

Program Chair Report for June 2 Exec meeting

June 2, 2023

Program Chair: Alison England

program@pdtca.org

Work Completed:

- Attended Spring Convention Meeting on April 28.
- We are in negotiations with two potential keynotes, and we have confirmed Olympian Catriona Le May Doan

Work In Progress:

-OUR PROGRAM SITE IS OPEN!! Please encourage your colleagues and/or anyone in your professional network who might make a great convention presenter to submit proposals. We give preference to our own delegates to present at our conference, so have your teaching colleagues get in there! Please personally invite these people to the link on our website and encourage them to submit a proposal.

Copy / Paste the template below, if you'd like.

(Please also send this to your Local Secretary for distribution to ALL your teachers.)

The Palliser District Teachers' Convention (all Alberta public teachers from south of Red Deer, excluding Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat) invites you to submit a proposal for our February 22& 23 2024 event via the following link:

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

We have a preference for selecting LOCAL speakers, and YOU are a LOCAL speaker if you work for one of our school divisions! Our proposal site closes on July 10 and an initial program is created in August with contracts forwarded from August through to the end of September. We would be excited to receive one or more session proposals from you. Our event is held in downtown Calgary at the Telus Convention Centre and Hyatt Regency. (We do not have kitchens, science labs or hard court gymnasium spaces.)

Please read our Speaker Guidelines (available at the same link) when you submit, to learn more about how we pay honorariums, travel costs, etc. Please note, this invitation to apply and/or a past acceptance of a session does not guarantee anyone a spot in the 2024 Program. Last year we had over 350 submissions for just 200 program spots. We strive to create a program that includes topics across all curricular areas, and speakers from throughout the province (or Canada!), all the while being cognizant of a limited budget.

A couple of "hints" to being selected is to propose an interactive session and/or one with a catchy title! If you would be requesting travel expenses or substitute release costs, proposing multiple sessions for one day would give us a better bang for your buck too. We hope you will consider the Palliser Event. (And please feel free to forward this invitation to your colleagues - particularly those who may have sessions to share in the areas of: French Immersion, French as

a Second Language, CTF/CTS, Band, FNMI, Religious Studies, ELL and other specialized curricula, on-line teachers.)

New Business:

Based on:

- Evaluation forms from this past Convention regarding start times
- Evaluation forms from this past Convention suggesting keynotes on Thursday AND Friday
- Observations with attendance for 8:30am keynotes on Thursday
- Possible cost-saving efforts

1. We are going to move to a 9:00am start time, and we will be doing 60-minute sessions.
2. We will have one location for our Keynote speakers (Exhibition Hall), and sessions will run at the same time. There will be three keynote speakers, One will speak twice on Thursday morning, the second will speak twice on Thursday afternoon, and one will speak twice on Friday morning. This way we are only using one large room for keynotes and those other large rooms can be broken down to break out rooms.
3. Alison is looking for **Program Committee** members who will do a digital vetting of proposals the somewhere in between July 11 and 18 for creation of the preliminary program. Please fill out this google form:
<https://bit.ly/3N0e1wf>