

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Please attach to your Professional Development/Conference Expense Reimbursement Form. Thank you.

Name: John Hendry

Date Submitted: January 29, 2018

Name of Conference: OPSBA Public Education Symposium

Sponsoring Organization: Ontario Public School Boards (OPSBA)

Conference Dates: 25 January 2018 to 27 January 2018 (Note: I attended January 26 to January 27)

Location: Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto Ontario

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended: (Include a brief Summary)

1) Changes to Municipal and Board Elections

- Panel discussion on changes to the Municipal Elections Act for 2018.**
- Nomination Day: May 1, 2018**
- Nomination Day/Close: July 27, 2018**
- School Boards must pass a policy regarding the use of school board resources during an election.**
 - Board paid phone**
 - Use of secretarial or other board staff**
 - Use of any other board resources (copying etc.)**
- Board must establish a policy setting out guidelines when an automatic recount will occur.**

- Trustees will now be required to submit a written statement disclosing the nature of a Conflict of Interest when declared. This will require a Registry be established to document and save statements.

2) Panel Discussion on Issues to be Brought to Provincial Election Candidates

- Special Education, not restricted to simply funding, but also the complexity and volume of special education needs.

- Addressing Equity in funding to all boards in the Province

- Indigenous issues

- Role and Responsibilities of Trustees in the community including an acknowledgement of their importance to the future of the children.

- Addressing the need for a review of mental health issue including funding to support adequate training and classroom supports

- Transportation – increasing the funding to address changes created by the increased minimum wage. Funding to support increased pressures to provide transportation for safety.

3) Networking amongst other trustees from around the Province.

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Trustee John Hendsry