

Get a head start on your planning for the upcoming year! This calendar will provide you with a snapshot of conferences, workshops and other learning opportunities that will be of interest to school board members and administrators. Where possible, we have included preliminary program and registration information, and links to relevant websites. Our on-line calendar always contains the most up-to-date details about these and other events, including links to registration information, so visit us often at [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca).

## Year at a Glance

### 2011

<b>September 23</b>	MERN Lunch at the Leg—launch of MERN Monograph Vol. 4, “Centre for Research in Youth, Science Teaching and Learning”
<b>September 30</b>	PISA information session (a.m.)—joint offering with MASS Assessment workshop (p.m.) (Winnipeg)
<b>November 10</b>	MERN Fall Forum on Transforming, Teaching and Learning: Equity Education (Brandon)
<b>November 25</b>	Manitoba School Boards Association education finance workshop (Winnipeg)
<b>November 30</b>	Manitoba Association of School Business Officials session: Communicating as a Leader: Staying Cool in the Hot Seat (Winnipeg)
<b>December 1 to 3</b>	CMEC Educators’ Forum on Aboriginal Education (Winnipeg)
<b>December 15 and 16</b>	MERN Education Faculty Seminar: Reconciliation and Treaty Learning (Winnipeg)

### 2012

<b>January (various dates)</b>	Manitoba School Boards Association Winter Regional Meetings (various locations)
<b>January 27</b>	MERN Winter Forum on Critical Inquiry: Respecting People and Place
<b>March 9</b>	MERN Special Forum on Science Education: Emergent Trends in Science, Mathematics, and the Role of Technology in Education (Winnipeg)
<b>March 14 (evening)</b>	Manitoba School Boards Association Region 4 Meeting (Winnipeg)
<b>March 15 to 17</b>	Manitoba School Boards Association Annual Convention (Winnipeg)
<b>April 21 to 23</b>	National School Boards Association Annual Conference (Boston)
<b>April 27</b>	Manitoba School Boards Association trustee education session (topic TBA, Brandon)
<b>April 27</b>	MERN Spring Forum on Educational Leadership: Doing the Right Thing (Winnipeg)
<b>June 13 to 15</b>	National Aboriginal Trustee Gathering (Winnipeg)
<b>July 5 to 7</b>	Canadian School Boards Association Congress (Québec City)

## LOCAL OFFERINGS: WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### **PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) Information Session (a.m.) Data Informed Decision Making and Student Success (p.m.)**

*Friday, September 30, 2011*

*Holiday Inn Airport West, Winnipeg*

The morning session, which is being offered in cooperation with the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, will examine Manitoban and Canadian PISA results, with a focus on what those results actually *mean*. This session will include a presentation by Dr. Doug Willms, Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy, University of New Brunswick.

The afternoon session for Manitoba School Boards Association members will focus on Data Informed Decision Making. This session will consider the relationship between data collection and the board's role in leading for student success, types of data available, and the appropriate uses of each, and case studies in data informed decision making, with Manitoba school boards sharing their own experiences. Registration materials have been sent to all school board offices, and are also available at <http://www.mbschoolboards.ca/PISA%20workshop.pdf>.

### **Education Finance Workshop**

*Friday, November 25, 2011*

*Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport*



Understanding the full extent of the school board's fiduciary role and the complexities of education finance and school division budgeting processes are among some of the major challenges for school trustees. The morning's program will focus on the intricacies of Manitoba's education funding structure and the technical and legal aspects of fiscal management and

oversight in school divisions. The afternoon session will provide participants opportunity to reflect upon key philosophical and political dilemmas in school division budget development.

Our thanks to the Manitoba Association of School Business Officials and the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents for their collaboration in the planning and delivery of this workshop. Watch for details in the early fall.

### **Communicating as a Leader: Staying Cool in the Hot Seat**

*Wednesday, November 30, 2011*

*Victoria Inn, Winnipeg*

The Manitoba Association of School Business Officials is sponsoring this training session for Manitoba leaders in public education. The day will be presented by Candace BelAir, an Emmy Award winning reporter and producer whose credentials include stints with CNN and Newsweek. Look for details at [www.masbo.ca](http://www.masbo.ca)!

### **CMEC Educators' Forum on Aboriginal Education December 1 to 3, 2011 University of Winnipeg**



The Council of Ministers of Education, Canada's (CMEC's) Educators' Forum on Aboriginal Education will bring together a wide range of stakeholders in Aboriginal education — from educators and academics to government officials and representatives of Aboriginal organizations — to talk about what works for Aboriginal learners in early-childhood education (ECE) and K–12 education. Using a case study format, participants will examine programs, policies, and practices that have been shown to be effective in improving one or more aspects of Aboriginal ECE and/or K–12 education. The forum will provide a unique opportunity for participants from across Canada to engage in face-to-face dialogue, exchange ideas with their colleagues and peers, and build networks in the field of Aboriginal ECE and K–12 education.

For program information or to register, visit <http://www.cmec.ca/Programs/aboriginaled/forum-2011/Pages/default.aspx>

## Manitoba School Boards Association Trustee Education Session—topic TBA

Friday, April 27, 2012

Victoria Inn, Brandon

Watch for details coming this fall!

## National Aboriginal Trustees Gathering

June 13 to 15

Inn at the Forks, Winnipeg

The inaugural National Aboriginal Trustees Gathering, hosted by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association's Aboriginal Council this past June in Saskatoon was a great success! Approximately 65 delegates from across the nation attended and took part in meaningful discussions to help strengthen Aboriginal student achievement, and to improve parent and community engagement efforts. Manitoba is pleased to be hosting the second National Gathering in June 2012, at Winnipeg's historic gathering place, The Forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. This session is not only for those trustees of Aboriginal descent; it is open to all board members and administrators who are passionate about helping every student succeed.



You can learn more about the 2011 event by visiting <http://www.saskschoolboards.ca/advocacy/newsletter/2011/June11SE.pdf>. Watch for details about the 2012 gathering in the new year.

## MANITOBA EDUCATION RESEARCH NETWORK (MERN) EVENTS

The Manitoba Education Research Network (MERN) works to improve the quality of education in Manitoba's schools by establishing partnerships for research studies, collecting and analyzing data and supporting other forms of research activities. The network is a collaborative effort on the part of Manitoba's five faculties of education, Manitoba Education, and affiliated partner organizations including the Manitoba School Boards Association. Each year, MERN organizes a number of sessions to facilitate sharing among members. Offerings for the upcoming year include:

- Lunch at the Leg (September 23, 2011, Golden Boy Dining Room, Manitoba Legislative Building), which will launch the MERN Monograph, Vol. 4, "Centre for Research in Youth, Science Teaching and Learning;"

- Fall Forum on Transforming, Teaching & Learning (November 10, 2011, Brandon University), focusing on "Equity Education;"
- Education Faculty Seminar (December 15 & 16, 2011, Manitoba Teachers' Society), focusing on "Reconciliation and Treaty Learning;"
- Winter Forum on Critical Inquiry (January 27, 2012, University College of the North & Frontier School Division), focusing on "Respecting People and Place;"
- Special Forum on Science Education (March 9, 2012, Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface), focusing on "Emergent Trends in Science, Mathematics, and the Role of Technology in Education;" and
- Spring Forum on Educational Leadership (April 27, 2012, University of Manitoba), focusing on "Doing the Right Thing."

To learn more or register for any of these events, visit [www.mern.ca](http://www.mern.ca).

## MANITOBA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION REGIONAL MEETINGS

In January (or March, in the case of Region 4), each of the Manitoba School Boards Association's six regions meet to discuss regional and association business, including the budget and financial matters, proposed convention resolutions, and nominations for regional representatives on the Manitoba School Boards Association Provincial Executive and (where required) the Universal Standards Trust Fund.

### Dates and locations:

- Region 1:** January 23, Victoria Inn, Brandon
- Region 2:** January 19, Carman Pentecostal Church, Carman
- Region 3:** January 20, Larters St. Andrews Golf and Country Club
- Region 4:** January 18 (teleconference) March 14, Delta Hotel Winnipeg (in conjunction with Convention)
- Regions 5 & 6:** January 21, Canad Inns Polo Park, Winnipeg

Agendas will be distributed prior to each of these meetings.

## SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES

**The Manitoba School Boards Association 2012 Annual Convention** will be held from March 15 to 17 at the Delta Hotel Winnipeg. As always, this event will include a significant trustee education component. Full program and registration information will be sent to all board offices early in the new year, and regular updates will be posted on the Manitoba School Boards Association website.

The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is hosting the **2012 Congress of the Canadian School Boards Association** from July 5 to 7. Congress will be held at the Chateau Frontenac in historic Québec City; details and links will be posted as they become available on the QESBA website at <http://www.qesba.qc.ca/en/>.

**The National [American] School Boards Association Annual Conference** will be held in Boston, Massachusetts from April 21 to 23, 2012. The theme for 2012 is "A Better Tomorrow Starts Today." Conference registration opens September 20, while the housing registry opens November 1. For program and accommodation details, follow the links from [www.nsba.org](http://www.nsba.org).

## DON'T OVERLOOK THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS . . .

Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS) and Manitoba Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) events often include educational components that will be of interest to school board members. MASS will be holding its annual fall conference from November 16 to 18 in Gimli, and its Summer Institute from August 15 to 17, 2012 at Clear Lake, while MASBO's AGM is scheduled for June 6 to 8, 2012. MASBO is also holding a communications training session on November 30, 2011; see details, above. Check for these and other events by visiting these partner organization websites; follow the links under the Who We Work With tab at [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca).