

## INFO FOR POTENTIAL & NEW TRUSTEES, BOARD CHAIRS

Next month, we will be holding three [information](#) sessions for potential school trustee candidates. Two of these sessions will be held in-person—on June 9, at the Victoria Inn in Brandon, and on June 10, at the Norwood Hotel in Winnipeg—and one will be held via webinar, on June 17. All sessions will begin at 7:00 p.m. No registration is required for the in-person sessions, but webinar participants will need to request the session link by emailing [Janis Arnold](#).

In late November, we will be offering new trustee orientation sessions in Brandon (November 24 and 25) and Winnipeg (November 26 and 27). These sessions will provide newly elected trustees the opportunity to learn about their new and challenging role as governors of Manitoba's public education system. We will be rounding out our November week of learning with a session examining the board chair's role and the particular skills essential for success, on the evening of November 27 and all day on November 28. Program and registration packages will be sent to boards in October.

Learning **Trustee** Candidate **Vote!**  
School Boards Kids **Elections** Challenge **22.10.2014**  
Run! Education

## EDUCATION AND PROPERTY TAXATION

Looking to bring some clarity to the discussion about the use of property taxes to fund public education in Manitoba? Look no further than the latest issue of *MASBO News*, and an article by René Appelmans and Brian Spurrill, secretary-treasurers of Winnipeg and Lord Selkirk school divisions respectively. In "[Property Taxation Supporting Education: Fact and Fiction](#)," René and Brian shed light on how education is funded across Canada (spoiler alert: property taxes play a big role in funding education in almost every province), relative levels of taxation, and the cost of eliminating property taxation as a source of education funding. Definitely worth a read!



## IN THE MAIL

This week's divisional mail included details of two exciting learning opportunities relating to Aboriginal education. The first of these is an Aboriginal Education Study Tour, co-sponsored by the University College of the North and the University of Manitoba, and running from July 6 to 12. The session will provide learning and networking opportunities for participants as they explore the boreal forest of northern Manitoba to further their understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal history, worldviews and culture. And on the morning of June 6, [MERN](#) is hosting a Treaties and Reconciliation Summer Seminar at Brandon University. This session will include an update of the work of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba and an overview of the Manitoba Treaties Oral History Project, as well as a segment on traditional ways of learning and teaching in the inner city.



## FOCUS ON SAFE AND CARING SCHOOLS

Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning recently released two documents as part of its anti-bullying action plan. [Safe and Caring Schools: Taking Action Against Bullying](#) summarizes current Manitoba legislation and is intended to help adults who work in schools identify incidents of bullying, and know what to report, how to report, and when to contact parents. This document also informs parents of the requirement for schools to report bullying and to contact parents. [Safe and Caring Schools: Respect for Human Diversity](#) is a support document for school divisions working to develop their own human diversity policies. It outlines the legislative requirements of such policies, and includes sample policy components and language.

## SPEAKING OF SAFE SCHOOLS

Safe Schools Manitoba has launched its [new website](#). The site contains a wealth of useful information, including a listing of upcoming provincial, national and international events relating to school safety, links to local, national and international education and school safety organizations, and workshops and resources for educators, parents and students. Check it out!

