

CONVENTION 2021

In light of continued uncertainty around evolving pandemic-related public health measures, the Manitoba School Boards Association's 2021 Annual Convention will be held virtually as a one-day event on Friday, March 19, 2021. The decision to go virtual was made by the provincial executive at its September meeting. Now that the format has been determined, the Convention Planning Committee has begun its work of planning an event that will incorporate all the necessary business elements of a typical convention, include a professional development component, and keep delegates engaged for the entire day. Watch for more details as they become available.

RESOLUTIONS DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of resolutions to be considered at the association's 2021 convention is Friday, November 6, 2020. Resolutions received at the MSBA office by 4:30 p.m. on that date will be included on the agendas for the regional meetings that will be held later in November. Resolutions that are supported by a majority of trustees in attendance at a regional meeting will go forward to convention as regional resolutions. Proposed resolutions not adopted by the region may, with the concurrence of a majority of those present, be forwarded directly to the executive as a request for action. Any resolutions received after the November 6 deadline will go forward to convention only if the executive deems them to be emergent in nature.



For full details on the resolutions process, including step-by-step guidance contained in our new resolutions primer, check out the [Call for Nominations and Resolutions](#) that was distributed to all division offices in September.

ELECTIONS CANADA VIRTUAL RESOURCES

An Elections Canada pilot project that has enabled teachers in Manitoba to access professional development workshops about democracy and electoral processes is going virtual in its third and final year. Offerings include:



- personalized virtual [PD workshops](#) (15 to 60 minutes), for teachers, departments and professional learning communities, that guide participants through Elections Canada resources.
- virtual [classroom demonstrations](#), where education coordinators livestream into physical or virtual classrooms to facilitate or co-teach any of the available resources.

To learn more, contact [Joseph Péloquin-Hopfner](#), Elections Canada education coordinator providing professional learning services in Manitoba.

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

Nominations are open now until December 2 for Manitoba's Excellence in Education Awards. Nominees must hold a valid, permanent Manitoba teaching certificate, and work directly with kindergarten to Grade 12 students in a school setting on a daily basis. Awards will be presented in the following categories:



- teaching excellence (three awards);
- outstanding new teacher (one award);
- outstanding team collaboration (one award);
- outstanding school leader (one award); and
- Premier's Award for Excellence in Education (one award).

Each award recipient will receive \$500 and a framed certificate. Full details, including necessary forms and selection criteria, are available [online](#).

PUSHING BACK AGAINST HATE ONLINE

As reported in MediaSmarts [2019 Annual Report](#), a national survey of 1,000 youth ages 12 to 16 found that:



- 80% of youth think it's important to speak up when they see hate online, but only 10% frequently do so.
- youth look up to adults to model ethical digital citizenship, but have seen adults engaging in prejudice online.
- 70% said they would be more likely to push back if platforms had clear rules and tools to report the behaviour.
- parents and educators need to be prepared to support youth in pushing back against casual prejudice online in safe and respectful ways.

The report includes links to MediaSmarts resources designed to help talk to kids about online hate, and to help kids push back against it.

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