



MAPC Newsletter

Summer 2012

Phone: 956-1770 Toll Free: 1-877-290-4702 Website: www.mapc.mb.ca Email: info@mapc.mb.ca

A Message From the Executive Director

How quickly time flies when you're having fun!

The past year has been a tremendously exciting one as MAPC continues to lay plans for celebrating 100 years of parental involvement and continued growth while strengthening the parental voice in Manitoba's education system!

We were very excited to welcome Rachele Ladd to the Board of Directors at our Annual Retreat, where we spent a great deal of time and energy reviewing the past year and proceeding with our strategic goals to continue developing our support and services, partnerships, and membership representation.

This upcoming school year promises to be a great one with the continuance of the MAPC Chairpersons' Breakfast in Winnipeg and the introduction of a second Chairpersons' Breakfast in Brandon! The eagerly anticipated Best Practices Guide is scheduled for completion this summer, with plans for distribution in the fall. We are continuing to work closely with the provincial auditors as we work towards compliance with all of the recommendations in our audit from 2011—ensuring greater transparency and accountability to both our funders and our members. As well, MAPC's assistance has been requested by Manitoba Education to participate in the development of a communication strategy for parents to better understand the importance of regular daily attendance in school—watch for more information in upcoming newsletters! Finally, we are planning a thorough review and update of the MAPC Advocacy Project over the next year, which is shaping up to include tools, strategies, and resources to address conflict and conflict resolution for parents and education partners working together in a school community. Watch for updates!

Thank you to the many member schools and education partners for inviting MAPC to meet and work with you over the past year. It is through these discussions and meetings that we continue to learn more about the role of the parent and the importance of the parental voice in Manitoba's education system.

I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer and look forward to hearing from you in the fall!

Naomi Kruse
Executive Director / Advocacy Project Coordinator

Thank you Parents for Your Involvement in the 2012 MAPC AGM and Conference!

Delegate evaluations are tallied and the comments compiled - the MAPC Annual General Meeting and Conference was once again enjoyed by so many! On April 27th and 28th, we welcomed over 120 people from 18 school divisions across the province! We were delighted to have 14 Displayers and several Educational Partners in our presence as well, including Honourable Nancy Allan, Minister of Education. Special awards celebrated outstanding Parent Advisory Councils, an outstanding Volunteer and outstanding Educational Partners. A highlight for many was the evening keynote address by best-selling author, Barbara Coloroso. Her warm message of caring deeply and showing our kids to care deeply, resonated with the parents in attendance. Saturday morning included the Annual General Meeting followed by a Q & A session with Honourable Nancy Allan. Several workshops in the afternoon provided delegates with breakout sessions which was a wonderful complement to the MAPC Conference agenda. Thank you to all participants, sponsors, prize donors and educational partners for making the 2012 AGM and Conference a success!

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and enhancing meaningful involvement and participation of parents in order to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

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“... Networking opportunities... delicious food... great keynote speaker! All in all a wonderful conference...”

- AGM and Conference Delegate

Dates to Remember

June is ALS Awareness, Tourism, National Spina Bifida, Seniors', and Brain Injury Awareness Month

June 08—Oceans Day
June 10-16—National Public Service Week
June 17 - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
June 20—World Refugee Day
June 23—National Aboriginal Day
June 24—St. Jean Baptiste Day
June 26—International Day Against Drug Abuse
June 26—International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
June 27—Canadian Multiculturalism Day

July 01—Canada Day
July 09—Nunavut Day
July 11—World Population Day
July 17 -- International Justice Day
July 21—National Parks Day
July 21-29—National Drowning Prevention Week

August is First Aid Month

August 06—Civic Holiday
August 09—International Day of World's Indigenous People
August 12—International Youth Day
August 17 - 18 —Eid al Fitr
August 23—International Day in Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

September is Arthritis, Muscular Dystrophy, Breakfast for Learning, Healthy Communities, and Country Music Month

September 03—Labour Day
September 08—International Literacy Day
September 16 - 18—Rosh Hashanah
September 09—Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day
September 10—Suicide Prevention Day
September 25-26—Yom Kippur
September 21—International Day of Peace
September 30—International Translation Day

Note to Membership

Please be advised that École Riverview School was contacted after the MAPC Annual General Meeting held April 27 and 28, 2012, and agreed to the amendments presented regarding traffic safety concerns for students.

Quote for the day...

"Taking time and sharing is the essence of teaching. The future of those we cherish will be a reflection of what we model today."

- Unknown

\$2000

Reasons to be SAFE Innovative Ideas Reward

Manitoba high school students are invited to submit their innovative ideas for promoting safety in classrooms and schools.

Ten high schools will receive a \$2,000 SAFE Schools Grant for their SAFE project idea.

Submit project applications by October 31st, 2012.

Promote the safe theme in your school by creating an original song, video, drama production, instructional aid or activity.

Visit www.safemanitoba.com for more information.

Fundraise with Farm to School!

This Healthy Choice Fundraiser is available to schools across the province during September to December. The fundraiser promises the opportunity to:

- Get fresh, local vegetables at or below supermarket prices
- Offer healthy food choices
- Support local producers
- Support your school's nutrition policy
- Try new recipes with Manitoba vegetables available at www.peakmarket.com/recipes For more info. on this program, and to enroll your school in the fundraiser, please visit: www.farmtoschoolmanitoba.ca.

Manitoba Down Syndrome Society

presents

See Me Beautiful

Educator & Parents Conference 2012

Monday, October 29, 2012

Canad Inns Polo Park

Winnipeg, MB

For registration information, please contact

Lori at 1-204-654-2813 or

dlester@mymts.net

Did You Know?

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils has a resource available to parents providing support on issues experienced within the school setting. "The Advocacy Project" helps parents navigate their way through the educational system which can at times, seem complex and intimidating. Visit the MAPC website at www.mapc.mb.ca or call the office for more information.

Facing Challenges With the Roles and Responsibilities Within Your PAC?

Perhaps your school is just starting up a PAC...or a new executive has been nominated...or you're simply looking for guidance on the different responsibilities of your PAC members...MAPC can help! You can book the presentation, "**Roles and Responsibilities of Parent Advisory Councils**" where MAPC will attend your PAC meeting to discuss the responsibilities of individuals serving on a PAC. Call the MAPC office today to book a presentation for next Fall!

Other presentations include:

- *Parent Volunteers - Getting Them to Sign on, Show up and Stay Engaged*
- *Effective Meetings for Parent Advisory Councils*
- *What is MAPC?*

Are You a Leader in Your School Community?

Are *you* looking for ways to increase your experience and knowledge of parental involvement in your school community?

Are *you* looking for ways to increase your experience with Manitoba Association of Parent Councils?

Are *you* ready to take it to the next level?

Are *you* considering the possibility of becoming a volunteer Board Director for MAPC?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, contact the MAPC office to speak with Executive Director, Naomi Kruse, or to make contact with any of the members of our volunteer Board of Directors, to learn more about opportunities for you to work more closely with MAPC!

Have You Participated in the MAPC Parental Engagement Survey?

Your input is so important and valuable to us - tell us about your partnership with your child's school! The MAPC Parental Engagement Survey is available for all parents to complete. Your answers will provide insight to MAPC about how we can help improve a child's school experience and create effective school environments. To participate, contact the MAPC office at 204-956-1770.

Upcoming Events

MAPC Celebrates 100 Years of Parental Involvement!

Save the date!

May 3 & 4, 2013

MAPC Annual General Meeting and Conference
Victoria Inn and Conference Centre, Winnipeg



We're on Facebook and Twitter - giving *you* an easier way to keep up with what's going on with parents and education in Manitoba.

Check us out at

www.facebook.com/mapcmb

www.twitter.com/mapcmb

MAPC MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

MAPC has recently mailed out membership renewal information to all School Divisions.

All individual schools in Manitoba will also receive membership information in September.

Let your school division know you'd like to reap the benefits of a MAPC membership!

MAPC Board of Directors

Executive Board

Judith Cameron - President
Alanna Rawluk—Vice-President
Khalid Mahmmod—Treasurer
Marilyn Kolody—Secretary

Directors

Milli Khan
Rachelle Ladd
Lynn Nolden
Martin Simmons
Ethel Raine

Winnipeg Office

Naomi Kruse—Executive Director and Advocacy
Project Coordinator
Renee Ritchot—Administrative Assistant

Why Does Membership With MAPC Matter?

By registering as a member of Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC), you continue to ensure that the parental voice in Manitoba's education system is carried to the government and other provincial education organizations.

Membership benefits also include:

- Workshops and professional development opportunities for parent councils
- Seasonal newsletters and semi-monthly e-bulletins
- Chairpersons' Breakfast that provides great networking opportunities and best-practice sharing
- Reduced fees to attend the Annual Spring Conference
- Participation at the Annual General Meeting where *you* have the opportunity to vote on behalf of *your* parent council about matters concerning parents involved in the education system in Manitoba.

Call the MAPC office at (204) 956-1770 or toll free at 1-877-290-4702, or visit our website at www.mapc.mb.ca, to learn more about *your* membership with Manitoba Association of Parent Councils.

MAPC Summer Closure

Please note the MAPC office will officially close on June 29, 2012 and re-open on September 4, 2012.
Have a FANTASTIC summer!

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