

Feedback
I would have loved to have seen more sessions for Pre-K/Kindergarten. It was hard to go for lunch together when there were sessions starting at 11:45. Next year, it would be nice to see a break so people can go to all their sessions and spend their lunch collaborating with colleagues.
Well done !!
Can we split the keynotes up between Thursday and Friday? We need something that draws people back together on Friday morning I think.
I much preferred online convention. The chance to view recorded sessions was a gift. And also super easy to switch if a session wasn't working for me.
Is it possible to institute some "lunch and learn" specialty sessions? In a few conferences I've attended this was a good way to prevent the after lunch "decline" in participation by keeping people on site. You get some big name people to run lunch hour sessions and participants pay a fee to attend. And it includes their lunch. The number of teachers who disappear after lunch is really growing because they leave the site and never come back. We need to offer opportunities for people to remain on site for lunch.
More keynotes both Thursday and Friday mornings. Maybe 2 each day.
More sessions on students with complex communications and disabilities.
As my first convention that I participated as a board member, I thoroughly enjoyed convention more than usual due to the fact that I knew a lot more of what was happening and was more involved in the process. I felt there was a good variety of topics for sessions, great keynote speakers and a decent exhibition. I would have liked to see compression sock companies allowed in the exhibition as I usually get my yearly socks at convention. Also, it would have been nice to have more vendors. It was nice to be in person again to have the personal connection, but I did attend more sessions when convention was offered virtually and re-watched the sessions that I was interested in that were held at the same time as others I was interested in. So, they both have their pros.
Please, please move convention back online. It was an overwhelming experience to go in person. The online experience provided so much more variety when it came to speakers/presenters. To show up in rooms, only to have standing room only or to even navigate where each session was, was just not a fun experience. It was draining. Going online could help us pool resources with other divisions across the province. Meaning, we could have opportunities to collaborate with excellent educators and share resources with one another in an online format, regardless of distance. There is a huge opportunity to offer in-person, on location, sessions that are relevant to context (place-based learning) while also providing online opportunities for those who wish to learn from one another.
Thought it was great!!!
Good overall, excellent keynotes, facilities good. Nice to have wifi this year.
Would it be possible to facilitate work workshop and less sit and listen sessions.
I appreciate the work that goes into putting a convention. It is surprising to see that Calgary boards are getting influential speakers like Howard Gardner, and many other big names in the past. I would rather not see money spent on hospitality, but instead, quality speakers.
Convention was great again this year. I always appreciate the off site and sessions at the zoo. Lots of great learning. Thank you for all the planning that went into this! Looking forward to next year.

Great keynotes, would love to be able to see all of them versus having to choose. Sessions were spread out so there wasn't as much congestion. Enjoyed being in person but was able to attend more sessions when we were online.
Uninspiring, but had some good bits of comedy.
I enjoyed convention this year, and there were many sessions to choose from. With the cold snap we had, it would have been nice to have an online option instead of stressing about driving to the city in the weather.
Enjoyed this year's convention! Had some options for CTS sessions so that was really great. Would love to see more booth's in the exhibits area as it was seemed sparse this year. Not sure how to attract them but hopefully they start to return in the coming years.
The first convention back after COVID was well organized. The keynotes were interesting and engaging. There was a bit of a crush outside Tom Jackson between his sessions - perhaps designating one set of doors as entrance and another as exit?
Very limited CTS sessions. Would like to even be able to watch recordings of CTS sessions that are put on at other conventions. When we were online, I attended 7 sessions. This year there was nothing applicable. Hard to get excited about convention. My time would be better spent lesson planning.
I really really really wish convention was online. Even without a pandemic, it is still just better to be able to attend online. We live so far away from downtown Calgary, and without compensation for gas, parking and meals, this is quite an expense. And for some of us, it means a hotel room, childcare care overnight, and it's overall a big headache. Also, when it is online we are able to attend so many more sessions. I would ask that convention please be returned to its online format, or offered as a hybrid model with an online option.
Enjoyed being in person. Did not enjoy personal expenses to pay to attend. Enjoyed keynotes. Missed big name speakers we were able to see on line. Would like to have a keynote speaker for each day.
Our staff were surprised that the convention was back in-person. We did not see the results from last year's survey when almost everyone on our staff voted a preference for a Zoom oriented convention. We wondered about the cost of booking the facilities, flying in and providing accommodation for speakers and the challenges of bringing all of our teaching cohort together. Although the sessions I personally attended (primarily Jane Felling from Box Cars and One eyed Jacks) were excellent, other teachers had mixed feelings about their sessions. We would appreciate more information on why the Convention Board chose to go back to an in-person mode.
Keynote speakers Jessica Holmes and Dr. Lisa Belanger were both engaging and pertinent. Would love more sessions that are applicable to all levels and modules of the secondary Sports Medicine option class.
It was nice seeing people in person again. Moving forward it would be nice to consider both options. I would like a virtual option every other year followed by in person. I think this would give flexibility and help attract bigger presenters like we did during virtual only convention.
Thanks for all the work you do. I did a lot of off-site sessions and loved that option...even in the cold!
Wish it could have been online. Was hard to attend sessions as they were at the same time. When it was recorded and we could watch at different times I went to way more sessions and learned so much more!
I was happy to have attended several excellent sessions. I did prefer online as I was able to access more sessions. It always seems like all the ones I want to attend happen at the same time and then I have to choose. The ability to watch recorded sessions was an amazing option. It would maybe be nice to alternate online and in person conventions.

There were some excellent speakers and a few flat spots. I appreciate the increasing number of off-site presentations. It never fails that speakers I want to see are back to back and I have to choose. The online convention was awesome in that you could go to every session if you chose to do so.

I would like to see an online option, as this is more feasible money wise and it allowed teachers to join more sessions that are in alignment with their teaching (ie. if I go to a session and then it is not what I expected, I don't feel guilty about leaving to find a better session for my needs).

I hope that we eventually cancel the colossal waste of time and money that is Teacher Convention. It offers very little of use for my teaching, it is an unfortunate opportunity for the ATA to try to push its woke ideology on Albertan teachers, and it means more days out of the classroom when our students are in real need of remediation due to COVID learning-losses.

Let's end the yearly boondoggles.

Thanks.

Enjoyed seeing some new things at the trade booths. Some good options this year for Older students.

I thought the convention was very well organized with a wide range of options for everyone. Next year I will need to jump on the off site selections earlier as they did fill up fast.

As far as generalist conventions go, I found there was value in the convention. However, as a specialist at the high school level I feel that I would get more value attending a conference that focuses on my particular subject areas/focuses for growth. Perhaps it is worthwhile considering a model in which, rather than funding being spent on one large conference, teachers are allocated funding and a couple of substitute days and given the opportunity to attend a conference of their choice.

I am very disappointed with convention this year. I teach high school math and physics. There was a grand total of two sessions dedicated to high school math and science. One was biology related which I don't teach and the other was a calculator pitch.

I have put on my own sessions in the past; however, it shouldn't be on teachers solely to get good quality sessions in place for all teachers. The MCATA has no issue getting good presenters in place for their annual conferences. Other divisions have no issues getting good presenters out for their conventions. Additionally, the deadline to submit approval for a session is too tight. In June, I do not know what my February is going to look like or know what I would like to present on. The deadlines should be mid fall or early winter if you would like to have more good quality and experienced presenters sign up.

Meh... for the time it takes and money it costs to go to the city and book all the spaces, I feel it could be online and the money put towards the students.

HUGE WASTE OF MONEY!!!!!!!

Didn't find the sessions overly helpful. The nice thing with online is if you don't like the session you can leave and join another - wasn't time specific. Seems like a no brainer to me.

As a whole I really enjoyed the convention. My only concern was that there was no allotted lunch break. I had to miss a session each day and felt guilty, however needed a time to regroup and recharge. Other wise, the convention was great.

I enjoyed the online convention as I was able to attend the sessions I wanted to. While it was nice to visit with colleagues being back to in-person, it seems in any given time slot there are only a small handful of worthwhile sessions that quickly fill up. If there was a way to anticipate this in advance and increase the space it would make convention feel more impactful.

<p>There really needs to be more high school music options. There was only 1 this year.</p>
<p>I was very frustrated that you did not keep an online version of the convention. For those of us that have to drive over 4 hours to Calgary in bitterly cold weather, it is unsafe! Please consider providing an online version in the future. I also felt that I learned more from the online platform. I was able to attend sessions that were offered at the same time at a later date. This event is also very expensive and I feel the funds could and should be spent on something more important. This practice began 84 years ago, maybe it is time to change with the times!</p>
<p>Convention was a successful endeavour, and it was so nice to be back in person for it! Guest speakers are always the most enjoyable part of the day</p>
<p>There were several different options for focus this year, again, which is appreciated. There seemed to be fewer options, which might have to do with some divisions heading to Red Deer. However, I do hope that the Palliser in Calgary continues to function as our main convention location. It would be neat to see some more exhibitions for higher level education in the exhibition hall (manipulatives/tools for high school students). Thanks!</p>
<p>I loved the work that went into convention this year. The keynotes were amazing and the sessions were great! I loved meeting and seeing colleagues in person. I would like to see the Thursday continue to be in person but I did notice the attendance for Friday dropped significantly. Could we look at attendance in person on Thursday with online sessions and off campus sessions on Friday. I also wonder if the booths could be spread out across the whole convention space and not in one room only. Thanks so much for your amazing work!</p>
<p>Really enjoyed Jig Saw sessions and Convention as a whole event. Thank you for the efforts of the committee.</p>
<p>Good keynote speakers.</p>
<p>Tough to park near the facility.</p>
<p>The keynotes were entertaining and the sessions that I attended were interesting. It's always awesome to see colleagues from other districts and the Convention Board members are amazing humans, be helpful and positive!!!</p> <p>That said, I wonder if there is some discussion about alternating between in person and online Convention formats? Hear me out. I find the amount of time & money to travel, park, pay for parking and food downtown Calgary, or alternatively pay for accommodations in the city becomes a major expense. With the online format, I was able to attend so many more sessions without traveling, both to the city and between the convention sites, without the extra cost and expense, both monetarily and time wise. I wonder if a survey could be provided with specific questions about a yearly alternating Convention schedule. I understand it may not be a Convention Board decision, but one that needs to be made at the provincial level (PEC).</p> <p>Thank you providing this format for feedback.</p>
<p>Overall enjoyed being back in person. I found some of the rooms were too small for the amount of people registered in the session. Lots of art sessions but many are repeats from previous conventions. Love the many choices for off-canvas sessions it seems there were way more than previous years. Would be nice to have the sessions digitized to review after but this is a big ask. Thanks to the organizers for their great work!!</p>

I enjoyed engaging in convention in person again this year. I would like for that to continue. Overall it was a great experience! I found many of the literacy sessions targeted beginner or novice teachers. If possible, I would like to see more intermediate literacy sessions.

I appreciate all the hard work that goes into Convention - thank you. While I value some aspects of the return to face-to-face connections, I really missed the many advantages to a virtual convention, in particular the ability to take in more than such a limited number of sessions in person. With recordings, I was able to learn more than when I can only go to one of a number of good concurrent sessions. Please return to virtual conventions.

More senior high math sessions are needed.

Keynote speakers were good.

Overall, it was well organized with a good variety of topics.

First of all, thank you for all of the wonderful sessions.

It would be great to add some sessions for online teachers. Foothills School Division still operates a digital school.

Sessions for learning coaches as well.

I had a wonderful convention and always learn something new.

While it was great to see everyone, I enjoyed convention online much better. I think now, given our past experiences, convention should be a blended model. Of course there are sessions that need to be in person or onsite, but the rest can be online. I was surprised that I got way more out of convention online than I ever did in person. That is not because of terrible sessions. I know the board goes to great lengths and tremendous work to put on convention and I appreciate that hard work! However, going into sessions that I wanted, trying those I wasn't sure of and opting out if it didn't fit my learning needs without worrying that I couldn't get into a session I didn't start with, able to go back and listen to recorded sessions I want to revisit or ones had to miss due to selection conflicts - to me that's the future of conventions and professional learning. As for PD funds, allow meals and hotels if online due to children at home and being away is good for mental health. Not having to drive to, stay and eat in downtown Calgary is a huge cost saver for my PD funds. I can then use the funds to further my IPGP and personal growth, taking what I've I've learned at convention and building on that learning.

Better than expected. Everyone kept raving about being back in person but I feel they did not take that some of us were not happy to be back in person. For some of us it is a very long drive on questionable roads and a large out of pocket expense to stay in hotels and eat out.

There needs to be some kind of grab and go food available please.

Although I did enjoy some of the sessions I attended, I would LOVE to have the online option made available for next year. I found there were more choices for sessions, and I was able to view more sessions virtually than I attended in person. In addition, there is such a cost associated with attending the convention. Hotels, parking, transportation costs, meals, etc., all add up, and it becomes almost prohibitively expensive!

Please consider an online option for convention attendees next year.

Thanks!

Thank you for all of the organizers who put time and effort in making this Convention a yearly success. My suggestion would be to offer a hybrid model or going back to online. This is both time and cost effective.

I enjoyed the convention as a whole. The speakers offered a diverse range of topics and timely themes. I think the keynotes could be strengthened. I would also like a return to a hybrid convention that integrates the flexibility of zoom or in-person attendance. Thanks to all!

I found online convention to be more convenient and better sessions without the hassle of coming in from out of town. It's too expensive even with the convention rate to stay at a hotel and not convenient with small children to do that. Online convention, had really good sessions and from the privacy of my home. Some things that were done prior to the pandemic like in person convention doesn't mean it's better in person. What we have learned since the pandemic and going online was that convention was relaxing, engaging sessions without all the hassle and all the people. Going to big a convention, big sessions with lots and lots of people is stressful. All of it frankly. Online convention was not only convenient, engaging sessions and absolutely peaceful. You were able to go to more sessions, because you didn't have to walk around and find they were full etc...

Frustratingly few options for teachers who have "filled their bucket" with resilience and mental health conversations, especially for those of us at the high school level.

That being said, the sessions I did attend were lovely. I really appreciated the AHS Teaching Sexual Health Education sessions, and wished there were more offerings for high school English language arts.

I question the need for such a large venue, especially when it increases the cost so much for those in attendance.

I think the quality of keynote speakers was exceptional. I really loved them all. I did not like the variety in the other sessions. I really didn't feel like it related to me as a 8 year teacher. I feel like it was geared to new or teachers seasoned and looking for new ideas.

Overall, the convention was great! I really appreciate the diverse sessions available to teachers. I truly feel that I have gained a lot of valuable tools and knowledge that I can take into my classroom. I also really appreciated how spacious the venue was, the quality of the sessions and the overall organization and management of the convention. It was really well put together. I also thought it was so fun to have some guest speakers from outside of the teaching world to give us a fun, fresh perspective. The exhibition had a great collection of diverse vendors, not just typical ones we might expect!

In the future, I would love to see more sessions about child development and education from a neurological perspective. Also, it would be much appreciated if there could be an allocated prayer space for those who may need it (I am of the Islamic faith).

Thank you kindly for the hard work :)

I feel like while it was nice to be back in person, the amount that I took away and learned is the same as when the convention was online. I just wonder with so many people needing to travel to get the convention, and the amount of money that it costs to both individuals and the convention, if it is more practical to do an online convention.

Overall very happy with the convention.

I'm a learning support teacher that focuses a lot of attention on extreme behaviours of students with regulation issues that one would see in ADHD to complex students with ASD. I would have loved to see more focus on these areas for inclusive practices. We are seeing more and more students in our school systems that are non-verbal, and very physical on themselves and the adults they work with

<p>and while I understand their complexities and I'm empathetic it is very hard for a classroom teacher to understand these complexities while they are teaching their classes. I would have enjoyed listening to specialists or educators from facilities such as Janus Academy or Autism Calgary for programming purposes and ideas to bring back to work.</p>
<p>Very good.</p> <p>It was so nice to be able to share time and learning with colleagues in-person after the pandemic period of isolation!</p>
<p>The convention was great! I attended a few wonderful French classes and got many teaching resources I can use in my classroom!</p>
<p>I really enjoyed Jessica Holmes but didn't find the other sessions to be that engaging.</p> <p>Great location, decent variety of sessions. Would definitely like to see more sr. high Humanities sessions, but understand that is dependent on people signing up to present. Overall, I found the sessions I attended helpful, the venue was convenient, and I had a great convention year!</p> <p>Wouldn't mind seeing a combo of online and in-person sessions, which may allow for further-away presenters to offer their sessions virtually?</p> <p>Finally, loved that there were so many zoo sessions, and would love to see community partnerships with local attractions at future conventions as well!</p>
<p>This year there were a limited number of sessions for school leaders.</p>
<p>It was really great to be back in person. The event was very well organized and the volunteers were efficient and helpful. Tom Jackson is a national treasure, I could listen to him at every convention. There was only one of my chosen sessions I could not attend, as the room was already over capacity a full 10 minutes before the start time. The hospitality event at the Legion was fun, as usual. Thank you for all your hard work; believe me I know what it is like.</p>
<p>Would like a blend of digital and in person options.</p>
<p>There should be an online portion similar to the convention during Covid.</p>
<p>Great to be in person this year, let's hope we never have to go back online again. I appreciated the variety of sessions and the keynote speakers were good.</p>
<p>Very satisfied overall. I would like to see more presentations in French, but I really appreciated the ones from presenters from Québec (especially l'école branchée). I might be interested in presenting something next year.</p> <p>Please post maps of the building: I got quite lost!</p>
<p>Organisation and presentations were great but the vendors section didn't offer much.</p>
<p>It was so great to be back in live and in-person sessions. I appreciated all of the work the convention board did. Thank you!!</p> <p>I would like to alternate from a live session one year to a virtual session the next year. This way, we can cut down on expenses and please both people who choose live and virtual.</p> <p>Hoping for a virtual session next year!</p>
<p>Merci à tous ceux et celles impliqués dans l'organisation du congrès. Votre dévouement est très apprécié!</p> <p>En tant qu'enseignante francophone depuis plus de 15 ans en Alberta, j'ai été déçue par l'offre d'ateliers en français. Je suis consciente que notre réalité en milieu minoritaire n'est pas toujours</p>

facile. Je trouve que nous avons beaucoup plus de choix et de variété lorsque nous étions à Edmonton avec tous les enseignants francophones de la province.

Ceci étant dit, j'ai adoré la présentation de madame Nancy Goyette.

Les bénévoles avec les vestes rouges étaient super sympathiques!

The procedure to register for limited seating sessions was frustratingly difficult to follow. As a result, I wasn't able to put my name for a few sessions that were of interest. This system has to change. I wish that there were more sessions in French.

It would be nice to have access online as well as in person. I saw way fewer speakers than I would have liked.

There were also not enough speakers in French. We really need to do something about that.

Love it and well organised.

This was my first convention and I thought it was very informative. I wish there would have been signage or a digital map to navigate the convention centre better. Also there were so many good talks but because of timing couldn't attend very many of them. Some of the talks were very long. Overall my experience was good and definitely liked it.

It was just ok, personally I prefer the online version. I use to go to way more conferences and you had the opportunity to change "room " if you didn't like it.
And does it really needs to be downtown?

Lots of Math sessions,
No or little music workshops
little literacy sessions
Lots of the popular sessions all at the same time and little later on or Friday.
Need more or different vendors.
Liked the scavenger hunt activity.
Sessions I did attend were all good except for one.

Good place and some interesting meeting.

The convention was interesting and it was pleasant to spend time with colleagues in person.
Loved the francophone presenters.
Great venue

Thanks for this convention. I had a good time, good keynotes.

Hello, I really appreciate how organized the convention always is. The different conference are always easy to find and well-indicated. I very much enjoyed the keynote speakers, most notably Tom Jackson and Jessica Holmes. Keep 'em coming!

Good but too much french sessions at the same time. It will be better if there was a french session at each block.

The rest was awesome.

It was nice to have it back in person. I like the connections with others. I liked all my sessions. Everyone with the red vest were very helpful.

There were some excellent sessions, and some that were not as engaging or enlightening, or worthwhile as I thought they would be. I can tell you that I did not get to see, or participate in as many sessions as I did last year when it was on line. The on line convention is way more accessible. Overall convention was typical.

<p>It was great to be back in person at convention! I thought the two days were well-planned and engaging. The venue is great and the speakers were engaging. I didn't love the exhibits, I think this could be better.</p>
<p>Would have preferred an online Convention. Missed sessions I wanted to attend due to many at the same time slot. With online, I could catch up the ones I missed.</p>
<p>J'ai beaucoup aimé le congrès mais il faudrait faire attention aux sessions en français afin qu'elles ne soient pas en même temps.</p>
<p>I really enjoyed convention. The guest speaker I saw was super humorous, just what I needed. My sessions ran on time, were not overcrowded, and I left wanting to know more.</p>
<p>Merci beaucoup pour l'organisation du congrès. J'ai particulièrement apprécié Mme Nancy Goyette. Merci pour votre effort à offrir des sessions en français.</p>
<p>I think it is absolutely ridiculous that after running a successful online convention for two years you made us come back in person. I was able to go to far more relevant sessions when it was online as it didn't matter if they were at the same time as others because I could watch the recordings. It was also easier to jump out of one that wasn't what you expected and into something else. There were also no full sessions.</p> <p>Also it didn't cost me a bunch of money out of my own pocket.</p> <p>Please go back to online convention.</p>
<p>Enjoyed some good sessions!</p> <p>I would like to strongly recommend being able to attend sessions online rather than in-person.</p>
<p>I preferred the online format. It allowed for more sessions to be attended and supported those who needed to travel a distance.</p> <p>I would recommend that we go towards a localized model with specialist councils leading the way or return to the online format.</p>
<p>Lots of great options for teachers of all grades and specializations. I especially appreciated the options for teacher self-care and for deepening understanding of Indigenous worldviews. The session on Friday was really great.</p>
<p>Please go back to online version. Too expensive to be in Calgary, too hard to get to sessions, and it's an outdated practice of meeting in person. I attended way more sessions with the online version and didn't have to use hundreds of dollars to attend. In person is ridiculous in this era.</p>
<p>It was great, but I would have like to be able to buy a quick coffee. I suggest having a few tables in hallways with drip coffee to buy...Lining up at starbucks or the only little coffee place is not convenient when you have a full schedule and run from session to session.</p>
<p>Great experience. Speakers were really interesting.</p>
<p>Thank you for another great year. I really apprciated the sessions I went to. As a francophone, I was happy to have many choices... but a lot of them were at the same time ! The persons who organise them should not put all the similar sessions at the same time. And the keynote, not at 8h30 !</p>
<p>Would like to see sessions available on the Thursday morning instead of only keynotes. Was disappointed that the most sessions to be attended was really 4. Maybe have key note at end of convention. Preferred the online convention format used for the past couple of years.</p>

Great guest speaker. She made us laugh and managed to get her message out at the same time.
Request for next year: Invest more in French sessions. They weren't very appealing to register in.
I enjoyed the off-site sessions I took. The only issue was the temperature as we were not able to do the outdoor activities.
I liked Convention online as I was able to attend more sessions. This year I was not able to get into a session that I wanted to go to as it was full.
I thought that Tom Jackson seemed unprepared for his session.
It was well organized. The keynotes were great and there was a lot of choices. We could use more science sessions. I like the idea of Thursday being in person and maybe Friday being virtual. Thank you.
There were not many sessions that were a great fit for me this year. I would like to see more sessions designed toward leadership and school based admin. I was a little disappointed with the quality of the keynote speakers as well. I heard about some keynote speakers at other conventions, and ours didn't quite get me as excited as those others. Finally, has there been any consideration to having one day in person and one day online, like the last few years? I really liked the convenience of online sessions, but also see the value in maintaining some in person sessions as well. Could there be financial benefits to doing so as well? Thank you for organizing and coordinating convention. It is often a thankless task to be an event manager.
Very glad to be back in person.
Thank you to all for all of your hard work and effort put into organizing a successful in person teachers convention! I appreciated the variety of sessions offered and the vendors that spent two days there for us. I do have to be completely honest and mention that I preferred convention online over in person. The cost of in person (and the stress/cost of parking) hotels (if you stayed - I stayed 1 night, coming from Drumheller) and food is a huge expense. This expense was difficult, especially when the cost of living is so high right now. Personally, I attended more sessions when it was online versus in person. I would watch sessions during the days and then after talking to colleagues I would find sessions that they recommended and watch them after. Again, thank you for all you have done. Just my honest opinion.
Great job done by the committee as always. The keynotes were fantastic! Sessions were good - just wish I could get into all the ones I wanted. It was awesome to see everyone in person and network in person but to be honest I attend more sessions when it is online. However, then we miss out on the face-to-face interactions and sharing and learning. Also wish it was cheaper to stay downtown and to park.
Convention as a Whole - Very Good!
For me, this was not a good convention. I had a very difficult time finding sessions of interest. The session options were limited in scope, repeats of the same topics from previous years, and frankly of lower quality than Professional Learning I can access elsewhere. Many of the speakers were underwhelming either in presentation style or topic. For me, these two days were not a good use of

my time. The cost and effort to travel to Calgary was not justified, not even remotely!

I realize conventions are a long standing tradition but I feel it's time to challenge why our profession holds on to it. 'One and done' PL is not effective. In an era of easy access to PL from all over the globe through books, video media, zoom, special interest conventions, etc, is a general regional convention the best way to offer PL? Considering the offerings of this convention... I'd say a resounding 'No!'

Having teachers convention in person is a complete waste of members money. Go virtual.

It was just ok this year. I don't like the 8:30 start time, as traffic was terrible and some of us are driving a long distance.

Good presenters

Enjoyed the Keynote Speakers, especially Tom Jackson

Found the displays lacking, no Nut Man

Was great to be back together, however I was not able to go to as many session as I did when we were online. It was great to be able to watch session videos after the convention. Really did get more PD.

Thank you

I loved the learning that I did when we had convention all online, and I love the social connection during in person.

What if Thursday was in person and Friday was online? Could it be a hybrid?

The convention was great. I love the venue and the sessions were diverse enough for me to find my jam.

I would like it to be recognized that Teachers Convention no longer meets the needs of teachers - we can access PD of our choice, resources and interactions with our peers extremely easily in person or virtual. The research shows that "drive by PD" does not impact our classrooms and having everyone travel downtown and find and pay for parking is not desirable. In fact, I actually dread attending teachers convention. I hear very little positive feedback from my peers as well. A lot has changed in 84 years and it is time to let this format go. The ATA needs to find a different way to reach and support its members. Perhaps a hybrid model or reducing to one day or just letting this go. I honestly did not read about one guest speaker or session that I felt passionately about attending.

There were a good variety of sessions offered at this years convention. I appreciated having workshops from organizations outside of the school districts such as Civix.

Please move it back online!

When it was online, I was able to join so many useful sessions, way more than in person. Also, I can only imagine the cost of in person is absurd. The money could be much better spend on the kids instead of renting all the space.

Key notes were ok... again a huge waste of money to have them there. If it was online I'm sure the cost would be significantly less.

The sessions I chose were not overly helpful and I ended up leaving a couple early. If it was online I could easily join another.

Long story short, I learned a lot more through the online sessions than in person.

It was so great to be back in person! I loved the keynote speakers I saw (Jessica Holmes and Dr. Lisa Belanger), and it was so great to interact with and learn from other teachers during the other sessions I attended. I have been teaching for many years, but meeting teachers who started their careers during Covid was very eye-opening. Some specialists remarked that they hadn't really met any other teachers with similar assignments in person before. It was so interesting and inspiring to hear some of

their stories. These networking and sharing opportunities were greatly missed when we were online.

The only downfall of our in-person conferences (though it's a big one) is that the personal costs can be very high, especially for teachers who have to travel long distances. While I love convention, it takes a huge part of my February pay every year, and it is very challenging to find child care whether I stay or drive in and out each day. I have tried doing both, and both were difficult and expensive. I haven't heard of any other profession or industry mandating attendance to something without financial support. Is there a way that long-distance teachers could receive some financial relief?

Sorry for my long-winded reply. I'd like to end with a huge thank you to the organizing committee for all of your hard work in putting this all together. Thank you also for creating the online versions for the years we couldn't gather. I cannot imagine the additional effort that took, especially in addition to managing your own lives and teaching assignments throughout those first crazy years of the pandemic. Well done!

Very well done! I loved the keynote speakers. It was well organized. The only thing missing was more workshops in French! Thank you!

This website is very HARD to navigate around.

Unfortunately, I didn't care for the sessions I attended this year. I much prefer virtual sessions. The last couple years attending the sessions virtually, if the session wasn't what I was expecting, I could easily leave and begin a new one. In person, if I left, I wasn't able to join another until the next one started which left me either in the flea market room (which also wasn't overly exciting) or sitting through something that wasn't benefiting me.

I also can't help but think of the cost that goes into booking the conference center... seems like quite a waste.

I found that the on-line version of convention provided more opportunity to attend sessions and/or have the option to have a recording to listen to at a later time. Often, my top two choices of sessions will be at the same time. This option to also have a recorded presentation in which I could partake at a different time was a fantastic option. Could a two tier presentation fee be set up that would account for an in-person or recorded session?

Very rich sessions very organized. diverse topics. You did a great job

I really enjoyed Jessica Holmes as a featured speaker. I also enjoyed the presentations on health & wellness. I wish there were more sr high sessions, or ELA related.

Awesome! So we'll organized!

It was great to be back in person. I loved that there was more high school science session options. I know teachers are feeling burnt out (me included) but putting such a huge emphasis on teacher burn out, depression, and self-care is irrelevant to the teaching job at this point in time (in my opinion). The job isn't changing at the moment so if love to see less, "boo hoo take care of you" and more "we got this, let's get pumped up" keynotes!

It was great to get back to an in-person convention. I thought the keynotes were great. I wish there was some more sessions geared towards division one, especially in reading and writing instruction.

I enjoyed convention being in person again. I really enjoyed the keynote speakers and the variety of sessions. Jessica Holmes message was exceptional.

Overall, I was impressed at how smoothly the transition back to an in-person convention went.

It would be nice if there were some dedicated spaces for those that are giving art sessions to use with access to water/sinks nearby so that it is easier to manage supplies.