

CASS Zone Report November 2023

2022-2023 Annual Report

2022-2023 was another very successful year for ARPDC! The efforts of ARPDC were guided by the seven priority areas provided by Alberta Education in 2019: Inclusive Education, Curriculum & Pedagogical Practice, Literacy, Numeracy and Mathematics, First Nation Métis and Inuit, Instructional Leadership and “Other”. The 2022-2023 year included significant support for piloting and implementation of New Curriculum. During the 2022-2023 year ARPDC provided 3,841 sessions to 132,720 participants for a total of 349,155 learning hours. The ARPDC would like to thank school authorities for their willingness to partner with ARPDC on achieving their goals for teacher and staff professional learning. Without the relationships that have been built through regional offices the impact described above would simply not be possible.

2023-2024 Annual Learning Plan

The ARPDC Annual Learning Plan will be presented to the CASS Board of Directors at their December meeting. The Annual Learning Plan is guided by the priorities; New Curriculum, Quality Teaching, and Quality Leadership. Highlights of the Annual Plan include the following three key strategies and supporting actions:

- *Collaboration on Curriculum Implementation and Advancement*
 - Focusing on the strengthening of provincial committees
 - Development of partnerships to supplement the capacity of ARPDC
- *Sharing of Resources*
 - Communicating the principles of open-source sharing
 - Supporting school division sharing of resources on the ARPDC website
 - Strengthening development and awareness of on demand resources
 - Populating of NewLearn Alberta with Boards
- *Communication of Progress and Opportunities*
 - Establishment of an Assurance Framework
 - Strengthening the presence of ARPDC on social media
 - Enhancing the ARPDC website
 - Growing the subscribership of the ARPDC newsletter

Assurance Framework Development

The Assurance Framework Committee, with the leadership of Dr. Gloria Antifaiff, is now entering the last phase of the development process. Feedback on moving from a traditional reporting framework to an assurance reporting framework was gathered through Regional Advisory Committees and the Provincial Advisory Committee. The final survey tool has been developed and will be reviewed by the CASS Board of Directors at their December meeting with a plan to distribute the survey to the sector in mid-January. It is the hope of ARPDC that our sector partners will support the distribution and completion of the assurance surveys. Stakeholders who participate will also be provided the opportunity to participate in focus groups planned in April to debrief survey results and provide direction on next steps in the development of the 2024-2025 Annual Learning Plan for ARPDC.

Indigenous Language in Education Symposium

The Alberta Government and the ARPDC entered into an agreement for ARPDC to host an *Indigenous Language in Education Symposium* in the 2023-2024 school year. This virtual symposium is tentatively scheduled for late January of 2024. The purpose of this invitational symposium is to

- provide professional learning opportunities for educators about Indigenous language resource development;
- highlight the positive partnerships between education stakeholders and Alberta Education;
- elevate the importance of preserving, maintaining, strengthening, and revitalizing Indigenous languages;
- and celebrate the work accomplished through the ILE Grant Program.

Provincial Curriculum Committee Updates

ARPDC maintains provincial committees in ELAL, Mathematics, Science, FILAL, FLAL. Reports of the plan and the work are available on the ARPDC website at the bottom of the [About Us](#) page and will be updated throughout the year should any substantive change or modification be made to the original plan.

ARPDC Website Enhancement

ARPDC continues to focus on the amalgamation of web resources into one provincial collection. The [New Curriculum website](#) houses all resources created in support of curriculum implementation. School authorities are invited to contribute to this collection to enhance provincial collaboration.

For those who may be interested in a provincial view of sessions being offered through ARPDC, check out the [Learning Opportunities](#) tab which is searchable by focus, region, month or facilitator and captures all provincially planned sessions in one convenient location.

For those of you who spend significant time driving, may we invite you to check out the ARPDC Podcast Series. Our recent focus has been on literacy across the curriculum and is available on Spotify, Apple, and Google Podcast networks. Our [website blog page](#) provides listeners and educators with an episode post with supporting resources and titles.

