of facilitating the sharing of educational research upon MERN's cessation of operations later this year;
- a [letter](#) to Minister of Education and Training Ian Wishart, requesting that the province begin consultations with school boards and teachers on its announced move to provincial bargaining for teachers as soon as possible.

## IMAGINE A CANADA

The deadline for submissions for Imagine a Canada has been extended to April 2, 2018, so there is still time to get involved! Now entering its third year, Imagine a Canada is a national arts and leadership program that invites young people, kindergarten to post-secondary, to share their thoughts on what the future of Canada will look like through the lens of reconciliation. One entry from each province and territory will be selected to attend a national celebration of Imagine a Canada and take part in a leadership workshop to become Reconciliation Ambassadors in their own community. The [Imagine a Canada](#) website has background information and tools to get involved.



## DID YOU KNOW . . .

That the Government of Canada has information and resources about our [national anthem](#) on the Canadian Heritage website? These include a downloadable [poster](#) with the recently-adopted revised English-language lyrics, and audio files of the English, French, and bilingual versions of the anthem. The site also contains information about the history of the anthem, rules of timing and etiquette for anthem use, and answers questions about copyright and commercial use of the anthem.



## TEACHING ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

From June 27 to 29, the [Montreal Holocaust Museum](#), in partnership with the [USC Shoah Foundation](#), is offering a training session on "Teaching about the Holocaust and Human Rights in Canada." The seminar, which will be held at the museum, will explore the teaching of difficult subjects, with particular attention on the Holocaust and human rights from a contemporary Canadian perspective. Interested educators can apply until April 15 by filling out a [pre-registration form](#) on the museum's website. Scholarships for accommodation and transportation are available to qualified candidates.