President's Report
January 18 & 19, 2019
Respectfully Submitted by Andrea Craigie

Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals.
~Dave Gynn

Welcome to Chris Gonsalvez – ATA staff officer assisting Dan Grassick with Convention Factotum duties and assigned to PDTCA

I have overseen a few tasks since our last meeting:

- Fall Convention Meeting – November 9 in Calgary
    - Regional Meetings this year, versus all 10 boards together
    - Palliser, SWATCA and CCATC in attendance
    - Review of Provincial handbook and consolidation of answers to FAQs (pre-service teachers, retired teachers, out-of-district applications, etc.)
    - Fewer stressors on our 2019 event given only three events happening simultaneously, this year

- Fall PDAC – November 23 & 24 in Edmonton
    - Phil McRae keynote on Friday night – 'Education in a Digitally Saturated World'
    - Provincial update from Dr. Mark Swanson on Saturday
    - Attended sessions on New K-4 Curriculum on Saturday
    - Opportunity for attendees to participate in new, ATA workshop offerings

- Attended Policy Review / Executive Meeting – November 30 in Calgary
    - Discussed necessity of this meeting on the calendar if there isn't policy to be changed
    - Decided to keep this as an annual meeting of just Executive, as a "touch-base" since September to ensure all is in order prior to January convening of full board
    - Minutes / Hillites from this (all all) meeting on website

Upcoming tasks, prior to Convention event:

- Notify Superintendent's about approved, alternate PD requests
- Prepare Press Release for sharing with all Palliser locals
- Assist with execution of President's Reception, February 20

On behalf of the entire Executive, I would like to thank everyone for all of the work that has gone into preparation for this year's convention. Once again, we are nearing the eve of a major professional learning event to benefit of almost 4000 teachers, pre-service teachers and retired colleagues. Some notable thanks:

- I would like to thank Jill and Larry for all of their efforts in making sure our venues are ready for our delegates and presenters. Thank you also to Larry for overseeing the planning of our Wednesday night Honorary President's reception at Thompson's.

• I would like to thank Paulette, her Assistant Christine and their Program Selection Committee for taking on the huge task of selecting and scheduling sessions. As you may or may not know, Paulette's mom lost her brave fight with cancer at the beginning of December. That Paulette was able to still work through the many details associated with programming for our event, throughout her tumultuous fall, is incredible. Thanks to those of you who were and are able to assist during this (still) difficult time.

• I would like to thank Tara for all her work soliciting and booking displayers to ensure the Exhibits Hall will again provide a variety of offerings to meet teachers' professional and personal interests.

• Thank you to Sherry and Bertha for keeping our finances current, our budget in check and ensuring speakers and venues are paid.

• Thanks also to Bertha for keeping the website up to date with the most recent convention info for our delegates, including populating our mobile Sched site.

• Thank you to Jennifer for creating the duties list for board members and ensuring that the Honorary President will receive their recognition. We love our new vests!

• Thanks Sue for keeping a thorough record of our board business and correspondence.

• Thank you, Jordan, for overseeing alternate PD requests, our policy handbook changes and for hosting hospitality duties.

• Lastly, but definitely not least, a HUGE thanks to every single board member for participating in each of our meetings, attending the upcoming President's Reception and for signing up for all of the daily tasks to ensure our 2019 convention will be another unqualified success! We are fortunate to have a large, strong team with a diverse array of talents willing to be volunteered.

Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something.
~Author Unknown