

PDTCA President's Annual Report
March 24/25 2023

Submitted by Jill White, President

Thank you to all PDTCA members for all of your support and hard work in helping us return to our in-person convention format.

Work Completed

- Larry and I met with Danny Maas and other Convention Executive members from around the Province via Zoom on Wednesday, March 15th to discuss in-person convention experiences across the different districts.
- We found out in February that we did not receive funding through the ATA Strategic Planning Grant. Thanks to Jenn Yersh for applying on our behalf.

Work in Progress

- The Executive, Amrit Rai Nannan, and Bev Hohenwarter have made progress on our Constitution and Policy Review. We met on Saturday, January 22nd, after our full board meeting, and feel we are close to having it ready to vote on. I will reach out to District Representatives and Local Presidents to share key changes before we vote on this as a board in May.

New Business/Action Items

- Present key proposed changes to our Constitution to board then Local Presidents and District Representatives.
- After the work on our Constitution and Policy review concludes, we will reconvene the Convention by the Numbers Committee using the updated data we have received from Danny Maas. We will need to look at the remuneration for Larry's contracted position, our speaker fees, and any other outstanding cost items in our Policy.

Items/Questions for the Executive and/or Board

- Some observations from Convention 2023:
 - Most people seemed happy to be back in person. As always, personal costs are a concern for teachers, particularly for those who have farthest to travel.
 - Keynotes were very well-received, though our first sessions were still very empty at 8:30 am on Thursday.
 - I met some teachers who started teaching during the pandemic and some remarked that our convention was their first opportunity to meet teachers with similar assignments in person.
 - Friday seemed quiet all around. Hyatt lobby observations?
 - Some exhibitors voiced concern about not being 'allowed' at our convention next year.
 - Bringing banners is a source of stress for board members and Locals.
 - A prayer space is needed for our Muslim delegates.

Considerations/Recommendations for next year:

- Consider adjusting timing of keynotes, and perhaps reduce to 2 English keynotes.
- If schools are being used as off-site facilities, we need to ensure that we connect with the principal and ensure that the school or school board is aware and will be reimbursed for any additional costs that hosting a session incurs (caretakers present, etc.).
- In order to avoid raising fees, we must streamline our costs as much as possible, without reducing value to our members.
- The new ATA guidelines for Exhibitors will hurt our in-person convention. It will reduce revenues and affect the exhibit area's perceived value to both delegates and attending exhibitors. We would like PEC to reconsider these requirements or find a way to compromise that we can accept other booths after a certain date if we have not already filled up with education-focused booths.
- Eliminate the use of physical banners and instead display digital logos on the screens outside the pre-convention area.
- Consult with Muslim teachers to learn how we can best accommodate their spiritual needs, then work with our facilities partners to find a way to do so.