

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Name: John Hendry

Date Submitted: January 23, 2017

Name of Conference: OPSBA – Public Education Symposium

Sponsoring Organization: Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA)

Theme (If any): Multi Educational Issues and Topics

Conference Dates: January 19, 2017 to January 21, 2017

Location: Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:

- 1) Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter provided an opening speech. She stated her commitment to public education and her background.
- 2) Minister Indira Naidoo-Harris Minister responsible for Early Learning and Child care also spoke briefly and emphasized the connection between the Ministries and the importance of working together with the support of public school boards in the Province.
- 3) Speeches on Canada's indigenous people, their struggles, the dark past and effect of residential schools on both the children and the community.
- 4) Legal presentation on the changes to the Municipal Elections Act and the impact on Trustees in the upcoming 2018 municipal election.
- 5) Legal presentation on Trustee attendance, In-Camera meetings and what Reports require, or don't require formal motions. There was also a discussion on casual meetings or get-togethers of Trustees away from the Board Room which will now constitute a meeting under the Legislation and require public notice.
- 6) A very interesting presentation on the impact of social media today with students, parents, staff and the community at large.
- 7) Retired Deputy Minister Jim Grieve gave the closing address to the Association and Trustees. Mr. Grieve is long-time supporter of public education and early learning initiatives.

Materials Taken Away:

General Distribution

Trustee Distribution

Staff Distribution: Name of Staff Member: _____