

Program Chair Report
 March 22, 23
 Program Chair: Alison England
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Work Completed:

1. 2024 Convention

	Budget	Actual	Money Saved
Honoraria	\$100 000	\$81 200.01	\$18 799.99
Expenses (Mileage, hotel, airfare)	\$22 000	\$14 035.84 (tentative)	\$7 964.16
Substitute costs for speakers from out of local	\$1000.00	\$250.00	\$750.00
Total Program	\$123 000	\$95 485.85 (tentative)	\$27 514.15

-Savings is partly due to more local teachers hosting sessions: This year, close to 90/256 sessions were hosted by local teachers, last year there were around 40!

2. Evaluation analysis:

- Keynotes were well-received.
- Lots of positive comments regarding our staggered keynotes and 9:00am start time.
- Several comments regarding full sessions and inability to get into desired sessions. Most of these comments were from sessions on Thursday.
- Sched* is still viewed as “Registering.” Many people are thinking they are registering, but they are not. This also isn’t a reliable gauge for attendees as many people will “register” for several sections.

3. Time and space has been booked for our in-person vetting session: JULY 31, 2024, at Trinity Christian School in SE Calgary (This is free accommodations for us, as this is a school in which an exec member teaches)

Work in Progress:

- Campaign to advertise our session proposal dates (April 15-July 26, spread the word!)
 - Social Media
 - Sending ad to all locals to put on social media.
 - Sending emails to Specialist Councils to ask them to consider submitting proposals for our 2025 year.
- Problem-solve Full Sessions on Thursday and *Sched*.
 - Possible solutions:
 - a. Option: Having larger rooms for the Thursday: Small Telus rooms could be made into larger rooms.
 - b. Option: Speakers who request smaller rooms: Hope to book them for Friday?
 - c. *Sched* is tricky: Last-minute moves to accommodate popular sessions: I’m not too sure if this is feasible, but it’s on the radar. It’s not as simple as just switching rooms, it can sometimes mean several moves and contacting several people, and this is all while teaching. Close *Sched* early?

New Business:

-There will be a Program Committee Vetting session held on **July 31, from 10:00am-4:00pm** at Trinity Christian School in SE Calgary. Plans will be made to host people from our board to bring their expertise to help select high quality sessions for our 2025 Convention. We will require board members who are able to vet for the following sessions:

PreK-Grade 12 Cores	Francophone French Immersion	CTF/CTS
PreK-Grade 12 Phys-Ed	PreK-Grade 12 Art	ELL
Leadership	Religion	DEHR
Indigenous/Metis	Inclusion	On-Line

Technology/AI/Coding	Wellness	Neurodiverse Learners
Anything else I'm not thinking of		

- Due to the late morning time start, we will not be providing hotel rooms. We will be covering mileage, providing lunch, and giving a \$100.00 honourarium helping on this day!
- Please consider signing up, A sign up list will be available at April's meeting.

Copy / Paste the template below, if you'd like.
(Please also send this to your Local Secretary for distribution to ALL teachers.)

The Palliser District Teachers' Convention (Canadian Rockies, Chinook's Edge, Christ the Redeemer, Foothills, Livingstone Range, Palliser, Prairieland, Rockyview, Three Drums of Wheat, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones de l'Alberta,) invites you to submit a proposal for our February 20, 21 2025 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 **opens on April 15 and closes on July 26**. We start programming immediately after July 26 and contracts are usually forwarded by the end of September. 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 2025 Program. Last year we had over 450 submissions for just over 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/Music, Dance/Movement, FNMI, Religious Studies, ELL, on-line teacher and other specialized curricula.

One other thing: Off-site sessions are very popular and successful. If this is something you are considering, please be prepared to host for a full day. You will have to arrange the alternative location, and permission from the school/location would be needed.

