



Alberta

School Councils Conference & AGM

April 28-30, 2017 Delta Edmonton South

Programme

PRE-SESSIONS FRIDAY APRIL 28th 2:15 PM – 4:00 PM

Glacier Room

Playground Builds and Rebuilds: Getting it Right!

Pat Zelenak

Playworks

Will there be a new school in your community? Is the current playground at your school falling apart? Do you want to learn how to build or rebuild a playground that kids will love? This session will cover everything you want to know about putting up a playground in your community. From forming a playground committee to your grand opening, we will show you how to maximize the play value in your playground and stay within your budget. Our mission is to build playgrounds that kids love and to keep them coming back for more. The second part of this session provides an overview of the process to develop a fundraising plan to facilitate the development of these new amenities. In attempting to secure large amounts of funding, it is important to understand the process, how all stakeholders fit into the equation and how to leverage what you have.

Pat Zelenak got his start in playgrounds in 1992 when he joined the community playground committee in Castle Downs, Edmonton. He quickly discovered that he had a talent and passion for designing and building playgrounds that kids love. He has been in the industry ever since and has worked in a variety of roles, everything from design and sales to installation. He has extensive experience working with parent and community groups and an expert at helping groups secure funding so they can maximize the play value in their playgrounds.

Emerald Room

Conflict Resolution

Joanne Munro

Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (ADRIA)

Conflict is a normal part of life and can occur in many situations, including school councils. If not resolved appropriately, conflict can be very destructive, resulting in dysfunction within the school council and the broader school community. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) offers new options for the resolution of such conflicts, often with the potential to restore relationships and trust.

This workshop will help you explore your preferred conflict management style and how to work with people who have different styles. You will learn about the *Drama Triangle* and the roles we play in conflict. You will learn how to recognize unmet needs – yours and other's - that are causing interpersonal conflict.

Join professionals from the ADR Institute of Alberta to learn more about ADR skill development and supports available to your school council, and to better manage conflict situations that can destroy important relationships and teamwork.

Joanne Munro is a chartered mediator, a restorative justice facilitator and an instructor in the fields of mediation, negotiation, restorative justice, restorative practices, peacemaking circles, and conflict resolution. She mediates for Alberta Justice's family mediation and civil claims programs, the Alberta Provincial Police Mediation Roster, and local community mediation programs. Joanne's private practice is primarily in the areas of workplace, faith group and family mediations. Joanne has been a member of the ADRIA Board of Directors for the past four years, and prior to that, a member of the Alberta Arbitration and Mediation Society Board of Directors.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Friday April 28

1:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Registration
2:15 pm - 4:00 pm	Pre-sessions
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Resource Gallery
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Welcome Social The Blanket Exercise

Saturday April 29

7:00 am	Registration
7:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am	Opening Greetings
8:15 am – 9:00 am	Ministry of Education
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions A.
10:15 am	Resource Gallery & Refreshments
10:45 am	Keynote Address
11:30 am	Networking & Resource Gallery
12:00 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm	Plenary Presentation
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions B.
2:45 pm	Resource Gallery & Refreshments
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Breakout Sessions C.
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Banquet Event - Dinner, Awards, Entertainment

Sunday April 30

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting
12:00 - 12:45 pm	Lunch
12:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Meeting, Board Elections

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Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2R6 Canada



Message from Honourable Rachel Notley Premier of Alberta

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to send greetings to the Alberta School Councils Conference and Annual General Meeting.

As a mother, I know parents are vital stakeholders in our education system and school councils are valuable partners in shaping the future of Alberta's education system.

The work you do at your individual schools contributes to improving the lives of students and ensures parental input is considered. Your support helps Alberta's youth be engaged thinkers, ethical citizens, and have the tools they need to reach their full potential. Thank you for your contributions.

Thank you to the organizers and volunteers who have helped make this annual conference an amazing success. I look forward to seeing the results of your discussions.

Rachel Notley

April 29, 2017

**Greetings from the Honourable David Eggen
Minister of Education**



It is my pleasure to extend greetings on behalf of Premier Rachel Notley and the Government of Alberta and to welcome you to the 2017 Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Conference and Annual General Meeting.

Future Ready, a Government of Alberta initiative, aims to provide students with the knowledge and tools to be successful in their futures. Looking ahead, we believe that relevant and engaging education is a cornerstone for a healthy economy.

Our government is committed to ensuring that every Albertan has the skills needed to succeed. Thank you for contributing to our efforts and for your commitment to our youth, our schools and our communities.

I wish you a productive and engaging conference.

David Eggen
Minister of Education

January 2017



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

WELCOME to the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) promoting parent engagement in public education.

Providing development sessions, information sharing and resources for the school community, our provincial event offers opportunity to engage with the Education Ministry and network with other school council members from across Alberta.

This year, the three-day event will consider the path forward in Alberta's progressive education environment. Sessions will offer elements of Alberta's "Future Ready" initiative including curriculum development, embracing diversity, inclusive learning and commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

Twenty seven (27) topics are available in the breakout sessions including respectful schools, provincial assessment, curriculum development, gender diversity, climate leadership, meeting management, career options, journey to reconciliation, and comprehensive school health. In addition, two (2) pre-session topics are available.

We are pleased to have Honourable David Eggen, Minister of Education, join us for a keynote address on Saturday morning. Chief Wilton Littlechild, Commissioner for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada will share wisdom with the assembly on Saturday as well. In addition, the danger of the Fentanyl drug crisis in Alberta will be presented by Constable Cherie Jerebic from the Edmonton Police Service.

We are excited to offer the integrated Resource Gallery area – with exhibits, additional networking time, and the ever popular Winners Circle prize program - a highlight for many attendees.

Our banquet event promises to be a fun and engaging evening, and precedes the Sunday business meeting and election of the ASCA provincial Board of Directors.

So, welcome - we are glad you could join us!

Please enjoy the event and I look forward to meeting you throughout the weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Pike". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Allison Pike
ASCA President

The Blanket Exercise

The Blanket Exercise is an interactive learning experience to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Education on Canadian-Indigenous history is one of the key steps to reconciliation, and the Blanket Exercise covers over 500 years of history in a participatory workshop.

Directed by facilitators, participants work in groups to learn the history of treaty-making, colonization and resistance, utilizing blankets to represent the lands of the many distinct cultures and first nations of Canada.

Special Guest is **Charlene Bearhead**, former Education Lead at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation at the University of Manitoba.

Keynote Address

Education Ministry



Honourable David Eggen

David Eggen was sworn in as the Minister of Education and as the Minister of Culture and Tourism on May 24, 2015. Mr. Eggen was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Edmonton-Calder on April 23, 2012 and again on May 5, 2015.

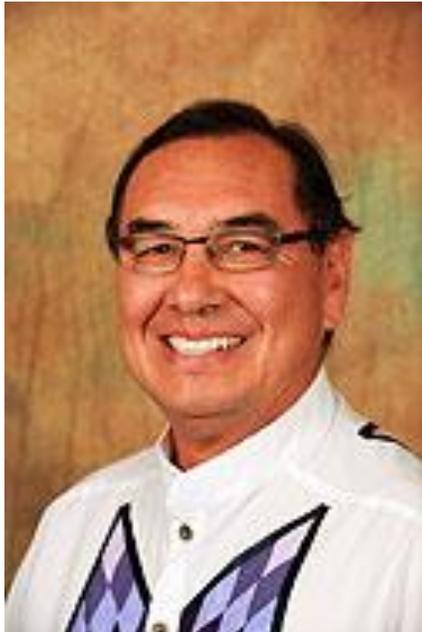
Mr. Eggen was educated at the University of Alberta, where he received a bachelor of education degree in 1984. He then went to Zimbabwe, where he taught for three years. Upon his return to Edmonton he taught at a number of local schools from 1990 to 2004.



Keynote Speaker

Chief Wilton Littlechild, Commissioner

Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada



Dr. Wilton Littlechild, Ph.D., is a Cree chief, residential school survivor, and lawyer who has worked both nationally and internationally, including with the United Nations, to advance Indigenous rights and Treaties.

A Commissioner with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada, Chief Littlechild was a former Member of Parliament for the riding of Wetaskiwin-Rimby, awarded the Order of Canada, inducted into seven Sports Hall of Fame, and has the distinction of being the first Treaty First Nation person to acquire his law degree from the University of Alberta.

Chief Littlechild is a respected lawyer and operates the law firm of J. Wilton Littlechild, Barrister and Solicitor, which is situated in the Ermineskin Reserve. He is a strong advocate for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and promoter of implementation of the treaties between the Indigenous Peoples of Canada and the Crown, now represented by the federal government.

Plenary Session

Fentanyl and Emerging Drugs in Alberta

Constable Cherie Jerebic, Edmonton Police Service

Learn about the dangers of Fentanyl and other emerging drugs causing an overdose epidemic in Alberta.

A 16 year member of the Edmonton Police Service, Constable Jerebic is currently a School Resource Officer at Edmonton's Harry Ainlay Composite High School, with a portfolio including "Drug Awareness" targeted at educating the student population and their families.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Emerald Room

Early Development Instrument (EDI) – *What Does it Tell us About Alberta's Children?*

Dr. Joyce Clayton

Alberta Education

Discover the highlights of the Alberta 2016 Early Development Instrument (EDI) collection. Learn how the Ministries of Education, Health, and the former Human Services (now Children's Services and Community and Social Services) are collaborating to collect EDI data for use by the Government of Alberta and communities.

EDI data provides credible, useful information to mobilize community stakeholders, such as parents and school councils, to improve outcomes for children and families. Schools are able to use their EDI data to inform school improvement planning and collaborate with their Early Child Development Community Coalition. Studies show that children do better in strong supportive communities and that families with access to high quality supports and services are better able to help their children thrive.

Research linking EDI findings to later educational data demonstrates that, on average, Kindergarten vulnerability predicts on-going vulnerability in the school system. Understanding and using the EDI results contributes to reducing vulnerability while improving children's lifelong health, learning and behaviour.

Dr. Joyce Clayton is the Director, Learner Services Branch, Alberta Education. In this role, she successfully led the ministry project team that planned and executed the first province wide administration of the Early Development Instrument. Under her leadership, Learner Services Branch staff conduct funding approvals and administer programs that impact the education of children and students.

Diamond Room

So You Want to be a School Board Trustee?

Mary Martin

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

Thinking about whether you want to get more involved in your community?

Municipal elections will be held this fall, and that means it's time to consider becoming a locally elected school board trustee!

In this informational and inspirational session, you'll find out what it means to be a school board trustee and who is eligible to run, as well as the resources available to help you in your election campaign.

As the local governors, school board trustees have a direct hand in the funding decisions for school development and improvement, and their leadership helps support and enhance student learning in their local school communities.

You'll hear why this position is so important in every Alberta community, and some of the rewarding and enriching experiences that await you in this role.

Mary Martin is the President of the Alberta School Boards Association, and most recently was the Vice President of ASBA. First elected as a school board trustee in 2007, Mary also served as a Director on the ASBA Board of Directors and was Board Chair of the Calgary Catholic School District from 2011-2014.

Also a registered Nurse, she is passionate about student health and wellness, and has served on provincial and national student health committees. Mary considers it a great privilege to serve as a trustee and is honoured to share her knowledge.

Glacier Room

Respectful Schools Online Toolkit

Leslie MacEachern

Jenny Renner

The Society for Safe and Caring Schools & Communities

The Respectful Schools Collaborative Project has developed an online toolkit to be launched in the Spring of 2017. This web-based tool kit supports Alberta schools and communities, including school councils, through links to foundational knowledge, resources and promising practices related to human rights education and the promotion of welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments.

The Society for Safe and Caring Schools & Communities will host the toolkit on their website. This session will provide attendees with an overview of the toolkit and how it can be utilized. Human rights education and training will help make all Alberta schools and communities welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments that respect diversity, and nurture a sense of belonging and positive sense of self.

Leslie MacEachern is the Executive Director of the Society for Safe and Caring Schools & Communities.

Jenny Renner is a Communications and Research Specialist with Safe and Caring, developing the online toolkit.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Red Deer Room

Working with Schools to Support Students with Exceptional Needs

Kathryn Burke

Centre for Literacy

Special education is one of the most conflict ridden areas of the education system. The sources of conflict are varied, but normally relate to struggles to ensure a child receives the services he or she may need, the way in which those services are provided and communication among all parties. Conflict can negatively impact education outcomes. Ideally, it is vital for parents, teachers, assistants, school administrators, and consultants who work in the education system be united in supporting exceptional learners.

Drawing upon principles of interest based negotiation, Kathryn will provide practical and easy to adopt strategies which can be used to prevent conflict, maintain effective working relationships and focus on common interests - to do what is best for the student with exceptional learning needs.

Kathryn Burke is the Executive Director of Edmonton's Centre for Literacy, an organization that provides intense remedial support for students with language or math disabilities. Previously, she was the Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta for five years. She has also served as a consultant and executive within the health care sector.

Kathryn is the author of the bestselling book, *An Accidental Advocate*, which chronicles her family's journey in supporting her son's exceptional needs.

She holds an honors undergraduate and Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Calgary. She is also proud to have been the recipient of a Parent of Distinction Award from ASCA in 2012 for her work on behalf of students with exceptional needs.

Edmonton Room

Using the Comprehensive School Health Framework

Michele Jones

Edmonton Regional

Learning Consortium (ERLC)

Wellness lies at the heart of a family. Families encounter a unique set of challenges when it comes to prioritizing their wellness.

Join a conversation about the relationship between parent's wellness, children's wellness, and the wellness of the family unit. This session will explore ways for parents to role model a healthy lifestyle.

The intentions of the Alberta Education competencies are to connect what a child learns at school to the things that they do in everyday life. To support and enhance student learning, there are practical ways to put the competencies into use, through a wellness lens.

In addition, the Comprehensive School Health Framework is a wellness tool which can also be used to support school improvement.

Be prepared to share and learn about strategies and resources to support parents and their children in becoming a healthier family.

Michele Jones has been an educator for over 20 years. Prior to joining Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium, she worked in the areas of teacher and student wellness, both at the district and school levels. A Health champion since 2008, and past member of the Black Gold Healthy Schools steering committee, she has a wealth of practical knowledge for implementing wellness routines into everyday life.

Calgary Room

Build Our Kids' Success (BOKS): Active Kids = Active Minds

Randy Chevrier

BOKS (Build Our Kids' Success)

A Reebok Foundation Initiative

This session will provide participants with opportunity to learn about BOKS, a free, before-school, physical activity program designed to get elementary kids moving in the morning and their brains ready for a day of learning.

BOKS offers a turn-key, robust curriculum to empower the community and help children embrace healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

BOKS is based on research which shows that *"exercise is the single most powerful tool that we have to optimize the function of our brains."*

You will leave with the tools necessary to support increased opportunities for children to get physically active and to make a positive difference in the lives of children by getting your local school enrolled in BOKS!

Randy Chevrier has a profound love for physical activity and sport. His previous career as a professional athlete in the sport of football and his background in Physical Education are a perfect complement to the BOKS program.

It is Randy's desire to see all children across Canada benefit from BOKS offerings.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS A. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Fort McMurray Room

Supporting Engagement in Literacy

Laura L. Comfort

Tyler Sehn

Limitless Literacy Society

The Limitless Literacy Society strives to educate and help improve the literacy skills of students and increases engagement with students, teachers and the community.

This session will explain the *Ink Well Program* - which includes cross-curriculum projects and teacher support, and the *Spilled Ink Program* - which provides creative writing supports for students in and out of school.

In addition to an overview of what the Society offers, there will be a demonstration of engagement techniques that can be used in the classroom, in group settings and at home.

Information for school councils will include materials and resources tailored to meet individual school's needs for their success in literacy.

Laura Comfort is an author, motivational speaker and educator. Her works include fantasy novels, script writing and educational resources. She is an advocate of education and works with parents, educators and government officials. Laura is the Director of the Limitless Literacy Society; a non-profit organization that promotes and fosters literacy and learning in schools and in the community through mentoring, training, tools, technology and resources.

Tyler Sehn received his B.A. in psychology from the University of Alberta, Augustana Campus and has worked in the social services field by supporting adults with disabilities and at-risk youth within the education system. He is a published author of several fantasy novels. Tyler is the Vice President of the Limitless Literacy Society and Program Director of the *Spilled Ink Workshops*.

Medicine Hat Room

Is the *Golden Rule* the Bullying Antidote?

Betty Wedman

Inspired Living

Helping to promote a bully-free environment is an important way for school councils to support and enhance student learning - as a large part of student success is ensuring that students feel comfortable and safe in their environment.

Emotions felt by students who have experienced bullying can interfere with their focus on learning.

Betty will share stories from students who have opened up their hearts to her with their experiences of being bullied and feeling suicidal due to bullying and cyber-bullying.

Listening to these stories can help with awareness of how thoughts and feelings can affect well-being.

By applying the "Golden Rule", can bullying be eliminated? Is bullying being reinforced in our environments and what roles do people play that need to be examined?

Betty Wedman is a Certified Life Coach in Health and Wellness and has training in Cognitive Behaviour and Applied Suicide Intervention.

She participated in Narrative, Transformative and Restorative Justice Mediation Models through the Government of Alberta Dispute Resolution Network.

Since 2008, Betty has presented to junior and senior high schools, conferences and groups, as well as delivered the survivor speech at the Suicide Awareness March.

She contributed to the Edmonton Suicide Prevention Strategy and supports their mission of "*All citizens in the city of Edmonton share a role in educating, increasing hope and promoting healing in order to prevent suicide in the city.*"

Canmore Room

Managing Child and Adolescent Anxiety

Laurie Young, MC CCC., B.A. CYC

Alberta Health Services

Anxiety is more common than you may think. Everyone experiences anxiety and that's a good thing!

Anxiety is useful in some situations like preparing for important events or reacting to dangerous situations.

However, it can also be destructive or crippling, especially if not managed appropriately. When is anxiety not helpful? What strategies tend to make anxiety stronger?

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, anxiety is the most common mental health complaint in children and adolescents today.

This session will offer information relating to the natural purpose of anxiety and signs that a child or adolescent is experiencing anxiety that is no longer helpful.

School council delegates will have opportunity to gain increased awareness of this mental health condition to share with their local school communities, and learn practical strategies and resources that will enable them to support children and adolescents during times of worry and transition - such as changing schools, grade transitions, and exam preparation and writing.

Laurie Young is an Addiction Counsellor/Consultant with Alberta Health Services in Prevention and Health Promotion – Addiction and Mental Health with the Edmonton Zone.

Laurie has an undergraduate degree in Child and Youth Work and a Master's of Counselling. She is a Canadian Certified Counsellor and a professional member of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Emerald Room

Success in School for Children and Youth in Care

Kim A. Taylor, BA LLB MPS

Human Services, Child and Youth
Services Division, Reunification
Supports

Children in care need greater and more specific types of support to be successful in school; research shows that they are at greater risk of poor educational outcomes as compared to the general school population.

Success in School is an award-winning provincial protocol framework established between Alberta Education and Child and Youth Services Division of Human Services encouraging collaboration in providing that support.

The purpose of the framework is to support improved school outcomes and high school completion rates for children and youth in provincial care.

It identifies and enables strategies to improve educational outcomes for children and youth in provincial government care and promotes consistency of practice across the province with partners such as mental health, youth justice and contracted agency workers.

Kim A. Taylor, BA LLB MPS (in progress) is an Analyst/Program Consultant with the Reunification Supports Unit of Policy, Practice and Program Development, Child Intervention Division of Alberta Children's Services.

She is the current Provincial Lead on the Premier's Silver Award winning "*Success in School Provincial Protocol*" for Children and Youth in care.

As a private practice lawyer, her focus was immigration and refugee law. She has a Facilitator of Adult Education Certificate, a BA in Psychology and a law degree from the University of Alberta.

Diamond Room

Being the Voice for Change – Practical Supports for Inclusion

Ellie Shuster

Greta Gerstner

Learning Disabilities Association of
Alberta

Strategic Alliance for Alberta Students
with Learning Challenges

Strategic Alliance for Alberta Students with Learning Challenges in partnership with the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta are working to empower all Albertans to advocate the provincial government for improved supports for inclusive learning.

Strategic Alliance for Alberta Students with Learning Challenges is a new Alberta-wide initiative comprised of parents and front line service providers who work daily with students with learning challenges. Their goal is to engage the wider educational community to move forward in supporting inclusive learning.

Resources and information will be presented supporting three main objectives including; mandatory early screening for learning and developmental challenges, rightsizing of class compositions and class sizes, enhanced teacher training specifically for all learning challenges.

Ellie Shuster is Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta.

Greta Gerstner is a parent of a child with a learning disability and a full-time insurance broker.

She serves as co-chair on her daughter's school council and is a member of the Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health (CASA) Advisory Council to help improve mental health services and support for all children and adolescents.

Glacier Room

Provincial Assessment Update

Dan Karas

Nicole Lamarre

Alberta Education

Over the past few months, several important updates have been made to Diploma Exams and Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs).

The Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) are currently in their third pilot year, and significant improvements regarding the administration of these assessments were made this year.

Join in a discussion about these updates and how they are positively impacting students.

Dan Karas is Acting Executive Director, Provincial Assessment Sector with Alberta Education. Dan has held a number of senior management positions with the Government of Alberta since 2009. This includes overseeing the administration of provincial assessments in both paper and digital formats. Prior to joining the department, he was an Assistant Principal and taught a range of subjects from grades 7 to 12 in Northeast Alberta.

Nicole Lamarre is Director, Student Learning Assessments and Provincial Achievement Tests with Alberta Education. Nicole has held a number of senior management positions with the Government of Alberta since 1998. This includes overseeing the development of English and French provincial assessments and the development of French programs of studies and resources across all subject areas. Prior to joining the department, Nicole taught French Immersion in Grande Prairie, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Red Deer Room

Helping Prevent Online Sexual Exploitation of Alberta Youth

Landa O’Neill

Colleen Foster

Power Off Predators Foundation

Youth have access to the internet 24/7.

Education regarding the luring process used by online predators to encourage a relationship is important information for youth to know.

Parents and school councils are vital to help provide this information to youth.

This session will offer participants information about the Power Off Predators program which is taught to youth.

The program spends little time reviewing internet safety, but focusses on myths surrounding predators, the “5 Step Luring Process” and open, honest discussions about current media programs youth are engaged in.

Discussion includes beliefs regarding personal boundaries, talk about sexting, “shaming”, and personal responsibility in forwarding a photo. Laws are explained and how to report if youth are approached by an online predator.

Landa O’Neill is the Executive Director for Power Off Predators Foundation. Landa is a volunteer with the Red Deer Crisis Centre and has expertise in business planning and social media awareness.

Colleen Foster is a retired Social Worker. Colleen was a member of the two year research and design team for this program and is currently a board member for Power Off Predators Foundation.

Edmonton Room

Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees

Alberta Education

School Fees are a topic frequently discussed at school council meetings, but not always with all of the correct information. Presented by an informed and knowledgeable member of the Alberta Education team, this session will provide information related to **Bill 1 – An Act to Reduce School Fees**.

As well, information on the status of a *School Fees Regulation* will be shared.

Time will be allotted for questions and comments about Bill 1, so bring your school council questions regarding School Fees and gather information to prepare an update for your next school council meeting.

Calgary Room

The Purpose of School Councils

Angela DeJong

Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA)

Understanding the legislated role of school council including which topics/areas are open for discussion, and which require caution, help to prevent tension and dysfunction within school councils and the school communities.

Learning how to identify the work of school councils, how to frame a “personal issue” from a school council perspective, and how to broach sensitive topics is essential for new and returning members of school council.

Angela DeJong, ASCA Instructor, is married and a mom to two teenage boys. She has actively participated in both school council and fundraising association activities at each of their schools, completing many different executive and committee position terms, while working as a part-time bookkeeper.

She completed her Bachelor of Education degree at the University of Alberta and worked at Alberta Education participating in numerous initiatives including *2learn.ca* and *Computers for Schools* projects.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS B. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Fort McMurray Room

Promoting School Strategies for Gender Inclusion

Kristy Harcourt

Courtney Cliff

Pride Centre of Edmonton

This session is for parents who have some familiarity with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) and/or with gender diversity, who want to promote awareness of gender diversity in their children's school or school district.

If you are seeking ways to collaborate with teachers and administration to address gender policing or exclusion behaviours by other students, this session will share evidence based approaches to expanding the conversation about gender norms and gender expression.

Kristy Harcourt is an adult educator and training developer, focused on school and community safety and community inclusion issues.

Currently the Education Coordinator at the Pride Centre of Edmonton, she has developed curricula and delivered training for The Canadian Red Cross, the Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton, the Province of Alberta and other organizations.

Courtney Cliff is the Community Educator at the Pride Centre of Edmonton, with over five years' experience working within LGBT communities in Alberta.

Medicine Hat Room

Learning Technology Policy Framework 2.0

Brian Callaghan

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

The goal of the Learning Technology Policy Framework (LTPF) is to enhance student learning.

School leaders often envision the implementation of instructional technology in schools - that directly impact family and school fiscal resources and planning.

The voices of parents are critical to the implementation of the LTPF initiative, and school council meetings are ideal for these discussions to take place.

Informed parents are more likely to understand the value of the LTPF initiative, and support their student's learning.

Brian Callaghan has been an Education Consultant with the Alberta School Boards Association for the past five years. He was a former Superintendent with Northland School Division and with Canadian Rockies Public Schools for 25 years.

Canmore Room

Meeting Management

Suzanne Lynch

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Meaningful school council or fundraising association meetings require strong leadership and clear, easy to follow processes for all participants.

Having a solid Agenda, some simple Rules of Order and learning how to Direct Discussion will help to ensure the meetings are not a waste of anyone's valuable time. All meeting participants will benefit from this workshop!

Suzanne Lynch, ASCA Instructor, has been self-employed for 25 years as an aesthetician. She recently continued her passion for learning and personal growth, graduating with an Addictions and Community Service diploma.

With a passion for helping others reach their true potential, Suzanne is an active member of her daughter's school community and school council, currently serving as Chair, and is a volunteer with Diabetes Canada.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Emerald Room

Jump Start Your Future with Dual Credit!

Earn High School Credits and Post-Secondary Credits at the same time - while in High School!

Debbie Vance

Lana Rissling

College of Alberta School

Superintendents (CASS)

Alberta Education

Given the complexity of moving through learning systems, students need seamless, personalized pathways as they transition from high school to post-secondary to future employment.

Dual credit programming is where high school students participate in apprenticeship training or post-secondary, college or university courses earning both high school and post-secondary credits for the same course.

"It has shown my son a whole new world and now he can't wait to go to college. He knows what he wants to do for the rest of his life."

Quote from a parent of a student receiving dual credit programming.

This session includes presentations from rural, urban and Indigenous students who share their Dual Credit experiences.

Debbie Vance worked as an educator and administrator with the Calgary Board of Education for 33 years.

She supports the expansion and sustainability of dual credit programming in Alberta with the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS).

Lana Rissling is Program Standards Team Leader, Off-Campus / Careers / Dual Credit Citizenship and Career Pathways Branch at Alberta Education.

Diamond Room

School Councils Helping with Climate Leadership

Kathy Worobec

Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE)

Schools can support climate leadership as they reduce energy use, increase renewables, reduce costs - and most importantly, help students prepare for their energy future.

In this session, learn about some "bright lights" in this area, discuss the challenges and opportunities, and help develop a list of ideas about what your school council - and the Alberta School Councils' Association - might do to "take the next steps" for climate leadership.

Kathy Worobec is ACEE's Education Director and has worked with ACEE since 2012. She leads ACEE's work in K-12 curriculum development, education stakeholder engagement, coordinates ACEE's Alberta Green Schools and teacher professional learning.

Kathy has more than 25 years' experience in developing, delivering, and managing environmental education programs for youth and teachers. Kathy has taught in the classroom, worked in the energy efficiency field, and spent nine years as part of the Pembina Institute's GreenLearning Canada education team.

Glacier Room

The Children are Calling

Charlene Bearhead

Alberta Joint Commitment to Action: Education for Reconciliation

Our children will be the generation responsible for major changes to the way we relate to one another, Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, in this country.

Our children call upon us for guidance, direction and knowledge, but we have not had the benefit of the truth about our collective history in Canada, so we also find ourselves in the role of students at this critical period in Canadian history.

This session will provide foundational knowledge about the history and legacy of Indian Residential Schools, resources to continue our learning and to support school council members in seeking truth and pursuing reconciliation in our school communities.

Delegates will leave with practical ideas about how to implement reconciliACTION in their own schools and school communities.

Charlene Bearhead is a mother, grandmother, community member, and education innovator.

Most recently Charlene served as the first Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation at the University of Manitoba and is currently the project coordinator for the Alberta Joint Commitment to Action: Education for Reconciliation.

Founder of Mother Earth's Children's Charter School in Alberta, Charlene coordinated the youth track of *Healing Our Spirit Worldwide* in 2002 and the children's program international gathering in 2006.

Charlene has served as a teacher, principal, education director and superintendent, both on and off reserve, and holds permanent teaching certificates from both Alberta and Manitoba.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Red Deer Room

Awareness, Exploration, and Experience: *Providing Teens with Career Option Resources*

Janis Lawrence-Harper

CAREERS: The Next Generation

This session will revolve around resources for parents and school councils that will assist teenage youth in identifying careers that may interest them.

Discussion will include labour market tools, career guidance materials for parents, career exploration, opportunities in local communities, and internships that help youth field test occupations.

Round out knowledge about career awareness, exploration, and experiences that lead students to success in school and life.

Janis Lawrence-Harper is the Vice President of Operations for CAREERS: The Next Generation, a provincial nonprofit foundation that connects employers and youth through internships and career exploration.

Janis started with CAREERS in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, and presently guides CAREERS' field directors and assists schools across the province.

Previously, her ten years with Keyano College were spent growing and managing continuing education programs and developing industry training.

Edmonton Room

Provincial Curriculum Update

Paul Lamoureux

Janis Irwin

Alberta Education

These are exciting times for Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K–12) education!

Alberta Education is leading the development of new K–12 provincial curriculum (programs of study) in six subject areas to ensure that all students are provided with an education that enriches their lives and prepares them for future careers in a diversified economy.

This work includes meaningful input from Albertans, including parents, throughout the process. Join in a discussion on where the work is at, next steps and opportunities to be involved.

Paul Lamoureux is Executive Director, Operations and Curriculum Implementation Supports Sector with Alberta Education.

Paul has held a number of senior and executive management positions with the Government of Alberta since 2001. This includes overseeing curriculum development standards, development of provincial curriculum in French (all subject areas), leading provincial assessments, and overseeing international education. Prior to joining the department, Paul taught in Francophone schools in Northeast Alberta.

Janis Irwin is Executive Director, Programs of Study and Resources Sector. Janis has held senior and executive management positions with the Government of Alberta since 2011. This includes leading the development of provincial programs of studies, resources and assessments in Social Studies. Prior to joining the department, Janis was a teacher and vice principal in rural Alberta.

Calgary Room

Planning Principles

Brenda Kell

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Meaningful involvement, recruitment and effective engagement require planning.

A plan needs to be simple to communicate and achievable - given the time and resources available. Discover how these, in addition to evaluation and potential modification, are vital to ongoing development of plans.

Brenda Kell has twelve years' experience with school councils in a variety of positions. Six years as Fundraising Coordinator, two years as parent representative to the Parents Association, one year as Vice Chair and three years as school council Chair allow her to understand a wide scope of school council issues.

Brenda has volunteered extensively in schools with a focus on classroom presentations demonstrating how Math and Science are integrated into other subjects. Her professional background is in regulatory affairs and strategic planning.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS C. SATURDAY APRIL 29th 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Fort McMurray Room

An Introduction to Gender Diversity at School

Kristy Harcourt

Courtney Cliff

Pride Centre of Edmonton

This session is for parents who are new to ideas of gender diversity (gender fluid, transgender) and are curious about the kinds of policy changes and actions to create safer environments for students who express their gender in independent ways.

Using video, discussion and resources, parents can become more comfortable and knowledgeable with the diversity of gender expression and gender identity presenting in Alberta schools.

Kristy Harcourt is an adult educator and training developer, focused on school and community safety and community inclusion issues.

Currently the Education Coordinator at the Pride Centre of Edmonton, she has developed curricula and delivered training for The Canadian Red Cross, the Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton, the Province of Alberta and other organizations.

Courtney Cliff is the Community Educator at the Pride Centre of Edmonton, with over five years' experience working within LGBT communities in Alberta.

Medicine Hat Room

Creating Healthy School Communities

Anne-Marie Boucher

Brian Torrance

Alberta School Boards Association
Student Health and Wellness Task Force

"A child needs to be healthy to be a healthy learner."

A healthy school is one that consistently strengthens its capacity to be a healthy setting for learning. Creating opportunities for addressing the wellness of school communities includes student voice, resiliency and positive mental health.

Learn how to create healthier school communities and ways to enhance health and wellness in your school.

Participants will have opportunity to connect their current work to relevant issues in Alberta School communities and explore ideas on how school council can support student wellbeing in healthy school communities.

Brian Torrance is the Executive Director of Ever Active Schools. Brian works with associated government ministries, connects with partners, is in charge of fund development, provides a vision, and initiates new projects that support health and wellness in Alberta children and youth.

Anne-Marie Boucher is Vice President of the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA).

She has served three terms as a Director on the ASBA Board of Directors, 10 years as Board Chair for Conseil scolaire FrancoSud (the Southern Francophone Education Region No. 4), and has been a trustee since 2002. Since 1983, she has lived in many Alberta areas, from Peace River to Edmonton and now, Calgary. Anne-Marie worked for Edmonton Public Schools as a teacher from 1987 to 1995.

Canmore Room

Partnerships with Fundraising Associations

Tasha Schindel

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider.

Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each, and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential.

Tasha Schindel lives in Calgary, has been married for 24 years and has two school aged children. Her involvement in school councils started as soon as her children began grade 1. She enjoys the school environment and engaging parents to be involved. A business and finance background, her passion is in community volunteering.

Tasha is a former ASCA Vice President and served on the ASCA Board of Directors for seven years. She brings experience to her role as an ASCA Instructor supporting parents on school councils.

Bollywood Beats

Enjoy a performance by the professional Bollywood dance troupe of Bollywood Beats.

Bollywood / Indian dancing is all about story telling. The songs are from various movies and depict, for example, a celebration song, a seduction song, a love song, or a song of sadness. So when you dance it out, you are dancing the words and moods. Different songs are used for different occasions. Wedding songs are the most popular.



Banquet Entertainment Saturday Evening April 29th

Bollywood dancing is so diverse that it is fusion of all Indian dance forms. One Bollywood dance could be extremely traditional and classical, while another could be extremely bold and modern. As it is a creative explosion, it all depends on the choreographer/teacher's interpretation.

Bollywood Beats Dance Academy is located in Edmonton and offers Bollywood dance classes for adults, youth and children ages 3 and older. www.bollywoodbeats.org
Contact Deepti Sami, *Creative Director* at 780-953-7302 or deeptisami@bollywoodbeats.org for information.

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WINNERS CIRCLE PRIZE PROGRAM

The Winners Circle feature for delegates is a variety of prize giveaways available to be won, with chances of winning increasing by visiting exhibits in the Resource Gallery.

On the Friday schedule the Resource Gallery opens at 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm, as well as on the Saturday schedule from 10:15 am to 3:30 pm. There are over 30 exhibits offering products, services and resources relevant to parents and public education.

Exhibitors will issue “Visit Vouchers” to delegates at their booths - which can be entered into the draws for prizes. The vouchers include delegate contact information for exhibitors use.

There is no limit on the number of vouchers collected by delegates and entered for prizes.

In addition to the “Visit Vouchers”, a full size Visitor Card encompassing all vendors in the room, encouraging a “full card” to visit all exhibits, can also be entered for a draw prize.

Prizes are provided by exhibitors and sponsors, on display in the Winners Circle area of the Resource Gallery.

Winners Circle prize draws are done during the event (throughout both Friday and Saturday visiting hours) and winning tickets are posted on the prize itself.

Delegates must show their nametag matching the winning vouchers, and are expected to take the prize with them.

Have fun and support our exhibitors in the Resource Gallery!

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MARCEL'S EMPORIUM
Rocky Mountain House



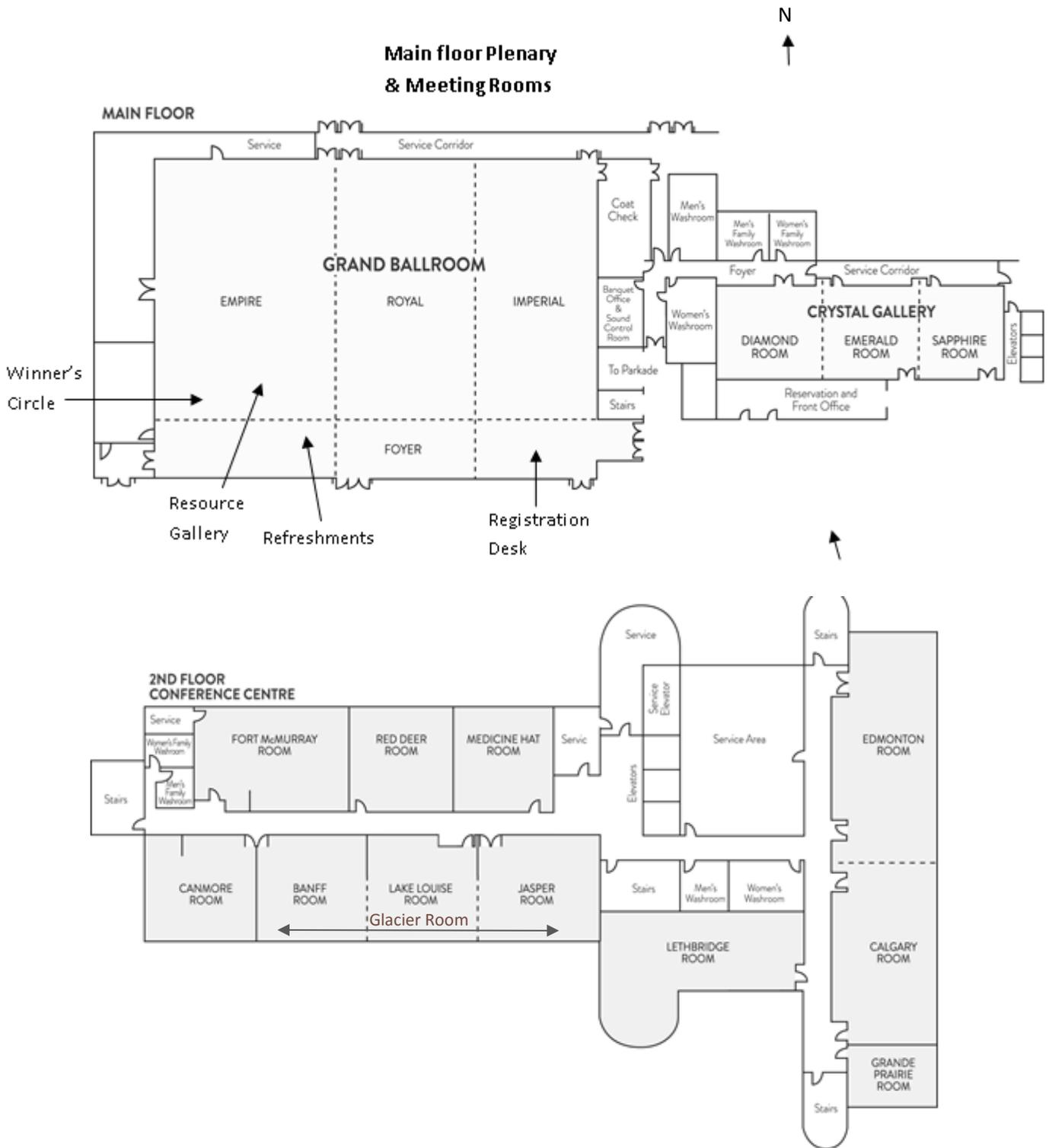
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Engraved river rocks and pocket stones help inspire, motivate and heal.
Meaningful words that carry weight, create comfort and lasting impression.
Their true magic lies in the way they touch the heart and celebrate the soul.
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VENUE FLOOR PLAN

Delta Edmonton South Hotel & Conference Centre (a Marriott Hotel)
 4404 Gateway Boulevard Edmonton AB



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday April 28

1:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Registration	Grand Ballroom
2:15 pm - 4:00 pm	Pre-session: Playground Builds and Rebuilds Pre-session: Conflict Resolution	Glacier Room Emerald Room
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Resource Gallery Exhibits & Winners Circle	Empire Room
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Welcome Social & Presentation: The Blanket Exercise	Imperial Room

Saturday April 29

7:00 am	Registration & Breakfast		Grand Ballroom					
8:00 am	Opening Greetings: President, Board & Education Partners							
8:15 am	Keynote Address: Ministry of Education							
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions A.							
Emerald	Diamond	Glacier	Red Deer	Edmonton	Calgary	Fort McMurray	Medicine Hat	Canmore
Early Development Instrument (EDI)	Want to be a School Board Trustee?	Respectful Schools Toolkit	Students with Exceptional Needs	Comprehensive School Health	Build Our Kids' Success	Engagement in Literacy	The Bullying Antidote?	Child and Adolescent Anxiety
10:15 am	Resource Gallery & Refreshments		Empire Room					
10:45 am	Keynote Speaker: Chief Wilton Littlechild		Imperial Room					
11:30 am	Networking & Resource Gallery		Empire Room					
12:00 pm	Lunch		Imperial Room					
12:30 pm	Plenary Session: Fentanyl and Emerging Drugs in Alberta		Imperial Room					
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions B.							
Emerald	Diamond	Glacier	Red Deer	Edmonton	Calgary	Fort McMurray	Medicine Hat	Canmore
Children and Youth in Care	Supports for Inclusion	Provincial Assessment	Exploitation of Alberta Youth	School Fees	School Council Purpose	Strategies for Gender Inclusion	Learning Technology Policy	Meeting Management
2:45 pm	Resource Gallery & Refreshments		Empire Room					
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Breakout Sessions C.							
Emerald	Diamond	Glacier	Red Deer	Edmonton	Calgary	Fort McMurray	Medicine Hat	Canmore
Dual Credit	Climate Leadership	Children are Calling	Career Options Resources	Provincial Curriculum	Planning Principles	Gender Diversity at School	Healthy School Communities	Fundraising Associations Partnerships
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Banquet Event - Dinner, Awards, Entertainment		Imperial Ballroom					

Sunday April 30

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration & Breakfast	Imperial Ballroom
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Meeting	
12:00 - 12:45 pm	Lunch	
12:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Meeting, Board Elections	