JULY 2026

ISSUE 4

CANADIAN DANCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter



As we step into a vibrant new fall season, the Canadian Dance Teachers Association is delighted to celebrate the wonderful turnout at our recent Dance Teacher Expo classes. Our community continues to grow and thrive from coast to coast.

We extend a heartfelt welcome to all our new members . We're thrilled to have you with us and look forward to supporting your journey as part of our national teaching community.

As the 2026–2027 season begins, we encourage every member to stay active, stay connected, and take full advantage of the many opportunities available — especially our webinars, which offer accessible, engaging professional development throughout the year.

Wishing each of you a happy fall and a successful season ahead. May your studios be filled with creativity, growth, and joyful dancing.

Julie Dionne
Honourary Member
CDTA Website/Media Director
Public Relations





Happy Fall from our CDTA Ambassador!





APPLY TO BE A CDTA 2027 AMBASSADOR CANDIDATE

For more information and to apply

CLICK HERE!



CDTA Ambassador Information



From the Desk of our Exam Registrar...

From the Desk of our Exam Registrar...

Welcome again to Oct 2026 “Exam News”!!
First, we have now launched the registration of exams through the CDTA Exam Portal. Yay!! Some of you have already started using it and the feedback has been very positive.
I am always here to answer any questions you have along the way.
Our exam entry deadline is now - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, for all exams taking place November 15 - December 20.
(We are no longer using Part A & B entry forms for any exams except Ballroom.)

For Student Exams...
Please make sure you have downloaded the two new Handbooks for student exams.
Login, click on “Exams”, click on “Examinations - Student”, and you will see them:
1. CDTA Student Examination Handbook (Sept 2026)
This includes lots of important info including how to register for exams in the Exam Portal, as well as all the current exam entry fees and the time allotments for each grade when entering or creating your schedule.
2. Student Examinations - Notes and Procedures (Sept 2026)
This PDF describes what is to be asked in exams, whether you are leading them on video, zooming them, or having them in-person. Examiners will also be using these documents when conducting exams in-person.
Please note that for Tap and Jazz exams, there are different Notes between the Current Syllabus and the NEW Syllabi for Tap and Jazz (optional this year).

For Professional Exams and Accreditation...
Please make sure you download the info you need from the website.
Login, click on “Exams”, click on Examinations - Professional”. There you will find:
the Manual you need, Associate or Licentiate, the entry form,
and the CDTA Professional Examination Handbook (Sept 2026).
Alternately, some of you are pursuing your accreditation through our new TTP course. This exciting pilot project for Tap and Jazz has 30 teachers registered.
Best of luck to all of you as you navigate through the courses and assignments throughout the year! And thank you to Julie Dionne, our course instructor.

Just a few reminders...
* Exam entry fee payments are to be made after you are invoiced by the Office.
* The next exam deadline is Monday, December 1 - for exams Jan. 15 - Mar. 14, 2027.
* Make sure you are using the most recent syllabus, or have downloaded any syllabus revisions from the website. If you aren’t sure, please send me an email.

Wishing all of you a fabulous year ahead!
Until next time...”Keep on Dancing!”

Melody-Lynn Drewitz-Van Veen, CDTA-HM, B.ED, RAD RTS
CDTA National Past President and Exam Registrar
exams@cdtanational.ca

CDTA Exam Entry



DEADLINE

October 15

(for exams November 15- December 20)



If you have any questions contact Melody-Lynn Drewitz-Van Veen

exams@cdtanational.ca

Go to CDTANATIONAL.CA and use our new Exam Portal







CDTA Junior Jazz and Tap Syllabus

CDTANATIONAL.CA

NEW

NOTIFY YOUR DANCERS

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WE HAVE A PAGE FOR THEM!

- monthly affirmation
- monthly dance clip
- Did you know?
- Name this famous dancer.
- Upcoming Webinars/Courses
- CDTA Ambassador 2026 Corner



NEW

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Submit a teaching tip, costuming tip, competition tip etc.

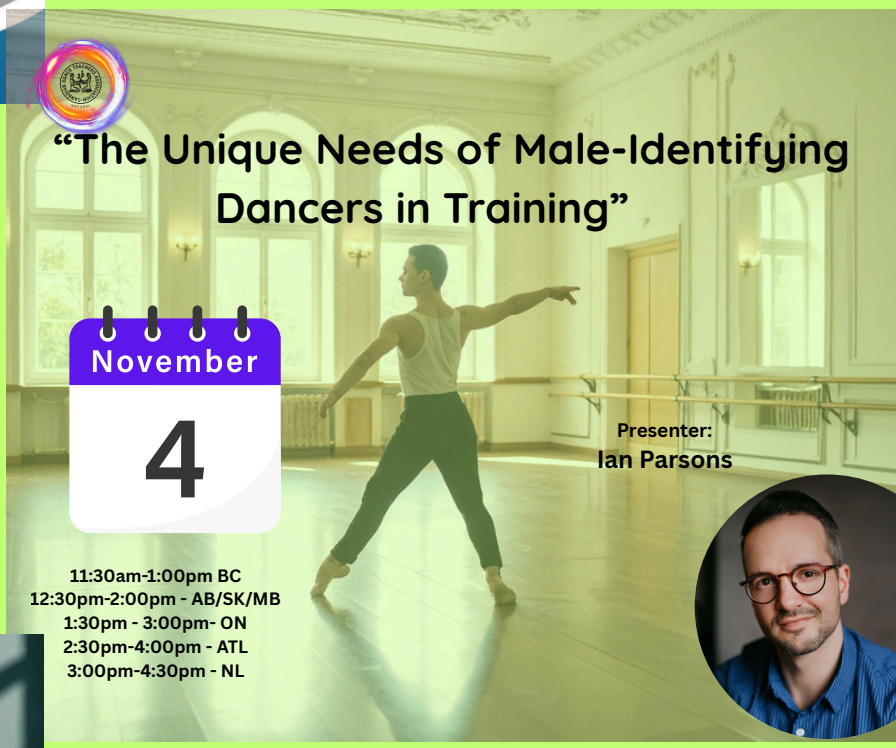
Forward your tip along with a headshot to marketing@cdtanational.ca

Next CDTA Newsletter January 15, 2027


EVENTS
NEWS!



Register Today





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SAVE THE DATE

COMING TO SASKATOON...

DANCE JAM 2027

SUN OCT 3/27



SASKATOON INN & CONFERENCE CENTRE

www.cdtanational.ca

events@cdtanational.ca

A NOTE FROM OUR EVENTS COORDINATOR

What an exciting start to our 2026/27 season! It has been wonderful seeing members come together to learn, connect, and share their passion for dance. A sincere thank you to our Professional Development / Health & Wellness Committee, presenters, and members for helping bring these learning opportunities to life!

Our Fall Professional Development Lineup

We kicked off August with *Childhood Expressions Master Class* with Jane Davis Munro and Lara Munro, and *Contemporary Movement* with Lindsay Harpham. October brought *Building Stronger Dancers* with Cassandra Knisley, focusing on injury prevention and dancer wellness.

There is still plenty to look forward to!

- **October 25**:
  - ***Cross Training for Dance: Periodization, Planning & Preparation***
    - presented by Dr. Stephen Gray
- **November 4:**
  - ***The Unique Needs of Male-Identifying Dancers in Training***
    - presented by Ian Parsons
- **November 29**:
  - ***Planning Ahead for a Stronger Dance Year***
    - presented by Olivia Grayce

We hope these sessions inspire fresh ideas and continued growth in your teaching!

Dance Jam 2026 – Another Wonderful Day of Dance!

On Sunday October 4, Dance Jam welcomed 424 dancers and teachers from 33 studios to the Saskatoon Inn & Conference Centre!

It was a fantastic day of learning, inspiration, and connection! Seeing dancers and teachers reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and celebrate their love of dance in a non-competitive environment continues to make Dance Jam so special.

A heartfelt thank you to our faculty, assistants, volunteers, and participating studios for making this event possible!

Keep Learning with the CDTA Education Centre

As the dance season gets busier, remember that our Education Centre offers recorded webinars and professional development resources to explore whenever it works best for you!

Looking Ahead to CDTA's 80th Anniversary!

Planning has officially begun for CDTA's 80th Anniversary celebration in July 2029 in Toronto, in conjunction with the Toronto Dance Teachers' Expo! Our committee is exploring exciting ways to bring members together to celebrate eight decades of dance education, dedication, and community. Stay tuned for more details as plans develop!

Thank you to everyone who continues to support CDTA's educational programming. I look forward to another wonderful season of learning, growing, and connecting with our dance community!



CONTACT

events@cdtanational.ca

Yours in dance,
Melissa Wallace, CDTA-L, ARAD, RAD RTS
Event Coordinator – CDTA National

Support our CDTA Business Affiliates

If you wish to have your business join the association, click here.
For only $119.00 you receive
4 ads per season to help you connect with dance teachers and dancers from coast to coast.

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Gatineau, QC

April 15-18
Niagara Falls, ON

April 22-25
Calgary, AB

April 30-May 2
Blue Mountain, ON*

May 7-9
Blue Mountain, ON*
Niagara Falls, ON*

May 13-16
Blue Mountain, ON

May 27/28-30
Blue Mountain, ON

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Registering is as easy as 5, 6, 7, 8!

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1. Set up your Manulife ID
2. Sign up for your plan(s)
   a. Enter your access code so you can select your plans, beneficiaries, and funds. Click "submit" to save your information
   b. Your plan administrator may need to approve your enrollment before you can access your online account
3. Explore your account

Before you start, know:

- Your plan's access code: **4K12hAFG**
- Your plan's policy number: **55506982**
- Your social insurance number
- Who your beneficiaries will be

Use today's date as the date of eligibility



Lindsay Harpham

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BUSINESS CONSULTING

Engage. Develop. Grow. Evolve.



Practical business guidance for every stage of studio ownership.

Studio owners are accustomed to making decisions, solving problems and supporting the people around them. Sometimes it helps to have someone outside the day-to-day to look at the bigger picture and think through the next steps with you.

With nearly 30 years of studio management and consulting experience, Debra brings practical, collaborative business support to dance studio owners.

Some of the Ways I can Support You and Your Studio

FINANCIAL CLARITY & PRICING
Understand the numbers, costs, pricing and what the studio needs to generate.

BUSINESS PLANNING & OPERATIONS
Review and simplify systems, workflows, staffing and everyday studio operations.

ADVISORY, PLANNING & DECISION SUPPORT
A trusted outside perspective when working through decisions, changes, or new opportunities.

Sometimes a conversation is the best place to start.

Visit EdgeBusinessConsulting.ca to learn more, or reach out directly.

EdgeBusinessConsulting.ca

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