

Fall Joint Conference 2014

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
SSBA Member		47.8%	86
LEADS Member		25.0%	45
SASBO Member		26.7%	48
Other		0.6%	1
		Total Responses	180

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total Responses
Overall Rating	8 (4.5%)	40 (22.3%)	66 (36.9%)	50 (27.9%)	15 (8.4%)	179

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
1. Trade Show / Monday Evening Social	3 (1.7%)	11 (6.1%)	31 (17.3%)	58 (32.4%)	14 (7.8%)	62 (34.6%)	179

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
2. Keynote Speaker: Dr. C.J. Huff	0 (0.0%)	3 (1.7%)	16 (8.9%)	27 (15.0%)	128 (71.1%)	6 (3.3%)	180

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
3. Student Panel	1 (0.6%)	5 (2.8%)	29 (16.4%)	58 (32.8%)	75 (42.4%)	9 (5.1%)	177

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
4. Governance and Operations	15 (8.4%)	56 (31.3%)	54 (30.2%)	27 (15.1%)	2 (1.1%)	25 (14.0%)	179

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
5. Tuesday Evening Banquet/Awards/Entertainment	1 (0.6%)	6 (3.4%)	29 (16.2%)	51 (28.5%)	68 (38.0%)	24 (13.4%)	179

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
6. Child and Family Political Panel	7 (4.0%)	20 (11.4%)	64 (36.4%)	37 (21.0%)	12 (6.8%)	36 (20.5%)	176

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
7. Kim Ratz - People Don't Leave Jobs - They Leave Bosses	17 (9.6%)	40 (22.5%)	52 (29.2%)	30 (16.9%)	20 (11.2%)	19 (10.7%)	178

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
8. Keynote Speaker: Gary Merasty	2 (1.1%)	16 (9.1%)	62 (35.2%)	37 (21.0%)	19 (10.8%)	40 (22.7%)	176

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
9. First Nations and Métis Education Practices	4 (2.3%)	17 (9.6%)	50 (28.2%)	26 (14.7%)	16 (9.0%)	64 (36.2%)	177

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
1. Use of time and pace of activities	40 (22.2%)	58 (32.2%)	42 (23.3%)	28 (15.6%)	12 (6.7%)	0 (0.0%)	180

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
2. Event Location (TCU Place)	1 (0.6%)	10 (5.6%)	46 (25.8%)	59 (33.1%)	62 (34.8%)	0 (0.0%)	178

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
3. Conference created sufficient opportunity for collaboration	4 (2.3%)	36 (20.3%)	60 (33.9%)	53 (29.9%)	22 (12.4%)	2 (1.1%)	177

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
4. The format allowed sufficient time for dialogue	5 (2.8%)	28 (15.6%)	72 (40.2%)	55 (30.7%)	19 (10.6%)	0 (0.0%)	179

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total Responses
5. Meals	3 (1.7%)	17 (9.6%)	56 (31.5%)	61 (34.3%)	41 (23.0%)	0 (0.0%)	178

A Joint Conference of SSBA, SASBO and LEADS should occur (please select one):

	Annually	Biennially	Triennially	No Joint Conference	Total Responses
	53 (29.6%)	46 (25.7%)	50 (27.9%)	30 (16.8%)	179

Please provide any other comments.

The 120 response(s) to this question can be found in the appendix.

Appendix

Please provide any other comments. |

#	Response
1.	Testing the survey to see if it works.
2.	The first 2 days of conference were a very inefficient use of time. The first two days could have been put into 1 day very easily. I was disappointed in the lack of organization. I think we should go back to separate conferences and perhaps have a day where the three organizations meet.
3.	Least engaging conference I have ever attended. Too many breaks Slow pace. Real work and interesting speakers could have been put into 2 days maximum. Nothing fresh or inspiring. Thank goodness for CJ Huff who actually WAS GREAT. I have heard Gary Merasty will be good but I am not sure I can hang on. Conference needs to be at a hotel. Back and forth is a pain.
4.	The first 2 days of conference were a very inefficient use of time. The first two days could have been put into 1 day very easily. I was disappointed in the lack of organization. I think we should go back to separate conferences and perhaps have a day where the three organizations meet.
5.	I was glad to hear many of the sessions; Particularly Gary Merasty and the success stories for FNMI initiatives in the province. I would have liked to see the FN education organizations attend as well.
6.	Unfortunately due to the timing, I was unable to attend most of the conference. With the SSBA AGM being the two days before, it is difficult to dedicate 4 days to a conference. The schedule was not a good use of time. The idea is nice and I'm sure the speakers were good, but there needs to be a better way to use the time and perhaps shorten the time.
7.	While there was ample time between sessions to network informally, formal facilitated networking sessions on prescribed topics would be more useful for more purposeful collaboration and dialogue (questions 3 and 4). These could be linked to the presentations to support deeper learning and reflection on what we hear. I like the idea of a joint conference and would like to see it offered again but it was a little unwieldy to use every year. Our Director was unable to attend much of our AGM because he was involved in training modules with LEADS. It also extends the length of the conference which makes it more difficult for some trustees to get enough time away from work/life to attend. Is there opportunity to use technology to add efficiency to the voting and tallying process such as electronic voting? Someone else mentioned that most schools have remote "clickers" for taking surveys that might have some applications for voting. Just a thought! Overall, it was a very good event and thank you to all the staff who work hard to make it

so!

8. The trade show should be longer. It was very rushed and people had to make a choice between going for supper and seeing the trade show. Not fair to the vendors who travelled to show their products. Also allow for those not in attendance at the time of drawing to receive prizes. If they made the effort to go to 40 vendors they put in great effort. Their time following that may have been important time networking with others not waiting for draws so why not reward them for that.

The students in the panel were excellent. Consider involving more school divisions in student panels in the future.

I was disappointed in the lack of time the Ministers were willing to give us and the lack of questions trustees had for them. All should be ashamed of their lack of caring enough on this important topic that could have been great.

I was hoping Dan Perrins was going to get into some more depth. Having heard him before I was disappointed in this presentation as others he has given have been excellent.

There are too many benefits of the joint conference to list them all however I will say that this is the way to go in the future. The opportunity for board and staff to be together to learn and celebrate is of utmost importance.

9. I am wondering why the Executive Director did not give the Annual Report. This was an AGM and in any other organization (including ours up until now) an Annual Report has always been given. There certainly was a lot of spare time to do so. Four days is way too much time to basically do two days of work and the cost to the Boards in time lost by CEO's and CFO's from their responsibilities (especially when so much of their time has already been used by the Ministry for Sector Planning and P3 planning) does not make sense.

I appreciate that the election process was seriously shortened when the President and Vice President were acclaimed, but there was way too much time between items on the agenda.

My poor rating is based on the amount of "dead space" that existed throughout the event.

10. bring back break out sessions,when voting we always folded the ballots in the past why did this change this year.they are suppose to be secrete ballots.i loved the joint conference as i got a chance to see what our other partners in education did and got to meet some of them,hope we keep this an annual event

11. This was the first conference that I have attended where I felt that my time would have been better served by not attending. There was simply too much down time in between scheduled times. We are all busy people and when I have an hour and a half to think about all of the things that I could be doing instead of waiting for the next event to begin I become frustrated. The speakers that I was there for were really quite good though. I left Tuesday after the student panel.

12. The banquet was good but the rest of the meals were poor at best. There were too many down times for the SSBA annual meeting events. For a first attempt it was a learning curve that didn't work great but the whole event is a great idea. I appreciated all of us together. If we're going to be bombarded with First Nations issues we should not be degraded at the same time. If the roles were reversed and some of the same comments were made towards First Nations people from a non First Nations person there would have been big trouble. We should not have to be put in the same position.

13.	<p>Hats off to the organizing committee.</p> <p>I would suggest that of late future in order we might think about really focusing on the future of Education by bringing in some of the thought leaders in education with a particular focus on high performing education systems.</p> <p>I might suggest that on the third day we invite the STF executive and the local association presidents to hear a couple of strong keynote speakers.</p>
14.	<p>security was a problem and should be addressed. I had to call security for something I observed and have questions about access. Please call me if you wish to have more details 306-697-7438</p> <p>Jay Jenkins</p>
15.	<p>This was my first experience as a school trustee and as a participant at the SSBA AGM and joint conference.</p> <p>I found the members of the executive very friendly and welcoming.</p> <p>I found that the schedules were well respected.</p> <p>Unfortunately, I was unable to stay for the Wednesday afternoon sessions because of an overlap with my own school board meeting.</p> <p>A joint conference may be difficult to organize every year, but it would be nice to have one at least every other year. The speakers offered interesting presentations.</p> <p>I do have one question: Coming from the small Public Francophone school division, and being that we were only 4 trustees from our division, I wasn't sure who we could have joined for the Sunday evening session which involved the public division, the catholic division and the First nations group.</p> <p>When two of our trustees joined the Public sector for the Sunday evening session, they were politely asked to leave because they were not members of that entity.</p> <p>For future references, am I to understand that in order to join anyone of the sessions that were held on Sunday evening(either Catholic, Public, or First Nations) we have to be a school trustee of that respective sector? If so, then we will know for next time that it may be unnecessary to attend on the evening of those sessions.</p> <p>I thank the executive and all those who contributed to making the entire event a learning and worthwhile experience.</p>
16.	<p>I really felt there was not enough content to the AGM this year it could have easily been in one day.</p>
17.	<p>Too much time in between sessions. Really enjoyed the student panel.</p>
18.	<p>The schedule didn't make very good use of our time. I think the conference could have been done in 2 days with better time management.</p>
19.	<p>Excellent venue lots of room and very good conference.</p> <p>Good, lots of time to talk to others,</p>
20.	<p>This joint-conference was an excellent opportunity to share in professional development and strengthen relationships between three key partners in Education. With bylaw changes, the AGM portion of the conference (for Trustees) could run more efficiently in the</p>

future. I missed the breakout sessions and think it would allow for more dialogue and collaboration between the 3 organizations if there were some planned break-out sessions for all attendees. LEADS & SASBO attended a Lean session on Monday morning. Trustees would have benefitted from this as well.

21. Well done, could be healthier options for breakfast, lunch and suppers are always good but breakfast seems quite fatty. Yogurt and more fruit even for breaks. Best regards.

22. As a Conseil scolaire fransaskois member and first time attendee, the sunday evening was not only a total loss, but proved to be a humiliating experience.

Since there was no meeting space for the Conseil, my colleague, Joe Poirier and I decided to attend the public group. At first we were greeted hospitably, and offered pizza and beer, but when we started to speak to each other in French, someone came from the front table and asked us if we were from the Conseil. We said we were. He then said that the gathering was for members of the Public sector only, and once the meeting would begin we would be asked to leave, or we could leave before the meeting began.

We then left.

23. Too much time between events. Maybe compact it into Monday to Wednesday, or Sunday to Tuesday. Boredom set in for some Board members leading to them leaving early, and missing some good stuff.

24. In order for Boards of Education to remain autonomous, elected representatives, we must meet collectively as school boards through our provincial association. While it is important to work collaboratively with our administrative partners, there is a fine line that must be maintained in order for Boards to uphold their representative status. Other than fiscally, I am not sure I see the benefit of this combined event. Boards need to use their voice by bringing forward more resolutions, this is our one area of influence collectively, and this conference is a time when our association should be reporting back on actions taken on resolutions made previously - provide evidence of follow up and demonstrate what the action plan is going forward.

Organization of this year's event left much to be desired and could have been accomplished in half the allotted time. Four days is a bit much to ask of Trustees who must take time away from families and employers in order to attend, and a tremendous cost for lodging, meals and parking. And four days, including a Sunday, is too much time away from the office and families for Directors and CFOs. Two days max is all that should be required and that I am able to give up for an event of this nature. Engagement of delegates was lost due to an ineffective schedule.

The open discussion time for resolutions in our constituency groups on Monday morning was a complete waste of time. We sat in our regular Board groups and had gone through everything within about 30 minutes. There was no real collaborative discussion between Boards within the constituency groups, so what was the point of this? We could have all done this at our own Board meetings prior to the conference. Some sort of structured/facilitated discussion would have been helpful.

Dr. Huff had an interesting presentation. My personal preference is for Canadian speakers, not American.

With the student panel discussion, I would suggest one student per division in order to get a broader range of perspective from these young people.

A comment on the governance presentation by Mr. Brown and Mr. Perrins - I thought we would be reviewing recommendations from the report, not doing Board PD by going over basic governance structure concepts; very disappointing.

25. It looks TERRIBLE watching the large group of people being piped into the banquet when a good number of SSBA reps have drinks in tow. I did not see one govt minister doing this, just the ssba, and perhaps leads/sasbo members (unsure of who all this large large group all was), NOT classy.

If the same student panel and set of questions is at CSBA, I wouldn't attend that session (have already heard them). For CSBA get a better cross section of provinces students, there's more than two divisions. Also make sure they all speak well, some didn't if they said much at all.

The food at the banquet was fantastic, the facility was great and CJ Huff was captivating. Also, Kelly Taylor was hilarious. Kinda missed the dress up/photo booth this year.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

26. I suspect some will not be satisfied with the timing, (ie: flow), of the whole meeting and those who have expressed that impression to me have been asked to give some time for these kind of issues to evolve. The first airplane to fly didn't provide the comfort that we've come to expect from Westjet.

The SSBA's lack of elections and therefore campaigning, etc., did leave a big hole in the first and some of the second day. It might be a good thing to have documentary videos on tap to fill this type of unpredictable time hole. There has to be relevant footage that most of us could learn from or at least enjoy. If not directly related to education, things like BBC's, "History of The World", documentary series should give those without the ability to fill time holes, something to sink their brain into.

I believe it went well enough to introduce "Version 2.0".

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Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

28. Overall a very good first start. Some observations that should be considered:

Having the conference at a time that is appropriate for all groups is not possible. Early December might be the best time with early May being the next most likely time.

Also, there should be an opportunity for panel discussion with representatives from each group for to discuss issues and how our organizations might be able to contribute to potential solutions.

	Thanks again for the opportunity.
29.	<p>Overall an excellent conference! The one piece missing was a chance for our functional groups to meet or have smaller networking sessions.</p> <p>Congratulations to the organizing committee, well done.</p>
30.	Excellent opportunity to network with other areas of the sector!
31.	<p>It was great Phil. I really enjoyed meeting new people and working with the kids. I think mixing up the associations with people from other divisions would be a great networking idea too. I wasn't there Wednesday as I had to take kids to the Anti-bullying forum but I heard it was good.</p> <p>Thanks for all your work</p>
32.	<p>I felt like I was a guest at the SSBA conference and not at a joint conference.</p> <p>There should have been better signage for SASBO to know where to go on Monday. The registration table only said SSBA - a bit confusing.</p> <p>For the separate SASBO section of the conference it could have been a bit more SASBO specific. A couple of the presenters thought they were presenting to educators not business officials.</p> <p>Not that is was the organizers fault, but there was a lot of lag time when presentations ended early.</p> <p>I liked the concept of the joint conference, but I unfortunately am left feeling like it didn't quite hit the mark.</p>
33.	I ended up skipping almost all of the conference because none of it applied to IT (my focus), so this one was not good value for me. In future I would like some IT related content, even if it's management level (i.e. risk management, etc.), and possibly a breakout session for IT managers and CIO's.
34.	One thing that I missed was having our finance group breakout sessions. I would have liked to have an hour one day with our group especially if it's a joint conference. I enjoyed and was inspired by 3 of the speakers - Kendal Netmaker, Dr. Huff and Gary Merasty. I did feel that a joint conference was a good idea but maybe not as an annual event. Every other year would suffice.
35.	I found that the topics were too specific to each group.
36.	Fantastic key note speakers.
37.	<p>Dear SSBA Executive & Organizing Committee:</p> <p>Greetings. Thank you for the opportunity to give feed-back about our conference. I enjoyed it very much.</p> <p>You will likely get feed-back noting concerns about "down time" being too much. I heard this concern from my fellow Trustees. Perhaps this is true on one hand. On the other hand I really appreciated the free time to network and have conversation with others. I will leave it to you to find the "perfect" balance. I would like to retain free time.</p> <p>On another note, the computer did not seem to bring up resolution results in a timely manner. The Chair seemed to be unintentionally a head of what the computer tech was</p>

posting. This resulted in some confusion.

Thank you again for your work. It was appreciated.

Best Regards,

Dr. Shane Andrus

Trustee, Chinook School Division

38. - This conference, although in theory a good idea, was not at all a good use of time. There was definitely too much open time. Even though we are all working together in education, we do such different work that there was not good overlap of common things. ie. The trade show was most definitely good for administration but not necessarily good for a governance board. CJ Huff was a good overlap for all.

- I think we could have easily done this in 2 days for SSBA members; I understand that LEADS need to complete hours for the modules. And how are the Directors to be in two different places - completing a module and being with their Board?

Mostly, biggest downfall was too much down time.

- Small constituency meetings were good.

- Sharing costs are good - keynote speakers.

- Location was good.

- Most meals were good; although breakfast was always cold. Not a big deal - we will live!

39. This could of been condensed. This trustee is not retired and taking 3-4 days is too much commitment/time off work.

I know it's by choice but forcing of People to not sit with there board/central office will allow for some/more discussions with other colleagues

40. I would suggest creating opportunities for more engagement in the sessions, allow for cross-group sessions and activities and smaller group presentations.

I believe the idea is great but needs to be fine tuned to include collaboration and active participation during the sessions.

41. Seemed to be a lot of wasted time, everything went very well and quickly. I guess that is why we had so much time on our hands. Maybe we could even start our AGM in an early morning and the next day till noon. It seems like everyone likes to leave at noon and the room empties maybe try to accommodate people that have to leave at noon. Having closing at noon even if we have to start maybe 1/2 day earlier. Talking to some they sort of felt the same way, Other than those comments we always enjoy our conversations and dialogue. Your speakers, we always enjoy. Thank you for all you do.

42. The conference could occur annually, provided that there is ample time for the sectors to meet and discuss things that are relevant to their sector. I feel that if the conference could occur when there are not conflicting meetings for one of the parties. it could occur annually. The opportunity for Divisions to team build was fantastic, however I am not sure how many Boards capitalized on that.

The suppers were most excellent, the lunches were good and the breakfasts were not worth serving.

43.	Much of the conference would be what I consider to be lost time, down time, wasted time. Too much time allowed for 'collaboration', networking, etc. The SSBA portion of the conference could probably have been done in one day, given the amount of time we spent walking around.
44.	I am new to SASBO and what I would have liked to have seen was a breakout session or two just for areas of interest (ie. finance, payroll, etc) to allow for better networking opportunities etc. Other than that, it was a terrific session!
45.	IT MAY BE A GOOD IDEA TO TRY TO EXPAND TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS. HAVE A JOINT TRADE SHOW WITH HEALTH (HEALTH & EDUCATION TRADE SHOW) TRADE SHOWS ARE PROBABLY THE BEST WAY TO HAVE EXCHANGES WITH NEW VENDORS.
46.	Meals were very good however; I found hair in my food .I have reported this to Manager and they have indicated changes will be made to the billing. Please ensure you followup on this. Thanks
47.	Overall it was great, but 3 days is a long time to be away from the office. Towards the end I looked around and saw a lot of folks on their phones/laptops probably trying to take care of business.Suggestion is to perhaps do 1 full day and then end 2nd day by 3.
48.	I realize that with a conference of that size you need to have a bigger location, but I found it inconvenient for the conference not to be held at the hotel you are staying at. The TCU itself as a conference place was excellent.
49.	Overall a very good conference, and well run. Certain times it felt like it was an SSBA conference with SASBO and LEADS invited instead of a true joint conference (for example only SSBA life members were recognized at banquet).
50.	The time and pace of the conference was very slow, I found most of the time I was waiting for the next session to start then it was over. On Monday we started at 8:30 and by 8:40 it was over with nothing until 10:30. The session by constituency groups was not informative, we as a Board were told to discuss the resolutions and our Board did, then we had anothe 90 minutes to discuss again. The last two days were better but the first day and half put a sour taste in my mouth, and I had a difficult time getting into it. It was a day to long.
51.	My overall rating of fair is based upon the amount of what I would call dead time. In one case this amounted to an hour. This did allow for sufficient time to network and dialogue. Not sure how to better manage the time around elections and resolutions. In general the speakers were very good. This was particularly true of Dr. Huff and the student panel.
52.	There was too much down time. Sunday night was not necessary. The quality of the essays which won the SSBA awards was poor. Perhaps some more stringent grammatical standards should be used. Why was there no report from Darren McKee? Healthier breakfasts should be served. Yogurt, fruit, cheese, whole wheat bread, oatmeal, cereals ... these would be much better then the "brown" breakfasts that were served.

53.	<p>I am in a wheelchair, I opted not to attend because of the separation of hotel and TCU place.</p> <p>Please look at containing everything at one site.</p>
54.	<p>Sunday night and Tuesday morning were a complete waste of my time. I would have been better staying home Sunday and save hotel and /diem cost. We did nothing all Tuesday morning.</p> <p>On the other hand, the student panel was wonderful.</p>
55.	<p>I very much appreciate all the hard work and effort that goes into organizing an event such as this. I would like to offer my 2 cents worth as constructive and not as a negative.</p> <p>For the event to be scheduled for 4 days, i think it may have been able to put it all into 2. Monday we were done the day at 2:00pm. Tuesday we had close to an hour and change in the morning with nothing scheduled and were again done with time to spare in the afternoon.</p> <p>With most of us either missing work or taking holiday time, it was a little frustrating having hours throughout the day with nothing scheduled.</p> <p>Thank you though for all you do, all your hard work does not go un-noticed and we really do value all y'all.</p> <p>Sincerely, Luke Perkins</p>
56.	<p>The venue was very cold. Although it was a joint conference, it seemed like we spent very little time as a group. Kim Ratz had good content but it was difficult to take him seriously with his songs. Most of the presenters were quite good.</p>
57.	<p>For SSBA members, the conference included too much down time. All of the SSBA business could have been completed in 1.5 days. The extra days were just "fluff" and a poor use of time. Otherwise, the conference was well run and enjoyable.</p> <p>One small suggestion - for SSBA resolutions on position statements, please highlight any changes in the text so that the changes may be seen without having to refer to the original document.</p>
58.	<p>Too much spare time Monday. Because of no elections.</p>
59.	<p>Too much down time. Could have completed entire conference in two days. Overall conference and speakers was excellent. Great job on your joint conference.</p>
60.	<p>It would likely have been practical to start the conference at noon on Monday given the way the timing worked out although I recognize it is difficult to create a precise schedule.</p> <p>I indicated tri-annually for the joint conference but suggest every 4 years; mid-way through trustee terms.</p>
61.	<p>There were many "dead" times where we sat and waited for next scheduled event!</p>
62.	<p>The joint conference was good. It allowed to bring in better quality speakers than the individual smaller conferences might allow due to budget constraints. Would only have a joint conference every 3 or 4 years.</p>

63.	With the Joint Conference there is improved networking opportunities, higher level speakers, accommodations, meals, and entertainment; however meeting as a SASBO Sector is sacrificed.
64.	There should have been time allotted for sector meetings.
65.	<p>First off, what a challenge for the organizing committee to bring together the 3 partners in education and attempt to make it a worthwhile activity for everyone. Thanks to all of you that were part of this.</p> <p>As a CFO I found it was a conflict between my role with the Board and that of my SASBO membership throughout the conference but especially on Monday. Unfortunately there ended being a lot of downtime at times which is difficult for anyone to plan.</p> <p>Over all it was good but I would only like to see it one every three or four years (once during the term of office for the board members).</p> <p>My two bits...</p>
66.	The conference was good. I think there could be more collaboration between Board, Leads, and SASBO. Something like working together on a project, such as a Lean initiative.
67.	Two much spare time Monday. Because if no elections.
68.	<p>Potical panel - I would have enjoyed both sides of the house and a little more by way of specifics from the Leaders of these Ministries</p> <p>Student panel - was helpful. How about asking a couple average or perhaps alienated students to join us and speak to us. The cream of the crop are good too but.....</p>
69.	Very well organized. The LEADS module I attended was very well done and I learned a lot! The joint sessions created great dialogue between ourselves and our board members. It was a great experience! Thank you!
70.	<p>Too much free time for Trustees in the SSBA portion (largely due to no elections so maybe not much you can do about that).</p> <p>Also overall a bit long - by the time Wed afternoon presentations were made a lot of people had left or were disengaged. That afternoon was not applicable to most SASBO members other than an awareness as to why Aboriginal Education/achievement is a priority in the ESSP.</p>
71.	The speakers and panels were well chosen and will provide food for thought to local boards. I believe the AGM was well attended and was successful because boards had such things as the budget very earlier to study and to be prepared to discuss the resolutions with care and attention. The most frustrating experience was the AGM time lines. Of course, one realizes extra time had to be allocated for resolutions and elections but the amount of down time for both Directors and Board Members was a way too long. Please, consider making changes to the AGM agenda to improve efficiency of time.
72.	The breaks were far too long there is no need for a 40 min coffee break.
73.	Should have activities that mix members from different organizations discussing issues of concern to all organizations. There was too much down time in the SSBA part of the event. The session from Kir Ratz was very poor for this type of event. The student panel was excellent and more could have been done with students. Too long going from Sunday

	evening all the way to Wednesday afternoon.
74.	I believe a joint conference should occur but that it needs to be on at least a 5 year rotation. It was good to have a conference together but the feedback I received from my staff was that it really did not feel like a joint conference. Many felt like we were invited to take part in the SSBA conference and that it did not have a joint feel.
75.	i think the concept was great but it was an opportunity lost. you had all these people in the same room but they didn't get a chance to talk about what was important to them or to find common ground. we could have spent very valuable time talking with others across the province that have the same questions and concerns and who also have answers. sorry i can't support this if it continues in this fashion. our time and money is too valuable to spend in a sessions like Kim Ratz offered. thanks for your efforts in planning this and as i said the concept is great but the true opportunity and value were lost. thanks.
76.	Excellent event. Hard to make everything highly relevant for everyone all the time. Great mixture and I definitely benefited from my time. Thanks
77.	It is difficult to create a joint conference program that will provide meet the needs of the 3 groups.
78.	I attended the HR module with Dean Biesenthal and Kyle McIntyre which was excellent
79.	Time for collaboration around focus issue or concerns.
80.	Opportunity for all involved with the education of our children to come together and collaborate.
81.	There was a significant amount of time that could have been better used. The governance and operations session was not very inspiring at all. Again, low attendance at this session provides an indication of the quality of the presentation. Kim Ratz's session had to be extended to fill time. The anticipated time allocation for the prior items was about 40 minutes too long. The presentation was just okay. Wednesday's attendance at sessions was poor - attendance declined as the day proceeded.
82.	I thought that this was a good first attempt, and that the general idea was excellent. If the LEADS sessions would have been at TCU place on Monday and Tuesday morning, there would have been additional opportunities to make connections between members of different organizations. This might have allowed the conference to shave off a day at the end. There were many email contacts from SSBA and from LEADS prior to the conference, and I thought it might have been easier if there was one entity responsible for doing all of the conference communication. Thanks to the committee for your work!
83.	I believe the concept of joining our conferences into one and the intent were right. However it was very challenging to have so many people out of the system for the same three days. Because of this, we chose to leave some folks back and therefore, they missed their annual conferences. I also think it is difficult to find speakers that pertain to the full mix of people. Many left early on Wednesday as they believed the content did not pertain

to them - mostly SASBO folks I believe. And Directors had to choose between the AGM for SSBA and our own association and short courses. Both are important and valuable processes. While I believe the intent was right, I'm not entirely sure it was as successful as planned with so many challenging factors. I do appreciate the work to pull it together and the attempt to provide an opportunity for networking.

84. As SSBA members, our board felt that time was not used wisely for us. There were too many periods of down time and the conference was spread out over too many days, resulting in extra expenses for our board. Also, having nearly all senior staff out of the office for three consecutive working days wasn't optimal.

On the plus side, I really enjoyed the opportunity to discuss resolutions in small groups prior to voting on them. It was at these discussions that I realized how many members didn't clearly understand the resolutions or the implications. I believe the discussion that followed helped to clear up some misconceptions. Without this open discussion, some members would likely have voted based on misunderstandings. I believe that a joint conference is a huge amount of work and very difficult to coordinate properly. Unless the scheduling issues can be resolved, I don't think a joint conference is beneficial for trustees.

85. Too many coffee breaks and way too much time.

86. It was uncomfortably cold in the TCU most of the time. It was distracting from the meetings

87. I appreciate the intent of the conference however I struggle with the draw of folks from our school division. I also felt that at times sessions did not appeal to the broad audience that was in attendance.

88. Monday was a poorly planned day with so much free time. SSBA AGM could have been finished in one day. Trustees that are attending these functions have other jobs we need to feel that our time is valued. With the joint conference there were no SASBO or LEADS people left in our School Divisions.

89. I think it is very important that we work collaboratively on educational issues and opportunities. It sends a very powerful message to other sectors (Child and Family Agenda) that we are united and focused on putting the Student First.

90. Perhaps too much down time. This joint conference could be that cause. Three school divisions presented to an empty room. Not fair to their effort and time. Need something to keep people there.

Suggest that dynamic presentation at the last hour, perhaps Minister or Premier type of presenter

91. I missed the education breakout sessions on insurance, technology, other division successes, and treaty education ideas.

I thought the venue, and food were excellent as always. The elections, resolutions, and our SSBA portion could have been done in 1/2 day. It was a total WASTE of my time other than the banquet, CJ Huff and the comedian.

If we want to follow the ministry directives to increase grad rates, do treaty education, and increase math, reading and writing in our students, maybe the SSBA should be providing ideas and success stories along those lines. We had the 3 groups at the conference that could have changed student lives, and it was a FAIL on the content.

I left early as a trustee I could not waste more taxpayer dollars sitting at a convention that was of no use to me - 9 resolutions, seriously!!!! I am also self employed and was not making any money sitting there.

Maybe you should have some input from boards on planning the convention. I hope the CSBA national convention is better than this provincial one. VERY DISAPPOINTED and I have been on the board over 9 years - worst one yet.

92. Concept is strong. Intersectoral work is key to our shared success with student achievement. The lag time between sessions was too long. For a first attempt it demonstrates potential.

93. I found the conference to be fair in length although there were many that found it to be too long. Presenters were solid and the sessions were good. However, I still believe, even at a joint conference, that there should be hospitality suites as they provide for a great opportunity for networking.

94. I felt that there was too much down time at this conference. 4 days should have been accommodated in 3 days. It would seem the school boards put out a lot of money for the Sunday which could have fit into Monday, or just a shuffle in different order to accommodate elections.

Also I was very disappointed at the banquet to see the disrespect of people who were in the procession to see them carrying in alcoholic drinks in hand. I feel as though it was poor in taste on their part to do so. This is not a show, when walking in behind Ministry, and legislated officials it shows disrespect.

the breakfast meals NEED to have a better balance diet to those who don't want deep fried or pastries. We need to have fruit/yogurts/granolas or muffins, not desert pastries!

these are my opinions.

95. This could have been leaned out to 1.5 days at a significantly reduced cost to school divisions. I should not have been forced to skip my mandated LEADS modules so I could provide my Director duties to my Board. Keeping track of three agendas was very confusing and so will be the resulting financial tracking as it overlaps with governance and administration. Ratz was an insult to LEADS members who understand leadership. His presentation was 20 years old and not his work in several areas. Gambling is not an optic we should profile for education. In my mind sends the wrong message to the people we lead.

96. Certainly the organizers of this event need to be congratulated for their work, effort and vision.

Overall the conference was good. I think what prevented it from being very good or excellent was the spacing and timing of speakers. There seemed to be too much down time. I think a one day joint conference would have been sufficient.

I recognize this is brand new and there are kinks to work out.

I appreciate the planning and organizing that went in to this event. Certainly there was a great deal of work which was done to pull this off.

97. Understanding that time allotment for agenda items can be a difficult thing to judge when dealing with election items and resolution items, it is still important to make sure those in attendance feel they have spent their time worthy of important educational issues.

Two items that SSBA could consider as fill ins are: Past resolutions update, and/or division presentations. Both these areas of information could be in printed form and ready to present where time allotted. If time did not allow for all to be presented, attendees have the printed versions to fall back on.

Too much down time left many members in attendance feeling that time was wasted or could have been better spent. The information that was presented was interesting, important, and relevant. I believe with some thought and some input, SSBA can figure a way to add to the conference by having fill in material prepared.

98. There were too many dead spots in the conference. Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning were very slow. There needs to be some back up planning in the case there is the lull that was very apparent due to the lack of an election and few resolutions. I realize that this was the first Joint conference and that planning on speculation is very often not easy but I personally could not see any advantage to having a joint conference. We could have easily started the conference on Monday at noon, other than the fact that we need 24 hours for the election process. I was disappointed at the amount of time where there really was nothing to do except visit and drink coffee. I also think that the Trade show could have started earlier as a lot of people just disappeared because there was a 2 hour dead spot between the end of sessions and the start of the trade show on Tuesday.

99. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work. I enjoyed it all. The only complaint I heard was that there was too much "free" time. Also, that there wasn't an annual report given.

100. I found that the SSBA was not as good as I thought as it could have been. Too much down time

During the SSBA time I felt that it was not a valued use of time that gave trustees something to take back to their board

I always look for something in these conferences that will help me be a better trustee

101. I was involved in taking the ten hour module training on Finance and I only joined the joint conference at noon on Tuesday. When I arrived just before noon on Tuesday it appeared as if there was no formal activity taking place. In conversation with other Directors who had attended the SSBA convention from the beginning they indicated that on Tuesday morning nothing formal occurred. There were also some extra long coffee breaks and lunch breaks. The timing of the conference sessions appeared to be off. Perhaps trying to have a joint conference caused the timing of sessions difficult to schedule.

102. Clearer communication for LEADS members as to the agenda of the joint conference. Did not know location and time until registering. Beforehand we were only given the one page pamphlet with speakers on it, no other details. Thank you!

103. I found that the SSBA was not as good as I thought as it could have been. Too much down time

During the SSBA time I felt that it was not a valued use of time that gave trustees something to take back to their board

I always look for something in these conferences that will help me be a better trustee

104. Too much down time. Could have completed entire conference in two days. Over all conference and speakers was excellent. Great job on your joint conference.

105.	I really enjoyed the Joint Conference - had the ability to interact with SASBO members as well as SSBA and LEADS (opportunity to network). Dennis Kambeitz presentation would have been a good presentation to the joint group, as it related to student classroom education as well. Overall, great presentations and keynote speakers.
106.	<p>Although the idea of a joint conference is a good one, I am not sure a joint conference adequately meets the needs of members of the various organizations. I checked "No Joint Conference" because there is no choice for holding the joint conference every four years-I would not want to see it anymore often than every four years.</p> <p>Thank you to those who worked hard in support of the conference. I found the Leads module I participated in to be very good. Also, I certainly enjoyed the conference keynote.</p>
107.	I would suggest that the conference start with a robust agenda on Sunday afternoon and end on Tuesday night with the awards banquet.
108.	I didn't see the need for the stretch of 3 days, as most of us were already donating time from our Boards and regular employment, I failed to see any benefit for the Trade Show which was more for Administration rather than trustees, I found the beef on the bun very lacking in any sustenance after a very long day. Overall, I think this was the worst conference, I have attended. Although the concept of a joint conference is a good one, I think perhaps in the Spring it would be a better time. I did appreciate the extra time to discuss the resolutions but I failed to see any benefit in separating Urban from Rural, the concept defeats the purpose of dialogue and learning. Rather than panels, I think it would be more efficient to have trustees work with each other and do facilitated round table discussion on items that are affecting our boards presently. i.e. facilities, bussing, classrooms sizes, funding etc.
109.	First year learning curve. SSBA didn't seem to have much content. Going through resolutions beforehand was excellent. Because president and vice were acclaimed, lots of extra time since no runoff speeches needed created a time void but I don't know how you could fill that. Organizing committee did a good job.
110.	Found it a bit disjointed, not always a place for members to be or go.
111.	Too much down time! You can only network so long , way too much time for this.
112.	<p>I found that rh sSBa was not as good as I thought as it could have been. To much down time</p> <p>During the SSBA time I felt that it was not a valued use of time that gave trustees something to take back to their board</p> <p>I always look for something in these conferences that will help me be a better trustee</p>
113.	i understand that there needs to be sufficient time allowed for all scheduled sessions. i do not appreciate trustees griping about the gaps formed by lack of willingness to discuss items placed before them. maybe we could bring back the presentation of annual reports and budget detail to fill in the voids left by finishing resolutions and non-elections early. too bad so many people chose to do other things when the trade show was on and ask the next day "when is the trade show on". this was the best trade show ever in connection with our conference and i believe that was due to the fact that it was a joint effort. if our business was to follow the joint part of the event it would eliminate the gaps as we could just have a continuous agenda - shorter or longer as necessary. i am one of those who makes the effort to meet with people from other school divisions and found the joint event

	to offer more opportunity in that regard. thanks for your efforts in pulling together the program that you did...
114.	<p>I found that the SSBA was not as good as I thought as it could have been. Too much down time</p> <p>During the SSBA time I felt that it was not a valued use of time that gave trustees something to take back to their board</p> <p>I always look for something in these conferences that will help me be a better trustee</p>
115.	<p>I like the idea of a Joint Conference. For the SSBA, there were some gaps in the agenda because our business didn't take as long as anticipated. The speakers during the joint conference were excellent - would there be a practical way to begin the business meeting day with one of those speakers? Bring the group together as a whole to start, and then split into our respective organizations for AGM business? It was very good to do our business meetings at the beginning of the week, but it almost felt like the conference didn't really get started until Tuesday at noon.</p>
116.	<p>We are very busy people and while I understand the need to periodically meet other people in education across the province the most value is with our direct counterparts.</p> <p>When I joined SASBO I stopped attending the CEFPI conference because I thought it wasteful to attend multiple events through the year. Now I am questioning this choice.</p>
117.	<p>I found that the SSBA was not as good as I thought as it could have been. Too much down time</p> <p>During the SSBA time I felt that it was not a valued use of time that gave trustees something to take back to their board</p> <p>I always look for something in these conferences that will help me be a better trustee</p>
118.	<p>I especially liked the chance to get together with our constituencies to discuss the bylaws and resolutions. It is helpful to get a few different ideas on them before we have to vote.</p> <p>I know that time must be allowed in case there are elections with speeches and a possible carry over of resolutions to Tuesday. However, it would have been better if you had a back-up plan for that morning in case there was a lot of extra time. I think we lost a lot of people because of the huge break. That being said, I was happy with the rest of the conference.</p>
119.	<p>I would either suggest biennially or triennially. The changes to the SSBA regulations should help with the timing of the conference. Having it spread over 3 days was too much time to be away from work and family. There was too much down time. Would rather have long days and less days for conference.</p>
120.	no comment