

Main Venue:	Ernest Manning High School 20 Springborough Blvd SW
Other Venues:	Viscount Bennett Centre 2519 Richmond Road SW Erlton Campus 24 - 28 Avenue SW Westside Recreation Centre 2000 - 69 Street SW
When:	Thursday, February 16 & Friday, February 17, 2017

Message from Sue, our Convention Coordinator...

Planning is well underway for our 2017 Convention. I am pleased to announce that our main venue for 2017 will be Ernest Manning High School. We will be offering additional sessions at Viscount Bennett Centre, Erlton Campus and the Westside Recreation Centre to alleviate some of the congestion at the main venue.

Convention is a great opportunity for you, our member, to network, share and learn new content as well as building new friendships with colleagues.

Thanks so much to those of you who took the time to complete our 2016 Convention evaluations. Convention evaluations play an integral role in assisting the Convention Committee in selecting sessions. The Committee values your input and works very hard in meeting your requests.

If you have any questions/suggestions with regard to our 2017 Convention, please contact me at 403.242.7555 ext. 3 or via e-mail to: sue@staffassociation.ca.

2017 Convention On-Line Brochure/Registration

Our 2017 Convention Brochure will be available for on-line viewing by mid-December. On-line registration will begin after Winter Break.

Create Your Profile

New and existing employees, please remember to create your profile on-line through our 'Member Log-In' on our Website (www.staffassociation.ca) to gain access to the Convention brochure and register for sessions.

If you require assistance setting-up your profile, please contact Sue (403.242.7555 ext. 3 - sue@staffassociation.ca) or Dawn (403.242.7555 ext. 0 - dawn@staffassociation.ca).

Member Questions & Evaluation Results Information

- Q. *Why has the main venue changed?*
A. Lord Beaverbrook High School is currently undergoing a modernization, so they were not certain that they could host us for 2017.

Q. *How is the main venue selected and why are there not two main venue sites (north and south)?*

A. There are many contributing factors as to why a location is chosen:

1. First and foremost is a school's willingness to host the Support Staff Convention as this is a huge undertaking for all staff at the school (office administration, teaching staff, facility operators etc.)
2. School size
3. Working kitchen / cafeteria
4. Parking (limited no matter where we go)
5. Financially we cannot offer two main venue sites and we do not have the manpower to run parallel events successfully

Evaluation Result Changes to our 2017 Convention

- Eliminate the Keynote Speaker and increase session times
- Session selection to accommodate our diverse group of members
 - Session selection is based on membership requests and presenter availability
 - The SA consists of several position descriptions and we try to accommodate a variety of PD/health and wellness/financial/computer/hands-on sessions

Parking Limited at Ernest Manning High School

With parking being an ongoing issue at each year's Convention and with a lack of street parking at Ernest Manning, we cannot stress enough the importance of taking alternate transportation to the site. The 69th Street Blue Line LRT station is within walking distance to Ernest Manning. We will be offering members the opportunity to ride in style in a 96 passenger coach which will include free coffee and Timbits, plus you'll also have the opportunity to win a selection of amazing door prizes on route!

A survey will be coming out shortly in regards to pick-up location preferences.

Parking at Alternate Sites

On-site parking will be available for those members that register for sessions at our alternate Convention session sites: Viscount Bennett, Erlton Campus and Westside Recreation Centre.

Article 10 - Attending SA's Convention

Article 10 - Staff Association Convention

10.1 Continuous and term-specific employees will be allowed two (2) days, with pay, to attend the annual Staff Association Convention unless operational/work requirements prevent the absence from work of an employee for both days, in which case the employee will be allowed at least one (1) day, with pay, to attend. Employees not required to work either of the days of the Staff Association Convention shall not be entitled to receive additional compensation for time spent at the Staff Association Convention.

Please note: Continuous employees - if you are not at work you are expected to attend Convention. If you are not at Convention, you need to have made alternate arrangements with your immediate supervisor as you are paid for the two days during Convention.