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Dear School Administrator,

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful and rejuvenating summer, and are enjoying these early days of the 2018-2019 school year.

I am writing to inform you of the upcoming Music Conference Alberta, held 25-27 October 2018 in Edmonton. Attached you will find an Information Sheet that provides a conference overview; additional information can be found on the conference website at [www.musicconferenceab.ca](http://www.musicconferenceab.ca).

Music Conference Alberta is recognized as the premier professional development opportunity for music educators in Alberta. The diverse roster of more than 50 interest sessions includes those designed for elementary and classroom music educators, band directors, choral conductors, and studio music teachers. A series of masterclasses, one-on-one sessions, rehearsal labs and open rehearsals are also included in the conference schedule.

We are especially excited to present the JUNO Award-winning composer Allan Gordon Bell as this year's keynote speaker. This year's conference will also feature sessions and performances by acclaimed American jazz pianist Reggie Thomas, masterclasses with the Chopin International Piano Competition Laureate Krzysztof Jablonski, and workshops renowned Canadian composer and music educator Stephen Chatman.

Music Conference Alberta is thrilled to be piloting the inaugural Alberta Emerging Musicians Festival alongside this year's conference. The festival concerts, which are integrated into the conference schedule, include performances by University of Alberta and MacEwan University students, the Alberta Youth Choir, the ABA Wind Symphony, the Bishop Carroll Virtuosi Strings, and a series of outstanding young soloists.

In addition, the MCA Marketplace will provide an opportunity for delegates to browse and purchase product, meet industry representatives, and learn about upcoming travel and fundraising opportunities. A series of social functions provide an arena for delegates to network with their peers and to meet their colleagues from across the province.

Given the unique and outstanding opportunities available at Music Conference Alberta to all music educators, it is my hope that you will encourage the music teacher(s) at your school to attend. Note that the Early Bird deadline is 1 October 2018.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to inquire using the information above. I hope to have the opportunity to meet the music teacher at your school at Music Conference Alberta!

Kind regards,

Brendan Lord, DMus  
Chair, MCA Joint Planning Committee

