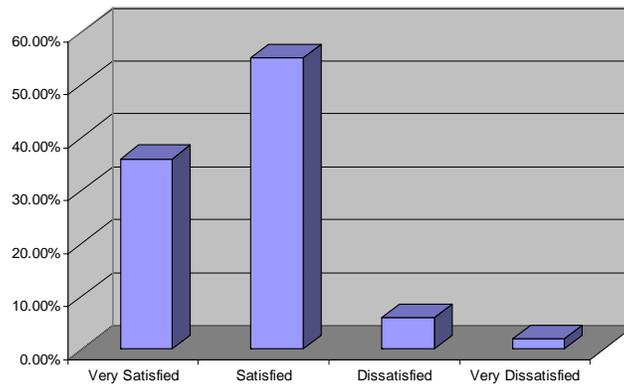




## Manitoba Association of Parent Councils 2011 Annual General Meeting and Conference Evaluation Summary

### 1. How satisfied were you with the conference promotion and information material?

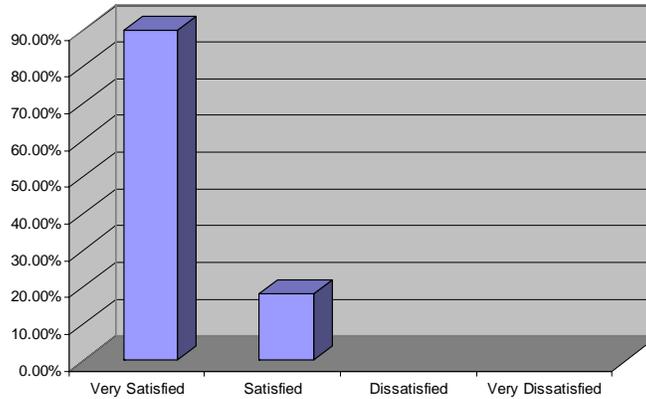


#### Comments

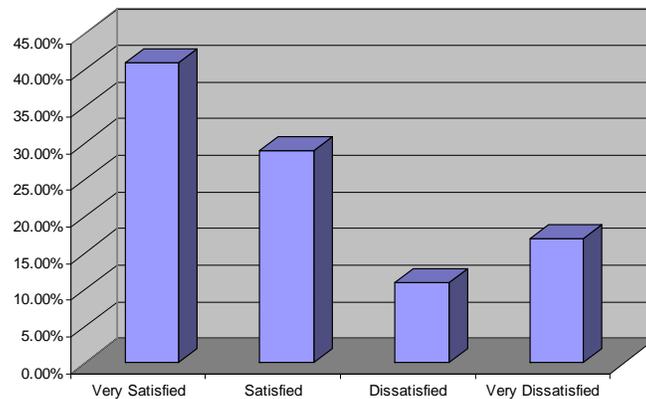
- Very uncomfortable at first to understand!
- More fundraising information
- Excellent effort
- I'm surprised at the issues some others had with voting and packages. I found the information more than adequate
- Didn't receive material like some others as we learned
- Be nice if there were attendees
- Did not receive info package in the mail
- Is evident from Friday's AGM, a "newbie" kit needs to be made available so individuals know what to expect and the process
- Excellent keynote speaker – purchased book and will use as resource for PAC and teaching staff to use
- I'm a first timer and was a little unsure of what to expect
- Could be promoted more
- Next time Mother's Day weekend is very busy – not liking the choice of weekend
- Very confusing
- Location of conference needs to be printed on registration / confirmation forms
- Just disappointed, for whatever reason, I didn't receive the package before hand
- Need more handouts, that's all

- Some people unhappy with how they were treated and informed
- Due to miscommunication our PAC didn't get material
- Lack of support from the association to provide clear information to member PACs regarding procedures of the AGM

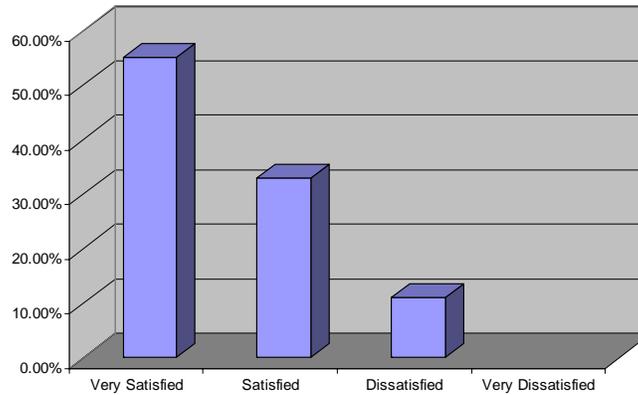
*2. How satisfied were you with the Keynote Speaker, Barry MacDonald?*



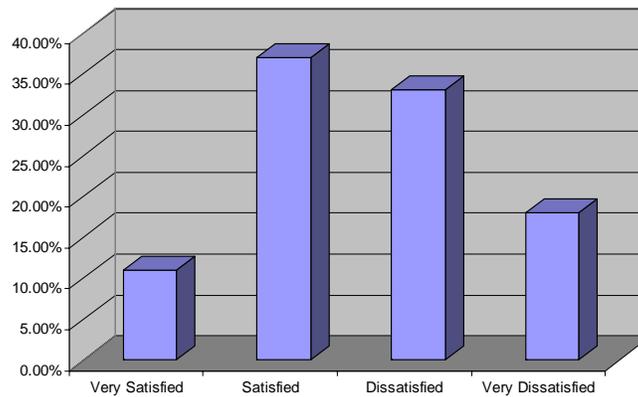
*3. How satisfied were you with the workshop, "Your PAC and its Constitution"?*



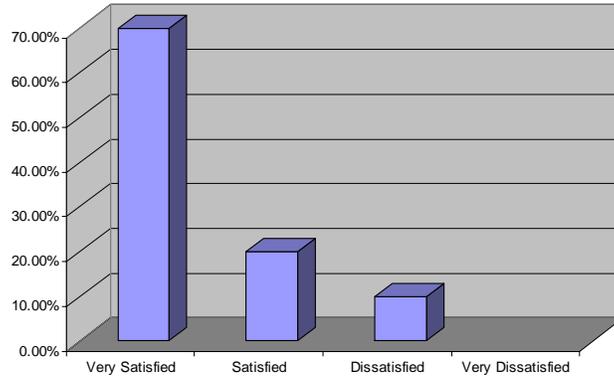
4. How satisfied were you with the workshop, "Your PAC and its Financials"?



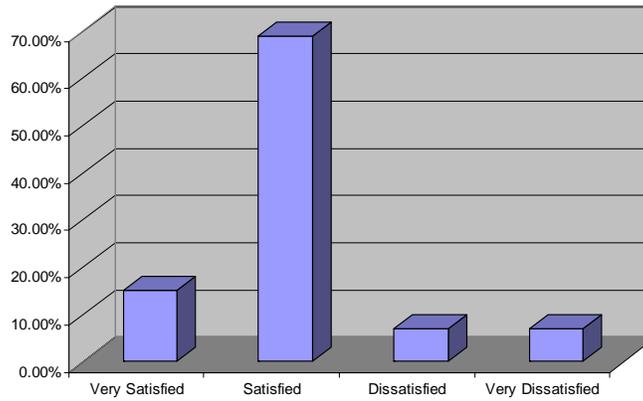
5. How satisfied were you with the workshop, "Positive Behaviour Planning"?



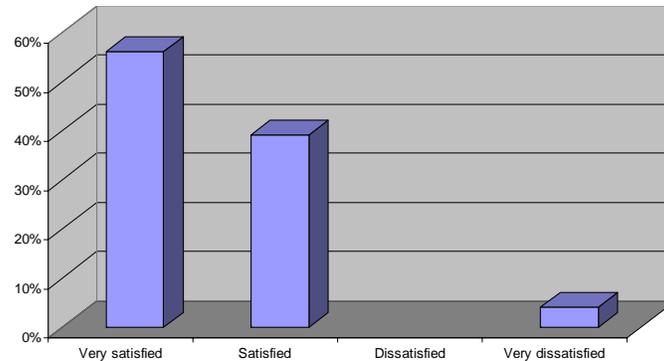
6. How satisfied were you with the workshop, "Learning More About Fundraising"?



7. How satisfied were you with the workshop, "Your Child and Arts Education"?



## 8. How satisfied were you with the workshop, “Standardized Report Cards”?



### Workshop comments

- Positive speakers to empower and motivate attendees (2 comments)
- If possible – try not have such dark rooms in the afternoon
- Better definition of each workshop to ensure it meets the needs of participant
- **Fundraising** presenters were great and gave very useful info. **Behaviour Planning** session was very high level and slides were read aloud to us. Also, all of us saying our name and school division did not add to the session, in my opinion
- Great selection of sessions
- Dissatisfied with “**Positive Behaviour Planning**” due to misrepresentation to what seminar was to be about
- Entertaining (**Learning More About Fundraising**). I will remember info. Concise.
- I would have liked her to give direction to give facts as to how it’s being implemented in schools. Need to know actual examples that are working. She was exemplary in knowing things, prepared and where to get knowledge on legislation and pamphlets (**Positive Behaviour Planning**)
- An hour is not really long enough for the workshops. This was my first year attending. It was very well organized and a good day
- Talked more about grants and planning projects than actual fundraising; community building (**Learning More About Fundraising**).
- Shared info about what goes on in school but not how I fit in, what I can do. We were directed to many documents available online. Maybe if I go read those I will find something useful (**Positive Behaviour Planning**)
- Not what I thought it was about (**Positive Behaviour Planning**)
- **Barry MacDonald** was an amazing speaker and so informative (3 comments)
- Would have appreciated more about what is required in a constitution and what our rights are (**Your PAC and its Constitution**). Was hoping for more direction for

- fundraising. How to organize, which ones work well, etc. Some more, hard numbers (**Learning More About Fundraising**)
- Found the **financials** very helpful
  - Great information (**Arts and Report Cards workshops**). Enjoyed keynote speaker the most. So glad that our presenters were willing to answer questions.
  - Awesome! Awesome! A ton of information to process and so much to bring home to our PAC (**Positive Behaviour Planning and Standardized Report Cards**)
  - Not enough high school material addressed. Even **report cards** were on middle and early years! (2 comments)
  - Vague; off-topic; wasted time on group introductions (**Positive Behaviour Planning**)
  - **Standardized Report Cards** very informative
  - **Barry MacDonald** keynote too short, wanted more time. **Positive Behaviour Planning** did not address the topic of parents' role. **Standardized Report Cards** very informative
  - Timing of keynote bit off but he explained he was tired
  - **PBP** – didn't really answer questions as a parent
  - Confusing (**Your PAC and its Constitution**)
  - Workshops could have been a bit longer
  - In the "Your PAC and its Constitution" not all information was available in the template provided – information on financials
  - These presentations must be more directed to the parents. The Report Cards one was great but the Positive Behaviour Planning was of no help. I know how to find information regarding legislation on a website, I wanted more

### 9. *Would you enjoy the networking sessions again next year?*

**87% of the respondents said "Yes"**

#### **Comments**

- When was the networking session? I did enjoy the networking that happened throughout the weekend
- I may be too anti-social to get much out of it
- Are you referring to the workshops? Keep your terminology consistent
- Do these as online dialogue in a digital forum – open the debate and carry it on – promote participation through PACs, newsletter, email etc.
- Didn't really do anything with them. Was more general talk at the meal times
- Not unless you know in advance of the conference the topic of discussion
- I learned soooo much as a rep for our school (my kids 1<sup>st</sup> year at school and I volunteered for Pres/Chairperson
- "Volunteer acquisition"

- Chance to hear what others are going through
- Hands on knowledge and sharing of experiences is vital and helpful. I'd rather learn from someone else's experiences or mistakes, than to have to expend my time and energy to have the same knowledge
- Nice to have the minister available to us for that period of time
- Longer times. Music on Friday was a bit too loud
- Came away with a lot of new ideas for our PAC
- Met new people with new ideas!
- It's awesome networking and sharing emails, working together on common goals
- Should allow for members to have contact information on all PAC members in the association

### 9. *What did you like most about the conference?*

- Networking with other member associations and finding out their concerns with MAPC
- QP with the Minister and Keynote Speaker (3 comments)
- The sessions I attended were very informative (Constitution & Report Cards)
- Information and meeting all the other parents
- Networking with other PACs (7 comments)
- The food, Report Card session
- The Keynote speaker – excellent! Awesome! Wow! Fantastic! (25 comments)
- Hearing from a keynote speaker who speaks to pertinent issues
- Conference sessions
- Talking to everyone. Having meaningful discussions (informal) during lunch and banquet
- The entire Saturday and the info provided
- Vendor time
- The guest speaker was fantastic. Was nice to see a different spin with the boys as the topic
- It was very informative
- The Displays, it was nice to see different ones, other than the usual same ones
- Keynote speaker was awesome –could have listened to him longer
- Great people to meet and know
- Barry MacDonald was very informative about how boys communicate
- fundraising workshop
- Seeing old friends – making new ones
- A lot!
- meals were very nice
- Insight to AGM procedure and right to ask questions. #1 Barry MacDonald
- Open forum and question and answer

- helpfulness of MAPC board of directors and conference planners
- Fundraising discussion/presentation
- Also really enjoy connecting with other parents
- Very informative

#### 10. *What did you like least about the conference?*

- Keynote began too early (*3 comments*)
- Too long for lunch
- Length of AGM – too long (*6 comments*)
- The debate that happened with the constitution
- The AGM didn't start on time and dragged on and on. I know this was not the Board's fault
- Positive Behaviour Planning in School; A Parent's Role – “no information”; “very dry and repetitive, political and boring”; “too much about legislation and policy. I think intent/focus of session was not clear in brochure – we were expecting more on the parent's role”; “The workshop stunk!” (*8 comments*)
- Business meeting was quite contentious – necessary work but was challenging
- The AGM
- AGM Friday night meeting
- The politics that were brought into the AGM
- None
- The Front Door Admin – please give us necessary forms OR be ready for new members to avoid awkwardness
- AGM – it was very long and drawn out, for a first time attendee, very painful
- A list of questions in the question/answer period on powerpoint or overhead
- Maybe Friday start earlier to get it done so we could think better
- AGM – how disrespectful of the Life Members to monopolize the AGM. It was painfully obvious she was a control freak with inappropriate behaviour
- AGM part – very disrespectful behaviour. The one lady went up too many times – not her agenda. Shame on her!
- The AGM lasted way too long. People would come up more times than they should have. Making personal attacks on board members
- Allow more time for AGM – Friday night or not try to accomplish so much. Maybe way to condense-may not be possible
- Workshops too short-need ore than 1 hour, just getting to good stuff and then over, a little rushed
- I think there was not enough focus on newcomers and helping them understand the whole process
- Saturday could also have been a little shorter
- Music Friday night was too loud

- Changes to the constitution was completely lost
- AGM – it was very clear there is a very negative atmosphere between the board and some members and that set the tone for a long and negative night
- Please start the keynote a bit later (9:30?) as the AGM always goes late and the networking in the Hospitality room is important to unwind after, but makes for a lack of sleep
- Disrespectful behaviour toward MAPC from certain parties during the AGM
- The politics of the MAPC AGM and formalities but it was bearable
- Nothing
- The amount of time wasted by a non-voting member speaking during the AGM
- I felt that the meeting Friday night almost became “knit picking” towards the board. The “parents” did not focus once on the good things that the board do. I felt that “some” parent over killed issues on one word issues. Eg. The word “however”. The wording that was in place was sufficient and changing it to “however” bears knit-picking. But most of the night it seemed to reoccur. The Board does do good things – it’s a group of people working with parents. Let’s be professional all around
- Vague answers. No hand out with the information in the workshops
- That an individual during the AGM was so sweet to some of the associate members that asked questions and very rude to others. Obvious to the crowd. “Lacks professionalism”.
- The lack of membership involvement in the AGM

*11. Were there any presenters that you would like, or not like, to see again in the future?*

- Not the Positive Behaviour Planning. She was no help at all (2 comments)
- No advertising for the government; just get to the point (Positive Behaviour Planning!). Not like!
- They were great – thanks!
- Barry MacDonald-definitely!! (8 comments)
- Was all good.
- Wish that Nancy Allan would have answered more questions and would have been more forthcoming
- Mark Ranson (2 comments)
- Barbara Coloroso
- Fundraising speaker
- Not sure. Will send in answer once we hear about it
- Looking forward to Barbara Coloroso
- Someone from the Community Places

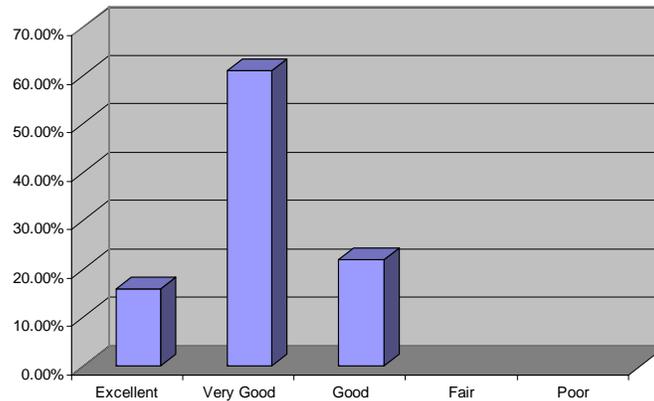
- Maybe the Arts could have more about how PAC might contribute to the arts program, rather than curriculum info
- Arts – monotone speaker little tired. More visual or hands on with subject as Art
- None, all of them are great
- Roy Siedler
- No issues
- The Arts was great!
- They were all good

## 12. *What topics would you like to suggest for the future?*

- Taxes/funding
- Developing relationships with teachers
- Encouraging volunteerism in parents and community members (*3 comments*)
- Children with special needs i.e. Asperghers and how to keep the lines of communication open with the school, especially teachers. These days tend to communicate very little
- Your PAC's rights
- Holding Effective Meetings
- Ideas for increasing communication with parents (in general, I feel that many parents are not in touch with what goes on at the school and I feel that is a problem. How can we get parents who are not involved to become more involved?)
- How to participate in the AGM – process, procedures, rules etc.
- Issues and problems in the community and how they will solve it
- Fundraising ideas
- Grants, how to's fundraising ideas! Different kinds of grants out there
- Bullying effects on children
- Allergies and policies
- Making the most of PAC and its place/role within the division
- Effects PAC has on daily life of a student
- Advocacy
- Special Needs
- Engaging students that are hard to reach through community / school
- How to be the best supporter for teachers while still advocating for our children – always important
- Interacting suggestions for PAC and schools admin. E.g. high school level
- More topics and booths pertaining to teens and high school
- Roberts Rules for boards
- MAPC minutes should be public information (members)
- More on special needs (autism)
- Racism, more bullying, how to get people from the school to join parent council

- It would be useful for a workshop dealing with parent and administration communication and roles
- Girls
- MAPC minutes should be made available to member associations

*13. Overall, how do you rate the 2011 MAPC Conference?*



*14. Please tell us about your experience with the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg (where applicable)*

	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Hotel Room	36%	36%	18%	-	5%
Meals	40%	44%	11%	7%	-
Conference Rooms	33%	33%	24%	2%	2%

*15. Other comments and suggestions*

- Conference rooms too hot (3 comments)
- Very enjoyable, would love to attend every year

- Very good workshop on the standardized report card and an excellent guest speaker Barry MacDonald
- Big improvement over last (2) years
- Tried to book a room in March – sold out. Poor planning.
- Offer follow-up session with keynote
- Continue to have a session with the minister
- Re: fundraising – given the recent changes to the Manitoba Lotteries regulations I was hoping to maybe learn a bit about getting through legislative red-tape. The question sat at the front of my mind through the presentations, but I honestly didn't get the impression that they would be able to provide answers
- Need to try to keep AGM more on track. They may scare off newcomers if it is as long and negative at times as this year
- I think Saturday timetable could have been compressed. Eg. Start a little later, shorten lunch hour. Once the question and answer session was set up, it would have helped me plan my day if I knew who the speaker was ahead of time. My schedule said TBD. Meals were good. Note: I attended Saturday only
- I would like to suggest that if people want to amend and make motions to submit in advance, follow rules – 1 turn speaking 1-2 minutes, exclude the constant debating
- I can't wait for the Best Practice Book and hope to see it soon
- More awards and recognition or min-stories and other achievements
- Thank you
- Unfortunately the hotel did smell like wet dog, making it feel a little unwelcoming. Overall, enjoy everything very well. Thank you!
- Positive Behaviour Planning – the speaker should have done everything different – changed topic and tell there who signed up. I understand it was last minute, I think there it should have been handled better
- Would like more idea networking “games” to exchange ideas
- Reserve more rooms for out of towners. Make this process easier for newcomers. Less red tape and headaches for procedural things such as nominations. Thanks for organizing this! Found it very informative and I am looking forward to next year. Also excited to take the information learned back to our PAC
- This was my first experience coming to this. Very informative and great speakers. Thank you
- Unfortunately Friday evening turned many new individuals off. I'm not sure how this can be fixed but would love to assist to get ship back on route. Also, contingency plans need to be in place for paid and voting rights and for those who arrive and dues were lost
- Could we have the entertainment during dinner? Those of us coming from farther away always miss it
- Please ask presenters to not use abbreviations during presentations. I have no idea what they mean

- High school years are really important in keeping the kids on board. That is normally when the parents have least interaction with what's going on at school. They need to be kept more informed
- I did enjoy this but found that things were very general and they didn't answer questions very well. Need more people that have better answers
- There needs to be something in place to ensure that people with a hidden agenda are not able to monopolize or railroad the meeting. It is not the place for the behaviour that was displayed
- The board is owed a huge apology. How hurtful to treat volunteers in this manner. They were attacked unfairly and repeatedly by one or two individuals displaying such unethical behaviour. Your President was calm, cool, collected and respectful. It was obvious she could have said so much more. Ethical lady!
- Good job by the board and staff. Good job by President. Shame on the multi-trip lady. Hold your heads up!!!
- It was my first MAPC conference and I enjoyed the day. Thank you to everyone who organized and put on the conference
- Maybe you should consider a buffet dinner next year as both dinner and meeting may run more smoothly and end on time
- AGM – in the interest of respecting the time of members and the board ? motion to change constitution that non-voting members are not permitted to speak during the AGM
- Great job guys
- Positive Behaviour Planning for a parents role was not discussed. We need to learn more as parents how to deal with issues without having to bring all issues through the school