

CONVENTION UPDATE!

The full [convention program](#) with overviews of all keynote and breakout sessions, is now available online. This material, along with registration and workshop selection forms, was distributed in our January 21 divisional email. And even though the registration deadline is not until March 6, here are two good reasons not to delay! First, some workshops have limited enrollment, and will be filled on a first-come, first served basis. And secondly, all banquet seating is reserved, and the best tables are assigned to the first respondents. So, if you want to make sure you are seated with your board colleagues, and close to the evening's action (including comedian Big Daddy Tazz), make sure to register early!



RISKY BUSINESS

Have you seen our latest [Division Dispatch](#), featuring Risk Manager Keith Thomas? In it, Keith provides an overview of the Manitoba School Insurance Program (MSI), and explains the various types of property and liability coverages the program provides. Over \$10 billion worth of buildings and property are insured province-wide, and every school division and district is a member. The loss pool component of the program means that many insurance claims are covered in-house, something that helps to keep premiums down. And if the loss pool is not depleted in any given year, the excess is rebated to school divisions. Over the past four years, those rebates have totalled more than \$2 million. The video also provides insight into the relationship between the work Keith does to mitigate potential insurance risks, and the insurance premiums school boards pay.



MAPC & SAFE SCHOOLS MANITOBA

If you attended one of our recent regional meetings, you will have heard about some of the great work being done by the [Manitoba Association of Parent Councils](#) (MAPC) and [Safe Schools Manitoba](#). If you want to learn more, why not check out these organizations' websites? In addition to the expected parent council resources and supports, MAPC also includes information and links on topics such as Aboriginal education, inclusive education, and career planning, to name but a few. Safe Schools Manitoba has structured its website to make it easy for everyone—educator, parent, or student—to find the

information that's most relevant to them. That information includes overviews of the many workshops and presentations Safe School Manitoba can make available to schools and divisions, as well as publications such as [Understanding and Responding to Bullying: A Guide for Parents](#), and [Bus Drivers and Bullying Prevention](#).

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE: UPDATE!

On January 16, 150 people gathered at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg for the first day of our 2015 Aboriginal Education Leadership Institute, which focussed on Aboriginal cultures and traditions. Similar numbers are registered for days two and three (February 27 and April 24), where the focus will be on the lived experiences of Aboriginal peoples in Canada, and possibilities and promise in Aboriginal education. While the remaining two days of this learning event are fully subscribed, it may be possible to accommodate a small number of additional registrants. To explore this possibility, email Board Development Consultant [Janis Arnold](#). And whether or not you have or will be attending the institute, you may want to check out the dedicated [resource](#) page on our website. Here, we've posted links to a wide variety of documents, videos and website relevant to the topic of Aboriginal education in Canada, as well as resources provided by institute speakers.



LOOKING AHEAD

Have you checked out our [online calendar](#) lately? There, you'll find the most up-to-date listing of conferences, workshops and other sessions that will be of interest to trustees and educators. Here's a sampling for the months ahead.



- February 9, [Safe and Caring Schools Conference: Students at the Centre](#) (Winnipeg)
- February 11, [Creating Safe Schools](#) (webinar)
- April 26 to 28, [CAPSLE Conference—Peaks and Valleys. Perspectives on Law and Education](#) (Kelowna)
- June 30 to July 1, [National Trustee Gathering on Aboriginal Education: Honouring Our Past to Inspire Success](#) (Saskatoon)
- July 2 to 4, [CSBA Congress 2015: Education—Let's Grow Communities!](#) (Saskatoon)

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