TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Name: John Hendry        Date Submitted: 30 March 2015

Name of Conference: Education Labour Relations & Human Resources 2015 – Current Trends in the Workplace

Sponsoring Organization: Ontario Public School Boards Association

Theme (If any): Labour Relations & Human Resource Trends

Conference Dates: Friday 27 March 2015 to Saturday March 2015

Location: Sheraton Centre Toronto

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

1) Keynote speech by Liz Sandals. Very little useful content. Deliberately avoided talking about labour issues, rather focused on the sex-education issue. Her speech was cut short by a “prior engagement”. Very disappointing for a Minister of Education.

2) School Boards Collective Bargaining Act: Very helpful and contained a lot of very useful background information. Relative to the current environment.
3) Mental Health in the Work Place: Explained difference between mental illness and mental health. It was a good overview.

4) Cultural Shift? Sexual Harassment: Very weak presentation. Offered nothing new to attendees. Case Law examples were not related to education....although generally speaking the issues were moderately interesting. Was not a session I would attend again.

5) Reg Pearson Associate Deputy Minister: His presentation totally avoided the current labour situation and at best could be characterized as totally lacking relevance. His comments basically conceded there will be labour unrest (strike). He suggested “....while education is considered essential, it is not an “essential service”. Pearson seemed more interested in a comedy routine than a meaningful speech.

Materials Taken Away:

__ General Distribution
X Trustee Distribution
__ Staff Distribution: Name of Staff Member: ____________________________