



March 16 – 17, 2023, Delta Winnipeg

*The words selected for the theme of the 2023 Annual Convention recognize the past, but they also capture the energy building as we re-emerge and come together once again. This year's convention will provide meaningful opportunities for trustees and member boards to gain perspective and clarity and to focus on the important work that lies ahead.*

## Keynote Speakers



### Chief Cadmus Delorme

In 2021, Chief Delorme faced one of the hardest moments as Chief when the Saulteaux and Cree First Nation made international headlines with the validation of potentially 751 unmarked graves near the former Marieval Indian Residential School. Shortly after, Cowessess made headlines again as the first First Nations to sign an agreement with Ottawa and the province that returns jurisdiction over children in care to the First Nation. Federal legislation overhauling Indigenous child welfare was passed in 2019 and came into force last year.

In Chief Delorme's address titled, ***What we inherited and the responsibility we all have to do something about it***, he will bring history to the forefront with storytelling, an open mindedness that we all inherited the situation and provides actions we can all take. Chief Delorme explains why the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action are foundational to a stronger and better Canada.



### Natalie Bergstrasser

Natalie Bergstrasser is a social worker, connector, and communicator passionate about investing in the lives of people who have experienced trauma as well as the people and organizations that serve them. As a person with lived experience in foster care, foster-adoptive parent, and team member at [Think of Us](#), she works to elevate the leadership and insights of people who have experienced foster care through systems-change initiatives.

In her keynote address titled ***Yes, And: The power of connection and the science of hope***, Natalie will discuss how many young people experience adverse childhood experiences, and yet recent science tells us that there is opportunity not just for survival, but for healing and hope. She will share her own journey of recovery from childhood trauma and how educators can create meaningful connections and foster hope with young people who face adversity.



### Supporting a Good Cause!

[N.E.E.D.S. Inc.](#) will be the recipient of monies raised by our very popular raffle. Thank you to our member boards for their generous support of this endeavour.

### Reminder!

**This will be a paperless event.**



*A variety of workshops and presentations will be offered on Thursday to round out the first day. Elections for provincial executive positions and the business of the association will take place on Friday. The recipients of the association's popular recognition and award programs (student citizenship, trustee long service, Presidents' Council) will be honoured at various points throughout the two days.*

*For more details about important dates, sessions, speakers, resolutions and elections, and to register for the event, follow the convention links at [mbschoolboards.ca](https://mbschoolboards.ca)*