

## ATA Staff Office Convention Update – September 2022

- A very recent update regarding offering childcare at conventions has taken place, and a memo will be sent soon with more details. In short:
  - After receiving a request from PDTCA to offer childcare, and once PEC decided that 2023 conventions were in-person, I sought approval to seek legal advice from Field Law regarding this possibility;
  - Over the summer, Field Law prepared a response to ATA with information and recommendations;
  - This week, the ATA Executive Secretary Dennis Theobald and his Associate Executive Secretary Robert Mazzotta offered recommendations and have approved the request in principle, with guidelines as provided by Field Law.
  - Those guidelines include:
    - The childcare service would be contracted to a licensed day care provider;
    - Insurance would be obtained (ATA already provides insurance certificates for all venues so we would weave this coverage in);
    - The licensed daycare provider would have staff with criminal record checks, the appropriate percentage of staff with first-aid, and would require parents whose children attend the convention daycare to sign a waiver. The provider would also need to ensure adequate staffing and group size ratios and maximums, as required by the Child Care Licensing Regulation, Alta Reg 143/2008, s. 25;
    - This would be an optional service as directed by interested convention boards. In other words, it would not be a requirement of ATA that conventions must offer this service to members, but instead an option convention boards could pursue if they wished to;
    - Convention boards would first confirm with the convention venue would allow such a service to be offered on their premises.
  - I am grateful to PDTCA for pursuing this childcare request. With the membership being very split regarding the future of convention being in-person or online, having on-site childcare may alleviate the concerns of some members.
- With the return to in-person conventions in 2023, convention boards are reminded of Administrative Guideline updates that occurred at the start of the pandemic that "Convention boards shall reserve at least eight (8) time blocks each year for sessions offered by the Association president and executive staff officers." Logistically, the Association requests two rooms each day to host its sessions in. Further requests regarding requested room layout (where options exist) will be shared this fall.
- Convention attendance request forms found at <https://ata.smapply.ca> are live and available for members to submit requests. It is recommended that convention boards post a link to this site on their websites if they have not yet done so.
- Convention guest registration forms are being finalized and tested, and will be shared with convention boards via memo soon, should they wish to include them on their websites. Once finalized, the links to these forms will also be posted to the ATA conventions website at <http://ataconventions.ca>
- We are exploring the possibility of having Shari Graydon speak at each convention with Morgex sponsorship. This comes after the ATA Summer Conference in which Shari was a keynote for the Women in Leadership breakfast and the very positive response from those convention reps at summer conference who strongly suggested she be approached. We would ask that conventions hold off on contracting Shari individually until we can engage with her about speaking at all conventions.

- There will be a rally held Oct. 22 (Danny or Karen will present the PPT slide.)