

Program Chair Report
April 29 & 30, 2016
Submitted by Andrea Craigie

- Thank you to everyone who played a role with the program!
 - Larry for ensuring speaker facility and AV needs were met
 - Bertha and Sherry for ensuring everyone was paid
 - Derek for highlighting the program via social media
 - Program sub-committee for soliciting submissions and helping to vet them for scheduling

- General Recap of 2016 program:
 - All 3 Opening Speakers received positive feedback / evaluations
 - People were pleased with having the onsite book vendor return
 - Sched app was again popular with those who knew about it
 - Full Day offsite sessions (CTS at SAIT, Outdoor Certification, etc.) were mostly full and popular (Gymnasium sessions at Masters Academy less-so.)
 - Pre-registration system was even better than prior year, although managing pre-registrants during convention needs tweaking for 2017.
 - Having WiFi offered for Friday tech sessions was positive, albeit not all delegates brought their own devices

- Possible recommendations for 2017
 - Identify sessions requiring Pre-Reg on the large grids so that people don't try to get in on the day-of
 - Continue to schedule blocks of room by level
 - Maintain / increase number of offsite sessions
 - Start Thursday keynotes at 8:45 (with Welcomes, etc at 8:30) in order to provide 11:30-1:25 as an extended lunch option for those who choose it?
 - Offer First-Aid certification?

- 2017 Program Sub-Committee
 - members to be selected at May meeting
 - members to focus on personally soliciting proposals around specific subject areas so as to ensure balance
 - "meet" (online / remotely) in early July to narrow down proposals

- Calling ALL Board members:

PLEASE start spreading the word - and sending the link - to our Speaker Proposal Site. We generally select all local speakers and welcome new content. The deadline for submissions is June 30th and this comes up quickly!!

<http://www.pdtca.org/submit-speaking-proposal.html>