



**Manitoba Association of Parent Councils  
2010 Annual General Meeting and Conference  
Evaluation Form - Delegates**

*44 responses were received. Thank you for your input!*

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

Very Satisfied 21	Satisfied 21	Dissatisfied 1	Very Dissatisfied 0
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**Comments:**

- I thought this was well laid out, easy to understand what would be happening and when I had a question, my phone call was returned quickly with a very friendly voice on the other end.
- Some confusion on what the workshops entailed
- More information like the agenda on the website – better description of guest speaker on preliminary information
- Please create an electronic way to register – a way to email the form or register online
- I would suggest that there be more detailed information on the website for easy access. (e.g. Times, program, etc)
- Vegetarian food options
- Received very late – well past the date on letter
- Perhaps a poster/brochure for the school (maybe there's already one?)
- More green – less paper/inserts – double sided printing

**2. How satisfied were you with the Keynote Speaker and workshop sessions of the conference?**

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Dr. Gabor Mate	35	8	0	1
Recruiting Volunteers	8	10	0	0
Advocacy Project	3	4	0	0
Education Planning Meetings	4	1	0	0
Social Justice and Youth	3	9	2	0

### Comments:

- Turns out we have a fairly high functioning PAC – but would like more time to exchange ideas
- I'm not convinced Dr. Mate's presentation benefits parent councils. He seemed most interested in selling his books. Need something to benefit the group vs. those with specific issues of ADHD and Addiction. Hours were spent on problems – 5-10 minutes on solutions
- Dr. Mate was interesting – but connection to this group – parent councils – was questionable. It was also clear that Dr. Mate was not that familiar with Manitoba practices in education
- Disagreed with some statements
- Too short
- Keynote speaker too long
- A comment from someone else at my table was there needs to be some new sessions – fundraising what works, fun events for the school
- Our session ran out of time, just as we got on topic
- Only dissatisfied due to not learning any new info that I didn't already know and it was not long enough
- I was the only one available and wanted to go to 3 of the 4 sessions! Would be wonderful to experience more of the resources of the conference
- Time allotted may not have been enough
- I was misled by the title (Youth and Social Justice)
- Felt it was more directed to older children and middle years. Would like to see more ideas on K – 3
- The session was information, but we ran out of time for input from the attendees, which would have added to the perspective
- MAPC Advocacy Project session was rather short (Thank you for your support and dedication to parents!)
- These sessions need to be longer as they usually get side tracked because we all have so much to talk about
- I found the Recruiting Volunteers workshop interesting, enjoyable and information in regards to how to keep volunteers and treat them but wish we could have looked further into how to get volunteers
- Invite more Manitoba Education people to present on your breakout sessions
- Wasn't what I was expecting – my fault, should have attended something else
- Dr. Mate in the afternoon would have been better
- MAPC Advocacy Project needed more time
- I felt it needed more time. We ran out of time before we could ask questions. Also, more detail on opportunities for children to volunteer in the community, especially younger children, would be appreciated (Social Justice session)
- Could have been a little longer. An hour was too short.
- The question and answer with Nancy Allan was not as informative as I thought it would be. I think you meant well, but most of the answers were vague and boring.
- Have a session on fundraising
- The session on Volunteer Recruitment was great

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

Yes 37

No 0

Did Not Answer 7

#### Comments (including suggested topics you would like to discuss):

- Dealing with kids that think they know their rights but don't seem to know their responsibilities
- I would like to see more time spent on networking. General discussions on what everyone is doing in their PACs, fundraising ideas, etc. What ideas and suggestions work for their PACs
- I would love to have a networking session discussing fundraising where people can share what works or has worked for their PACs
- Fundraising ideas, parenting issues, schools/education – dealing with teacher/homework issues
- It is good to get ideas from different groups and know that you aren't alone in your struggles
- Fundraising
- Identifying projects your school would benefit from
- Role of the school board, principal and PAC
- Fast fundraising ideas
- Effective constitutions and other necessary paperwork
- Fun school activities that PAC could do
- Brainstorm fundraisers
- Information sharing and tangible information we can take to PAC
- More group discussions, handouts were great
- Assistance for kids with anxiety (how can schools help students that do not qualify for funding). What assistance is available?
- Have a session on fundraising that works with different PACs
- Fundraising techniques
- Maybe if a PAC sends more than 2 people? I found I could have used 2 topics or just topics full day
- Enjoyed the hospitality room – this is the best way to network
- Supports for parents – especially for those with kids at risk
- Difficulties PACs are suffering and challenges
- Other areas the PAC can involve itself in, to bring positive elements into the school. (i.e. Parent resource centre, community issues, etc.) PAC does not have to be a fundraising group
- Invite more Manitoba Education people to present on your breakout sessions
- I would like to know how we, the PAC, can encourage changes in curriculum. Can we? For instance, including much more Aboriginal teachings and history in what our children learn in actual class time
- Fundraising ideas that work and don't
- Declining enrolment – how are we dealing with it (rural schools)

- Teacher/student ratios, course options decrease
- ECA decline with less teachers
- You could ask PAC groups to send in what they have done and then make up a handout for all groups at the conference, so we can all have great ideas. Re: fundraising, volunteers, etc. "Brag Book"
- Open discussion re: networking
- Recruitment
- Declining enrolment in particular
- Rural schools (course options – offer a variety course – selection under these considerations
- Extra curricular activities opportunity
- Allow for more time to network amongst ourselves

#### 4. What did you like most about the conference?

- Keynote Speaker. Material presented great choice. So relevant in today's society. Kudos!
- I really enjoy the networking with other PAC groups
- I found Dr. Mate very interesting. I'm going to purchase his books.
- Our Keynote Speaker. He has great ideas and really made me think. Also, the food. Yummy!
- I was very impressed with Dr. Mate's presentation. It provided a very different viewpoint from the more common advice that parents is presented.
- Ability to network with other parents
- Keynote speaker. Great as usual!
- Question and Answer with the Minister of Education
- Very interesting and informative speakers. The workshop "Recruiting Volunteers" gave us many ideas we hope to take back to our PAC
- Time to network, learning new strategies to use at PAC. A wonderful learning experience all around. Thank you!
- Networking with other PACs
- Main speaker
- Team discussion (Social Justice)
- Gabor Mate was excellent!
- Dr. Mate
- It was all good
- Meeting new people and hearing what they do in/at their PAC meetings. Also, hearing different fundraising options
- Keynote address and lunch with a friend I haven't seen in a long time!
- Question and answer from Government. Volunteer Recruitment session. Judith is an excellent speaker. Very warm and personable.
- Relaxes atmosphere, free to come and go without disturbing the speakers, table arrangements, no one had their back to the stage, for the most part time scheduling was accurate, great hospitality from the conference centre

- Sharing of ideas
- The networking that was there for younger parents
- Incredible wealth of information
- The Keynote and workshop by Dr. Mate
- All of the Social Justice panel members were great – loved the resources they provided
- Atmosphere. Great opportunity to socialize and network!
- The breakout sessions. It's really important for me to be able to share information about all our PACs and what works for us.
- Meeting other parent council members – idea exchanges

#### 5. What did you like least about the conference?

- I have no complaints
- I would have liked to have seen more on display regarding programs for schools and students (i.e. PPP, Police, RCMP)
- Sitting on risers – hard to see/follow presenters. Maybe bar stools?
- Early start on Saturday. Keynote speaker was very beneficial but better in the afternoon after some motivation in the morning
- There was no commentary on gifted children – really need some
- The political content
- Temperature in the main room
- Too much food – healthy choices is the problem not what you eat. My diet – salad servings CD Disc size, meat supposed to be the size of a deck of cards, starch the size of a small apple
- Karen Allan
- I really can't think of anything I had any real problems with. Except perhaps that I couldn't choose which session to attend!
- More variety of meals provided. Provide a menu of meals. Start on Friday morning
- Would appreciate more concrete ways to deal with issues/problems
- Dr. Mate's presentation
- Cold coffee
- Too hot during the AGM
- Not enough time to problem solve
- We ran out of time for sessions – They could be longer
- The Annual General Meeting
- Expected more informational, educational service info booths. loved the Cancer Info and Safe Work booths
- Lots of sitting – good amount of breaks, but perhaps a few movements?
- The early hours it started
- It would have been if the workshops between Mate's presentations could have provided as the opportunity to discuss and work through the ideas he had presented to us
- Location. There are other options out there for events of this size.
- Food. Sandwiches all had same spread – choice and variety are needed

- I enjoyed it all. This was my first attendance so I was a little confused about the AGM and what was being discussed. I don't think I was alone.
- The Social Justice session.
- Instant coffee was not good
- The length of the AGM
- Saturday was a lot of listening

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

- Future Visionary Topics – Where is Education going?
- Dr. Gabor Mate
- I would like to see the Social Justice panel again (so I can go next year!)
- Really enjoyed Judith. Needed more time.
- Minister Jim Rondeau
- Looking for Keynotes is not easy. Something that benefits the whole. Something uplifting. I left feeling down. Are the parents that are here really his target audience?
- Dr. Mate – he was very interesting and he made me feel like I was not a failure as a parent
- All should be welcome in the future, in my opinion
- Gordon Neufeld
- Barbara Coloroso
- A presentation on gifted children
- Dr. Mate and the Social Justice panel
- Minister of Education question and answer session. Suggestion: Allow the person who submitted the question to respond to the answer if further discussion needed
- Author of "Boys will be Boys"
- I would love to see Dr. Mate again. I liked listening to Nancy Allan's answers. She's very forthcoming and relatable. I also really liked the man who spoke right after lunch.

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

- Education mandated program such as grade 11/12 physical education
- Fundraising – creative options during a sharing session
- Course Options – strategies to continue to offer quality programming in light of decreasing enrollment/funding
- Fundraising
- What Works for You session, but not during the AGM as it needs to be a long session
- Programming support for schools that PACs can either access or bring to the school for consideration
- Stronger role of PACs in the individual implementation of programs and planning in our schools
- How school boards decide how to move "special needs" children to segregated classes or schools. This must affect the development of "normal" children who are grouped with them

- How do you get volunteers? I/from my PAC – call all the parents on the bus list, advise them to do three X a month and the finds from just having their signature goes back to the school
- Topics for special needs kids
- Teenage Years – bullying (please!) – communicating with school when there’s a problem
- Fundraising ideas
- PAC Roles, constitutions, etc. Our role in the schools and community
- I would like to see a presenter come out an discuss/educate us on Aboriginal culture/history/teachings to promote awareness and acceptance and tolerance
- Positive Parenting
- Running Effective Meetings
- Designing a Constitution
- Sharing circle of ideas for working in schools
- Fundraising
- Supports for parents
- Managing expectations for gifted children
- Autism
- FASD
- Bullying
- I would like to see some of the topics repeated, to give some of us an opportunity to attend the ones we missed
- How to get new options for fundraising and getting the other PAC members interested in them and getting them to agree to change
- Information sharing among parent councils on topics such as fundraising, recruiting volunteers, supporting our teachers
- Special needs students
- Explaining provincial law/policies “Education Act 101”
- More practical

**8. Overall, how would you rate the 2010 MAPC Conference?**

Excellent 13	Very Good 23	Good 6	Fair 0	Poor 0
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**9. Please tell us about your experience with the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg (where applicable).**

Hotel Room	Excellent 5	Very Good 10	Good 2	Fair 1	Poor 1
Meals	Excellent 11	Very Good 16	Good 10	Fair 3	Poor 1
Conference Rooms	Excellent 9	Very Good 19	Good 7	Fair 1	Poor 0

## 10. Other comments and suggestions:

- Judith should write a book about all her PAC accomplishments! Yay Judith!
- Coffee was lukewarm
- Room was cold
- Thank you – your efforts are greatly appreciated
- Have a beef and bouquet section
- Wow! The soup was hot when served
- Thank you
- The meals and snacks should be nut-free – we support and work for them in our schools!
- I'm very excited to bring back what I have learned. I look very forward toward making my PAC a stronger force in my school community.
- I really feel it is a huge mistake to break away from a National Board/Committee. I will be addressing this again in the future
- There was way too much noise the Friday night for me to get any sleep and this was even after the hotel front desk was contacted about it
- You should plan to start later on Friday as many people scramble to get there after work, especially if rural like me
- General Meeting too long, need to keep things moving, time people making comments
- Thank you for a great conference. It was very well organized!
- Can we have a copy of Nancy Allan Q and A
- Collect ideas from the activities – fundraising, activities, getting people to meetings
- Need some new workshops
- Playgrounds, school equipment, what's new?
- Information as to members – who belongs to MAPC?
- Seemed more rural than city was represented
- Include the mailing address on this form to encourage people to submit after conference. Also contact information for follow up.
- My first time here. Interested to see how next year works!