

CONVENTION 2016

Less than five months to Convention 2016, which means the information you need to know is starting to flow on a regular basis. Last week, we distributed the [recognition and award programs](#) information package, which includes details about the student citizenship, school board innovation, and Presidents' Council awards, as well as long service trustee recognition. The package includes nomination forms for each of these programs, and contacts for

further information. And, to simplify the process for boards, this year we have established a common nomination deadline for all programs: January 22, 2016.

Just a reminder...

The 2016 calls for nominations and resolutions are being distributed in today's divisional email, and will be posted to our [website](#) shortly thereafter. There have been some changes to the call for resolutions this year, to support our move to comprehensive, consolidated policy statements. These changes are being explained by President Ken Cameron and Past President Floyd Martens during the current round of regional meetings, and are outlined in the call for resolutions. The nomination process is unchanged from previous years. Nominations will be accepted for all executive positions (with the obvious exception of past president)—president, two vice-presidents, and seven directors. Nominations will be accepted up until the call to order at convention, on the morning of Friday, March 18, 2016.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

If you have been thinking about volunteering to serve on one of your association's committees, now might be the time! We have an immediate opening on the Interorganizational Curriculum Advisory Committee (ICAC), and pending openings on several others. For a full list of the committees on which we are represented, their mandates, and current membership, visit our [committee page](#). You can offer your services by completing the form-fillable [volunteer form](#), or by contacting Executive Assistant [Andrea Kehler](#).



SKI SAFETY, TRANSLATED

Earlier this year, we updated one of our student safety resources, [Planning Ski and Snowboarding Education Programs: A Reference Guide for Schools](#). We are pleased to advise you that the manual is now available in French. [Planification de programmes pédagogiques de ski et planche à neige guide de référence pour les écoles](#) will be a

useful resource for French immersion and Francophone schools, as will the upcoming translation of [Swim Safe Programs: A Reference Guide for Schools](#). We are also in the process of updating [Risk Management at-a-Glance](#) (French and English), so watch for that!

SHARING THEIR STORIES

Photo: Lorraine Stevenson

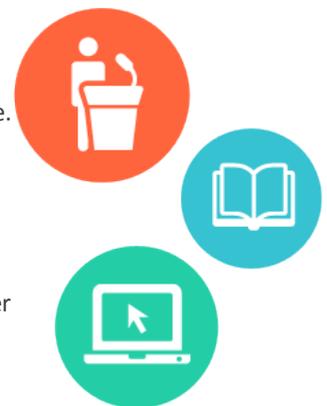
An [article](#) in last week's issue of *The Manitoba Cooperator* might spark the interest (and perhaps even some contributions) of trustees and administrators, especially those serving or having roots in rural school divisions. Women were able to serve as school trustees

in Manitoba from 1890, even though they didn't gain the vote until 1916. Winnipeg teacher and historian Linda McDowell is looking for the names and stories of these political pioneers. The usual research sources—archives and rural histories—have produced limited results, so Linda is asking readers to contact her with names they know of women who served in the early decades of the 20th century. Have something to share? Contact Linda McDowell at clio@mymts.net.



FALL PD

The MERN Fall 2015 Forum will be held on Friday, November 20th, 2015, at Université de Saint-Boniface. The theme is ["Regenerative Leadership in Education,"](#) featuring a keynote address by Ken Klassen, Executive Director, Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, followed by smaller group sessions.



For our own fall event, we are pleased to be partnering with the Student Services Administrators' Association of Manitoba and MASS. SSAAM has taken the lead in planning this 1 ½ day event, December 2-3, at the Victoria Inn in Brandon. December 2 will be a half-day (afternoon) interactive workshop with participants collaborating on an examination of student needs and inclusive education services in Manitoba. December 3 will feature a full-day session with [Dr. Anthony Muhammed](#) on Transforming School Culture. Registration will be handled by SSAAM. Contact your board office to register.

