

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Alberta School Councils'
Association (ASCA)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Profile
2	People
3	Purpose
4	Provincial Scope
5	Services
6	Priorities
7	Operations

INTRODUCTION

Supporting effective school council practices and demonstrating how parent engagement can enhance school improvement strategies, and ultimately student success, is at the core of all ASCA efforts.

The Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) is the provincial association representing parents on school councils.

Recognized as the voice of parents in public education, ASCA presents the parent perspective to government and education organizations in Alberta utilizing member determined advocacy policy.

The Government of Alberta recognizes the value of parents and the community to be engaged in the education of children. It is through school council that parents, community members and school staff have a means of participating in decisions that impact student learning success.

School councils were legislated in 1995 under Alberta's School Act and are mandatory for all schools in the public education system, including charter schools.

School councils are regulated groups of parents, principals, teachers, secondary students, and community representatives who work together to effectively support and enhance student learning.

The Alberta School Councils' Association provides support and resources to enhance parent engagement and school council effectiveness.

ASCA provides knowledge and skill development, consultation and workshops, to enhance meaningful parent contribution and participation through school councils across the province.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

With another year of prudent fiscal stewardship, we worked diligently to utilize our resources and relationships to shift our business model while maintaining the high-quality learning opportunities, support, and advocacy that our members deserve. We continue to diversify our revenue streams, we deliver services with the same care and integrity we always have, and we have supported members, non-members, and partners throughout another unique school year.

The professional development we offer at ASCA continues to be greatly appreciated and well utilized by school council members. School councils are working diligently while fulfilling their legislated roles. Their work is valuable and crucial, which is why it is so important they are empowered to be the impactful local advocates their students need.

The ongoing advocacy we undertake on behalf of our Member School Councils is vital to shaping an education system that supports all students, is equitable for all students, and recognizes the individual merits of all students. Whether it's been about curriculum, funding, class sizes, transportation, supports, strains in the system, or equity for students, ASCA has worked steadfastly to effect change.

ASCA knows the importance and power of parental voice in education through school councils. The education and empowerment of school councils across our province is meaningful work and necessary because we know the engagement of parents in the education system is vital for student success.



Brandi Rai

We are grateful for the local support and advocacy that school councils offer their communities. The enthusiasm and dedication is inspirational, and empowering these voices at the provincial level is critical, meaningful, and invaluable work.

We believe that ASCA is relevant, sustainable, autonomous, and innovative.

MISSION

ASCA will engage and empower Alberta school councils while advocating for the parent voice in the education system.



Engage

ASCA promotes and supports greater parental engagement, reinforcing the expectations of the Assurance Framework, through school councils, within Alberta's education system.



Empower

ASCA builds capacity in parents and principals on school councils, along with other members of education communities, by providing skill development, resources, and materials to enable them to understand and enact, in alignment with the Assurance Framework, their legislated roles and responsibilities in Alberta's schools.



Advocate

ASCA contributes to Assurance in Alberta's education system by bringing a "parents' perspective" through school councils on provincial education issues to government and other education organizations.

PROVINCIAL EDUCATION

Parents bring a valuable perspective to the establishment and review of provincial goals for education and the success of all students.

ASCA advocates on behalf of Member School Council parents with the Education Ministry to affect positive change in Alberta schools.

Each year ASCA is invited to represent the advocacy positions established by the membership at provincial level committees. From April 2022 – March 2023 ASCA has been invited to, represented at, or participated on, the following:

Alberta Education

- Alberta Research Network
- Budget 2023 Stakeholder Briefing
- Fall 2023 Curriculum Implementation Stakeholder Briefing

Regional Professional Development Consortium

- Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC) Provincial Advisory Committee (CASS)
- Edmonton (ERLC)
- Southern Alberta (SAPDC)
- Central Alberta (CARC)
- East Central/Learning Network (LNES)
- Calgary (CRC)
- Northwest (NRLC)

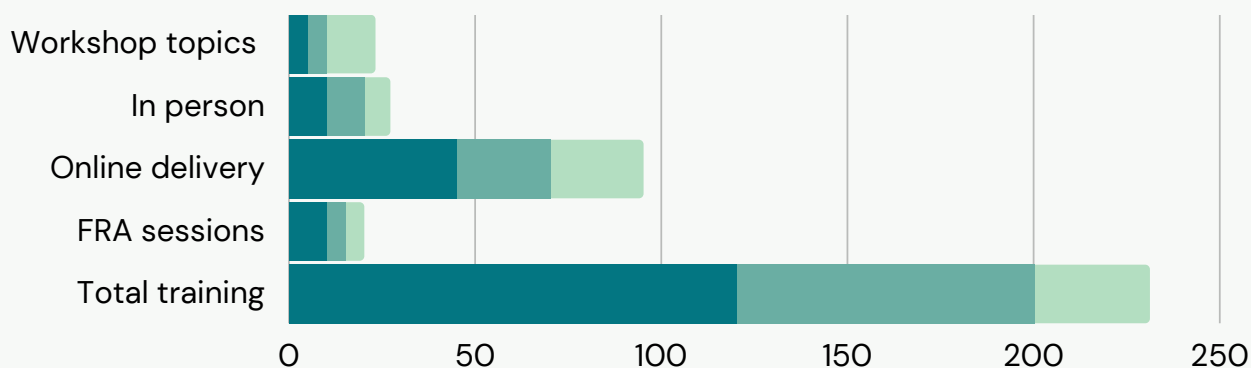
Education Partner Joint Initiatives and Learning Opportunities

- ASBA, ASBOA, ASCA, CASS Four Partners
- Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Advisory Circle (IERC)
- Rural Education Symposium Advisory and Planning (ARES)
- Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Spring and Fall General Meetings
- Association of School Business Officials of Alberta (ASBOA) Conference
- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Conferences & FNMI Gathering
- Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) General Meetings
- Rural Education Symposium (ARES)
- Honouring Indigenous Spirit Award Selection Committee and Award Ceremony

ASCA provides professional development materials, publications, resources, and learning opportunities to school councils, school divisions, administrators, trustees, partner organizations, and fundraising associations. ASCA learning opportunities and workshops are designed to help school councils understand their legislated role, and enhance parent engagement in the school community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Learning opportunities designed to empower school councils and promote diverse and inclusive parent engagement in public education.



1169 MEMBER SCHOOL COUNCILS REPRESENTING PUBLIC, CATHOLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS

91% SCHOOL DIVISIONS IN ALBERTA WITH ALL OF THEIR SCHOOL COUNCILS AS MEMBERS OF ASCA

- Created a 3-module self-directed Learning Opportunity for school councils.
- Created customized professional learning options for independent/private school authorities and First Nations Education Authorities.

94 YEARS OPERATING



FORMED IN **1929**

“The home and school connection focused on the wellbeing of the child.”

11546 Newsletter recipients, information distribution reach

VISION

Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of parents of students in K-12 public, separate, charter or francophone schools, the Association invests all assets into achieving its Vision.

One of the main objectives of ASCA, from its origin through to today, is that parents are seen as partners in education and they are vital to student success.

ASCA's role evolved to promote and support strong school communities with effective school councils as a means to facilitate collaborations among education partners, including parents, to enhance student learning.



Vision

A respected and empowered school council in every Alberta school.



Belief

Parents are recognized and respected as knowledgeable, supportive contributors to their children's education, and are provided a variety of opportunities to be authentically engaged in all levels of the education system.



Principles

The ASCA will adhere to and support its values by being adaptable, responsive, responsible and collaborative in all its dealings.

OPERATIONS

Alberta School Councils' Association focuses its time and energy in ways that attract and retain sufficient human, social and financial resources to ensure its long-term sustainability.

DONATIONS

- ASCA is incorporated under the Alberta Societies Act. Charitable Business Number: 125812651 RR 0001.
- Four options to donate online.

CASE FOR SUPPORT

- When you support ASCA, you are directly contributing to the future of education in Alberta.
- You have it in your power to ensure ASCA continues to be the voice of parents in Alberta Education.

SPONSORSHIPS

- ASCA has sponsor opportunities for companies and organizations with products or services relevant to the school community.
- Advertise with ASCA and build brand visibility with the "school community" in Alberta.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Auditor's Report
Fiscal Year End June 30



Alberta School Councils' Association

Representing parents on school councils in Alberta.

Promoting parent engagement in public education.

SCHOOL COUNCIL RESOURCE GUIDE

Updated annually, operations, procedures, best practices.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Provincial networking and development sessions.

ADVOCACY POLICY

Member based, collective belief statements.

MANDATE

A province-wide organization of school councils.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE

Perspectives to gain a truly province-wide view.

MEMBERSHIP

A school council voice at the provincial level.

VISION PATH

Reflecting the Association's current and future priorities.

Contact

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