

Annual Facilities Report, 2015

Palliser Teacher's Convention 2015 has come and gone. Thank you to the very supportive executive and PDTCA board, including Jill White, the new facilities assistant for all the hard work in putting together an excellent professional learning opportunity for our teachers.

There were very few issues needing to be addressed during the two days. We had one noise complaint in Mac Hall D (Friday), due to construction noise from the neighboring Marriot Hotel. The hotel and CTCC have written apology letters and made some financial remuneration towards the cost of the room rental as part of the apology process.

The Glenbow Museum welcomed 110 teachers at the reduced entrance rate of \$5.

This year we had three musical groups provided by Canadian Rockies, Chinook, and Chinook's Edge Locals. Thank you for our three band liaisons (Jennifer, Ronda, and Shari) who helped usher these students. Next year is Foothills, Livingstone Range, and Palliser.

Room block fill numbers at the Hyatt 348/350 and Palliser 107/110.

The flipped room concept and increased security measures in Exhibition Hall were good changes to make. The Tradeshow opened at 8:30 a.m. with the Pre-Function Area open at 7:30 a.m. for delegates to enjoy the concession before the morning sessions.

Several delegates expressed concern about a lack of onsite bookseller and their desire to peruse speaker books. Two speakers, Michelle Cederberg, and Eva Olsson set up shop beside the information booth for a brief sale and book signing. Audrey's Books in Edmonton have expressed interest to me to see if they can help for next year. I have passed along the information to Andrea C.

This year we utilized Imperial 1-9, Exhibition Hall E/Annex, and Macleod A-D for the morning features on Thursday and then did reconfigurations (airwall moves) in Imperial and Mac Hall at noon, which went smoothly. Our vendors (AV, Convention Staff, Hotel Staff) were excellent to work with as issues came up during the planning, and convention stages.

I have again requested that the CTCC and Hyatt offers free wifi internet for delegates. The reduced rate for our exhibitors and speakers at both venues were good but user pay at the CTCC was expensive and cumbersome in my opinion and wasn't even an option at the Hyatt.

I liked the big maps and the posted grid on the walls. I would like to see a big floorplan map of the exhibits posted in the pre-function area as people come to the information desk looking for specific booths. This year I made up walking directions to the various locations of convention to give delegates helping them self-navigate around the three venues.

Coatcheck was not used much outside Macleod Hall, but again, it was relatively warm outside. I recommend continuing this in the future.

Thank you to those retiring board members for their excellent service.

Respectfully Yours, Larry Neville, Facilities Chair, PDTCA