



MAPC E-News

October 2018

A Message From the President

MAPC kicks off a new school year with some great stuff. Our staff and board are working hard at getting the best for our parents: forums, fact sheets, events, and connections with the education partners in the province, to mention a few. A new website is being developed that will let parents access info easier and more effectively. We're also ramping up our reach using social media.

By now most parent groups have had their first PAC meeting this year. Some have new principals to work with, some have the same principals, some new parents, and some familiar faces. At my school we have a new principal. My co-chair and I had worked on a few things over summer that we said we would get done by September, but something came up unexpectedly the week before school started. A horrible apartment fire in the neighbourhood. Fortunately, nobody was injured, but we learned it impacted a family in the school. They lost everything.

My co-chair and I immediately figured PAC had do something to help out. We contacted the school admin and shared some ideas we had. The new principal was also looking for ideas and told us the school's student council was having an emergency meeting to come up with a plan to help. They came up with something that we never thought of: a fall yard clean up fundraiser where high school kids would organize teams and go out in the community to offer yard work. In return for their services, they would encourage a donation be made, not to the student in the school, but a fund to help *all* the people that lost their homes to the fire. The students thought of the broader picture of the community. While our PAC initially only thought of the one kid, the student leadership reminded us about the importance of the community as a whole. Our PAC sent out a letter to our parents in support and hopefully, parents pass the word along to neighbours and friends.

The lesson here is that sometimes the greatest support to our kids is to support their ideas and goals. Of course, there are projects we need to fundraise for, like the playground and school improvements. Also, providing open communication with school staff to learn what is going on in the school and how the school plan is rolling out are on our list of goals.

We hope all your PAC projects work out this year. Keep checking our e-bulletins for new info.

Boris Minkevich, MAPC President

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"...the student leadership reminded us about the importance of community..."

~ Boris Minkevich

What's on Your PAC's "To-Do" List This Year?

September means back to school, which also means calendars fill up! For many people, it also means Parent Council meetings, and volunteering. How will your PAC [get involved](#) in the school's planning process this year? Are you aware that the Public Schools Act requires the [school principal to consult with its parent group in the creation of the school plan each year?](#)

Working collaboratively with the school team ensures healthy learning environments for our students.

Don't forget that MAPC can help parents find a voice in education, and is available to support members running a PAC. We offer [workshops](#) and can also provide assistance with AGM planning, volunteer recruitment, constitutions and more.

MAPC is busy in the office planning for an exciting year ahead. [Jump to page 2](#) to check out the events that are currently in the planning stages. Stay up to date on all MAPC news and events by connecting with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Pinterest](#) and now [Instagram!](#)

All the best for a fantastic year!



The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and enhancing meaningful involvement of parents and caregivers within school communities, representing their voice to all educational stakeholders to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

MAPC DIRECTOR CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The MAPC Board of Directors is seeking applications from members interested in joining the board as an appointed MAPC Director. There is currently one vacancy on the board to complete the remainder of a three year term. This term will begin **October 2018**, at the second regularly scheduled board meeting, and will conclude in June of 2020.

This volunteer experience will provide the successful applicant with the opportunity to participate in representing the parental voice in Manitoba's education system while engaging in strategic planning and future direction for the organization. There are also a variety of professional development experiences relating to governance and working with groups planned for the upcoming year, as well as in the future. The successful applicant will also have the opportunity to meet with other parents, who are passionate about education and the role that parents serve, by participating as a MAPC director at any of its events held throughout the year.

Volunteer directors are expected to have:

- Extensive experience serving on a school based Parent Advisory Council
- Good communication skills
- Solid understanding and experience with Manitoba's education system
- Basic technology skills regarding the use of email, electronic document use and creation, and social media engagement

Additional skills of interest to the board also include:

- Formal governance experience
- Public speaking and presentation experience
- Conflict resolution and management experience
- Fundraising and event planning experience
- Accounting and bookkeeping experience
- Intermediate and advanced technology skills regarding presentation and module development

The successful applicant is expected to attend MAPC board meetings and participate on one or more internal working groups serving the organization. MAPC board meetings generally take place every six weeks during the school year on a Saturday. All meetings are held in Winnipeg. Volunteer directors are compensated for mileage, meals, and necessary accommodations. Please note, there are two full weekend meetings each year at the January mid-term and June Board Directors' Retreat, as well as a Friday night in September, and additional meetings may be called as required.



If this position is of interest to you, please complete the application and return it to the MAPC office by **October 9, 2018**.

If you would like more information, please contact

[DOWNLOAD DIRECTOR APPLICATION](#)

the MAPC office at 204-956-1770 to request contact with a current board director who will be pleased to answer your questions.

Is Your PAC a MAPC Member?

Did you know that many school divisions in the province support their schools' active parent groups by purchasing a MAPC membership for them? Alternatively, schools may join MAPC by purchasing an individual membership. Both of these [types of memberships](#) provide your PAC with [valuable resources, presentations](#) and special events throughout the year. If you are uncertain of your membership status, [send us an email](#).

We would like to thank school divisions that have already shown their support for PAC's by completing their membership renewals:

Beautiful Plains School Division
 Brandon School Division
 Flin Flon School Division
 Fort La Bosse School Division
 Garden Valley School Division
 Kelsey School Division
 Lord Selkirk School Division
 Mountain View School Division
 Mystery Lake School District
 Pine Creek School Division
 Red River Valley School Division
 River East Transcona School Division
 Rolling River School Division
 Seine River School Division
 Southwest Horizon School Division
 Turtle Mountain School Division
 Western School Division

Your schools will appreciate your commitment to partnering with parents and school communities for the benefit of students across Manitoba!

Membership reminders have been sent to divisions that have not yet registered and individual school packages have been mailed. Learn more about the benefits of MAPC membership by visiting our [website](#).

Mark Your Calendars: MAPC Events



November 2018 (Date TBA)

Anxiety and Stress in Kids: Mental Health Forum for Parents

February 2, 2019

MAPC Chairpersons' Breakfast

(Winnipeg: location TBD)

You're Invited: an Evening with Barbara Coloroso!

kids are worth it!
Parenting With Wit & Wisdom



KID - 001
Wednesday, October 17, 2018
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

An evening packed with solid practical advice for parents of children from toddlers to teenagers, that shows how to utilize the very stuff of family life, chores, mealtime, sibling rivalry, toilet training, bedtime, allowances and more, to create a home environment in which children can become self-disciplined, compassionate, responsible, resourceful, resilient human beings who can act in their own best interest, stand up for themselves and exercise their own rights while respecting the rights and legitimate needs of others. Barbara will discuss the keys to good parenting: treating kids with respect; giving them a sense of positive power in their own lives; giving them opportunities to make decisions, take responsibility for their actions and learn from their successes and mistakes.

Topics:

- Positive home climate
- Simple rules to help stop trouble before it starts
- Power struggles - what, how, why and when not to engage
- Six critical life messages
- Discipline and punishment - why one works and the other only appears to work
- RSVP - reasonable, simple, valuable, practical consequences
- Mistakes, mischief and mayhem
- Three kinds of families - brick wall, jellyfish and backbone
- Keeping your cool without putting your feelings on ice
- Buffering children from sexual promiscuity, drug abuse and suicide

FACILITATOR: **Barbara Coloroso** is an internationally recognized speaker and author on parenting, teaching, school discipline, non-violent conflict resolution and restorative justice. She is an educational consultant for school districts, the medical and business community, the criminal justice system and other educational associations in Canada, United States, Europe, South America, Asia, India, Africa, New Zealand, Australia and Iceland. Barbara has served as a classroom teacher, a laboratory school instructor, and a university instructor. She is the author of five international bestsellers: *kids are worth it!* *Giving Your Child the Gift of Inner Discipline*, *Parenting Through Crisis: Helping Kids in Times of Loss, Grief and Change*, *The Bully, The Bullied and The Bystander - From Pre-School to High School - How Parents and Teachers Can Help Break the Cycle of Violence*; *Just Because It's Not Wrong Doesn't Make It Right - from toddlers to teens, teaching kids to think and act ethically*; *Extraordinary Evil: A Brief History of Genocide... and Why It Matters*.

LOCATION: Victoria Inn 
1808 Wellington Avenue
Room: Wellington B

COST: \$20.00 MCCA Member/Non-member/Parents

[**Register Here**](#)

PAC & SCHOOL STAFF: RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

~ An excerpt from the MAPC Resource Guide for Manitoba Parent Advisory Councils ~

The relationship between a PAC, the school and the divisional administration team is a crucial one for effective partnership development in a school community. All parties are dedicated to the students of the school and have educational goals for these students as a top priority.

By establishing a respectful relationship between the PAC, the school and the administration team, you are creating opportunities for richer discussion and deeper understanding of the school system. The administration team benefits from learning about different perspectives which exist in the community, as well as increased parental involvement for the benefit of the students. Simultaneously, the PAC benefits by developing a greater understanding of the processes and challenges, as well as the opportunities, that exist to support student learning and the educational experience in a school community.

While it is important to recognize the value of an effective relationship between the school administration teams and the PAC, it is also important to understand the parameters of these relationships for better understanding of all responsibilities involved in developing a successful group.

Tip: Set aside some time early in the school year to have your PAC Executive meet with your administrator to discuss goals for the year and foster relationships!



Members can refer to section 1 C. (Relationship Building), of the MAPC Resource Guide for Manitoba Parent Advisory Councils for more information.



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Parent Councils

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

[The PAC and the Principal: Working well with Admin](#)

[My Child in School: Curriculum Information for Parents](#)

[My Learning at Home for Gr. 5 - 8](#)

Community Events & Important Dates

October 17, 2018

[Parenting with Wit and Wisdom: an evening with Barbara Coloroso](#)

November 6, 13 and 20, 2018

[Transition Planning Workshop to help families of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.](#)



Stop by our social networks and keep up with what's going on with parents and education in Manitoba!

MAPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

Boris Minkevich, President
Brenda Brazeau, Vice President
Judith Cameron, Treasurer
Maria T. Fernandes, Secretary

Directors

Sandra Bernard
Precious Gauthier
Bernice Hamill
Khalid Mahmood
Arlene Reid

Winnipeg Office

[Naomi Kruse](#), Executive Director and Advocacy Project Coordinator
[Renee Ritchot](#), Administrative Assistant



MAPC'S ON INSTAGRAM!
Find us @mapc_mb

Save the Date

The MAPC Annual General Meeting and Conference is
Saturday, May 4, 2019
at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre.



James Favel, Bear Clan Patrol and Sandra Bernard, MAPC Director (MAPC Conference May 5, 2018)

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