



Alberta
School Councils' Association
Promoting parent engagement in public education

Advocacy and Action Updates

for the period ending March 2024

Annual Highlights

Advisory Committee Updates

School Council Engagement Task Force (SCETF) 2023-2024 Summary

ASCA Internal Board Committees



Highlights 2023-2024

Members and Clients:

1163 Member School Councils representing public, catholic and charter school communities as of April 15th, 2024.

Provincial Representation/Advocacy

- On request, advised Minister of Education and Alberta Education staff respecting parent perceptions of current or emerging education issues/trends;
- President Rai provided several media interviews throughout the year, primarily focused on draft K-6 curriculum and/or covid-related matters;
- President Rai participated in two rallies focused on the draft K-6 curriculum;
- Endorsed the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Stand for Education campaign;
- Ongoing outreach to parents and school councils through social-media, e-News and bulletins;
- ASCA School Council Engagement Task Force (SCETF) continued for a ninth term;
- Board/staff members attended or participated in the provincial level opportunities listed in detail on the following page.

Local School Council, COSC and Division Empowerment

- Provided 24 ASCA in person Learning Opportunities delivered by ASCA Instructors and staff requested by school councils, school divisions and division-sponsored learning events for school councils;
- Provided 66 ASCA province-wide virtual online Learning Opportunities delivered by ASCA Instructors and staff to school councils, school divisions and division-sponsored learning events for school councils;
- Provided 11 Learning Opportunities to support school fundraising associations (FRAs) on a cost-recovery basis;
- Provided 7 Principal-focused Learning Opportunities at Teachers' Conventions;
- Through Learning Opportunities, have worked with 362 school councils in Alberta;
- Consulted and worked with school authority administrator teams on parent engagement/school council/council of school council relationships;
- Consulted and worked with school community parents building positive relationships with principals; central office personnel and trustees;
- Provided direction and information with respect to effective school councils and the distinction from school fundraising associations;
- Provided direction and information with respect to appropriate use of the Alberta School Council Engagement (ASCE) Grant;
- Customized Learning Opportunities and offerings to reflect school council and/or district experience and desired outcomes as required;
- Customized Learning Opportunities to include stronger emphasis on school councils' role within the Assurance Framework, and their understanding of Professional Practice Standards.
- Promoted a 3-module self-paced and directed Learning Opportunity for school councils.



External Advisory Committee List

Each year ASCA is invited to represent the advocacy positions established by the membership at provincial level committees. From April 2023 – March 2024 ASCA has been invited to, represented at, or participated on, the following:

Alberta Education

- Alberta Research Network
- July 2023 Digital Assessment Technical Briefing
- September 2023 Draft K-6 Social Studies Curriculum Consultation
- Winter 2023 Draft Social Studies Curriculum Guiding Framework Stakeholder Consultation
- January 2024 Draft K-6 Social Studies Curriculum Scope and Sequence Stakeholder Consultation
- February 2024 Proposed Parent Rights/Preserving Youth Choices Legislation Stakeholder Briefing
- Budget 2024 Stakeholder Briefing
- March 2024 Draft K-6 Social Studies Curriculum update, summary, next steps Stakeholder Briefing

Regional Prof. 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



Advocacy and Representation Opportunities and Events

DATE	Committee	ASCA Rep.	Updates and Notes
April 15	Honouring Spirit Indigenous Student Awards	B. Rai	Attended by the students and families being honoured, representatives from ASBA, ASCA, GOA, and other stakeholders. It was an honor to be able to participate in the selection committee process again. Reading the nomination packages and seeing all the good being done in communities across our province by students is inspiring and affirming. Attending the Awards ceremony was beautiful as each selected recipient received a blanket, a certificate, and a grant.
April 21	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)	S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Meeting cancelled by Host.
May 1	Central Alberta Regional Consortium Advisory Working Group (CARC)	S. Odishaw	<p>Attended by representatives from RD Polytechnique, ASBA, ASCA, CARC.</p> <p>Penni - appreciated ARPDC parent/Board curriculum sessions, ASBA has shared talking points for speaking with provincial candidates.</p> <p>Dave - this is the third year of the Ed Degree - instructors would like to be connected to the new curriculum, EA program is going well.</p> <p>Shelley - ASCA Conference/AGM was last weekend, shoutout to ARPDC for assistance.</p> <p>Charlie - Toolkits for curriculum implementation are being developed and will be shared when complete, ARPDC rebranding to shift to a provincial focus aligning expertise and creating equity throughout the province.</p> <p>Curriculum continues to be a concern, ARPDC welcomes the opportunity to support partner organizations.</p> <p>Proposed ASCA meeting with Education students at RDP - starting to build a 'we are on the same team' message before they get to a school.</p>
May 4	Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortia (SAPDC)	S. Odishaw	<p>Attended by representatives from ASBA, Medicine Hat College, U Lethbridge, ASCA, and SAPDC.</p> <p>MedHat College spoke of student experiences at Medicine Hat College *ASCA mentioned that ED students should look at attending School Council meetings while they are doing their practicums.</p> <p>SAPDC: Moving to Our Lady of Assumption - Holy Spirit in the near future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions upcoming with a provincial reach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.sapdc.ca/program/10880 • https://www.sapdc.ca/program/10888 - Dr. Greg Wells • Promoting the ARPDC podcast Change Maker Conversations in Education • ULEthbridge mentioned • New Dean at UofL Dr. Lisa Star from McGill. • OER Global Conference Uof L is presenting on the math curriculum to come up with an open resource.



			ASBA highlighted ASBA SGM in Calgary June 4-6; working on position statements for election / SGM. ASCA spoke to ASCA Conference / AGM. Kudos to ARPDC for conference.
May 11 – 13	Walk Alongside International	W. Keiver S. Glionna	Attended by representatives (teachers, parents, administrators, Ministry) from schools, divisions, gov't in Saskatoon. The 3-day event provided opportunities to learn about promising research and practices related to family engagement in education, network and engage in “think tank” discussions, and team planning for successful education and implementation of concepts.
May 19	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)	S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Meeting cancelled by Host.
May 20 – 22	Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA) Annual Representative Assembly (ARA)	B. Rai W. Keiver	It was with deep gratitude that we brought greetings to the assembly. Teachers are valued partners in education. ASCA stayed for the duration of the assembly, across three days, to listen to their perspectives on their proposed advocacy resolutions.
May 23	Northwest Regional Learning Consortium (NRLC)		ASCA unable to attend; summary sent and included in Minutes. Attended by representatives of CASS, KTCEA, AISCA, NRLC. Representatives shared appreciation for the support received from NRLC with various events and learning opportunities this past year. KTCEA also commented on the learning disruptions caused by the wildfires in several KTCEA schools. Attendees reviewed the 22-23 NRLC data and discussed/brainstormed goals for 2023-2024. Four key priorities identified were: Provincial collaboration (In support of direction of CASS Board of Governance and AB Ed Ministry initiatives; Regional collaboration of District Leads, working with their teachers), Leadership Capacity, Engaging French Immersion/FSL Learners, and Intervention Strategies (Gr. 3-8).
May 24	Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC) (PAC)	B. Rai	PAC members met to discuss ARPDC priorities for the 23/24 school year. There was a Curriculum Implementation update as well as a review of ARPDC Toolkits and Summer Programming. Members in attendance gave updates related to their individual organizations.
May 25	Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) Regional Advisory Committee	B. Rai	The Executive Director gave his report related to operations for the year including the number of sessions delivered and overall participants. Information was shared and discussed related to ARPDC restructuring the consortia and hiring a central, single Executive Director to oversee all the consortia, while the Executive Directors would have a title change and continue to oversee the daily operations. The overarching provincial priorities of ARPDC were discussed with an additional focus on what priorities would be relevant to ERLC locally.
June 1	Learning Network Education Services (LNES) Regional Stakeholder	W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from Lakeland Catholic SD, Northern Lights SD/CASS, Pembina Hills SD/ASBA, St Paul SD/CASS, Buffalo Trail SD/CASS, ASCA, and LNES. Attendees received an ARPDC Provincial update covering its Summer Professional Learning Opportunities, Implementation Toolkits, New Curriculum Website,



	(Consortium)		Staff Updates and Rebranding Project. Of note, the new Curriculum Website – also accessible by parents - invites school authorities to submit great resources developed by their system. Initial feedback is appreciated for coordinating multiple resources into one location. It is a ‘living’ site which is consistently being refined and improved. Each attendee gave brief highlights of their organization’s year, mentioned their focus for the upcoming year, and summarized the support they would be seeking from LNES. Sincere appreciation was stated several times for the expert resources and staff available through LNES.
June 5	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from Prairie Land SD, Wetaskiwin SD, Golden Hills SD, Pembina Hills SD, High Prairie SD, Grand Prairie Catholic SD, Central Alberta Regional Consortium (CARC), and ASCA. Planning for 2024 event underway – new location River Cree Resort/Casino. Theme: Cultivating Relationships, Nurturing Connections, Harvesting Success. Looking for speakers focusing on successes in rural education.
June 16	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)	S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Cancelled by organizer.
July 4	Digital Assessment Technical Briefing	W. Keiver	Webinar provided by Alberta Education to inform/update stakeholders about the new digital assessment platform for PATs and DIPS. Pilot started June 2023; optional administration will begin January 2024 (many ‘practice’ opportunities will be offered), with planned mandatory implementation in the 24/25 school year. Future stakeholder engagement beginning August 2023.
Sept 7	Minister of Education Demetrios Nicolaidis	B. Rai W. Keiver	The Minister and his staff provided information and a presentation on the new engagement process proposed for the Draft K-6 Social Studies curriculum. The presentation also included information related to the new draft’s architecture, scope, and sequence. It is also reassuring to know that other education stakeholders appear to be supportive of both the proposed and already implemented changes.
Sept 21	Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council (ASTAC) Town Hall Meeting	W. Keiver	The meeting was attended by the Minister of Education, relevant Department staff, and representatives from most education stakeholders, along with school bus companies and operators, drivers, division transportation coordinators, and others. There is acknowledgment that the industry is experiencing difficulties, with challenges primarily relating to attraction, retention, and recognition of quality bus drivers. The ASCA’s presence conveyed the importance of the topic to the Association and its Members and that we are eager to be part of finding solutions.
Sept 21	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)	W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from AISCA, ARPDC, ASBA, CASS, Rupertsland, ASCA and ABEd. New organizational structure has the former “Directorate” now a full Division within Alberta Education. Attendees reviewed the previous Work Plan, and agreed the majority of it was still “sound”, only requiring some updates to years, and specific “details”. Finding a way to ‘report’ on progress



			and deliverables is key. A draft 'tool' will be provided before December's meeting. Research will become an integral part of each meeting.
Sept 22	Lisa Higgerty, Assistant Deputy Minister First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Division	W. Keiver	First quarterly meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. Discussions focused on how the Division can support the work of ASCA in terms of its Vision Path Destination to advance reconciliation. ADM Higgerty appreciates the efforts of ASCA, and its challenges in terms of human and financial resources.
Sept 22	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from Prairie Land SD, Wetaskiwin SD, Livingston Range SD, Pembina Hills SD, High Prairie SD, Central Alberta Regional Consortium (CARC), ATA, ASBA, ABEd, and ASCA. Determined the theme would be <i>Defining Equity and Leading in Difficult Times</i> . Tentative speakers include Shelley Moore, Ken Coates, Jordan Tinney. Confirmed speaker: Cadmus Delorme. As more details are confirmed, promotion of the event by all stakeholders is required.
Oct 18	ARPDC Provincial Advisory Committee	B. Rai	PAC members reviewed its Terms of Reference and the 2023-2024 Learning Plan. https://arpdc.ab.ca/about-us-2/
Oct 12	Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Table Officers	B. Rai W. Keiver	ATA President Schilling noted the topics for discussion: Education landscape, assessments, class sizes/complexities, PUF, information and misinformation, parent rights, and ASCA's financial status/funding opportunities. ASCA President Rai engaged in meaningful dialogue on these topics with the ATA Table Officers, noting areas of common concern, as well as individual organizational focus.
Oct 12	Northwest Regional Learning Consortium (NRLC)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives of AISCA, NW Polytechnic, ASCA, NRLC. The NRLC Exec. Director provided the ARPDC and NRLC summary reports, the ARPDC Assurance Survey Discussion Guide (Fall 2023) and the 23/24 NRLC Draft Strategic Plan (being submitted to Ministry 10.13.23). Each representative provided a brief update of their organizational priorities and activities, and then participated in discussion related to the centralization of ARPDC and possible rebranding/reorganization.
Oct 12	Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortia (SAPDC)	S. Odishaw	Unable to attend
Oct 17	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from Prairie Land SD, High Prairie SD, Wetaskiwin SD, Pembina Hills SD, Grande Prairie Catholic SD, ASBA, ASCA, ASBOA, FrancoSud, and CARC. Planning for the 2024 Symposium is going well, with confirmations of speakers and Ministers imminent. Themes will focus on Cultivating Relationships, Nurturing Connections, Harvesting Success. Registration should open in November.
Oct 18-19	Public School Boards Association of Alberta (PSBAA) Fall General Meeting	B. Rai W. Keiver	Attended by representatives of PSBAA's Member Boards, the Minister of Education, and other stakeholder/partners organization representatives, the Lois Hole dinner featured remarks from former Minister of Education and current Alberta Family Court Justice,



	and AGM		Honourable Dave Hancock. The professional development session focused on effective governance and included opportunities for networking and reflection of organizational practices.
Nov 2	College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Fall Conference	B. Rai	Unable to attend
Nov 9	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from Prairie Land SD, High Prairie SD, Wetaskiwin SD, Pembina Hills SD, Grande Prairie Catholic SD, ASBA, ASCA, ASBOA, GoA, and CARC. All speakers are confirmed, the Student Grant will be launched at the symposium with a June delivery, UFA Grant will launch asap – detail dependent. ASCA was instrumental in advocating for the student grant, and is recognized as being integral to promotion of the symposium.
Nov 15	Central Alberta Regional Consortium (CARC) Advisory Working Group	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from Wild Rose SD, Red Deer Polytechnique, ASCA and CARC. Participants provided organizational updates and new CARC Director of Learning shared ARPDC Learning Plan and CARC Strategic Plan. CARC is being very intentional with decisions about what PD to offer, carefully considering potential benefits. ASCA emphasized the desire to promote ‘parent friendly’ PD sessions provided by ARPDC or any of the regional consortium.
Nov 16	Four Partners Meeting	B. Rai S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Attended by the executive teams from ASBA, ASBOA, ASCA and CASS. Partners shared updates related to events, activities, and priorities for their respective organizations. ASCA acknowledged the diversity of opinions (about education) coming from parents and stressed the importance of encouraging strong trustee/school community/parent relationships.
Nov 23	Learning Network Education Services (LNES) Regional Stakeholder (Consortium)	W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from Lloydminster Public SD, Lloydminster Catholic SD, Lakeland Catholic SD, ASCA and LNES, attendees received a comprehensive update related to the operations, changes, and goals of ARPDC. ASCA emphasized the desire to promote ‘parent friendly’ PD sessions provided by ARPDC or any of the regional consortium.
Dec 11	Education Stakeholder Meeting: K-6 Draft Social Studies Curriculum	B. Rai S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from all education stakeholder organizations in Alberta, and staff from Alberta Education. Participants were provided an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Guiding Framework for the revision, review, piloting, and implementation of the Draft K-6 Social Studies curriculum.
Dec 13	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)	S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from AISCA, ASBA, Rupertsland, ASCA and ABEd. Presentation on Indigenous Teacher Certification / Recruitment included information related to teacher certification process, several bursaries available and Bachelor of Education programs at U of C and U of A. Attendees provided perspectives of the challenges existing in recruiting and retaining Indigenous teachers, and teachers of Indigenous students. Secondary discussion focused on the process needed to develop



			personal and meaningful land acknowledgements, honouring the intentions of Truth and Reconciliation.
Jan 18	Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC)	B. Rai	ERLC attendees reviewed the ARPDC Annual Report and Plan. They also reviewed curriculum implementation updates through the ARPDC provincial committee lens.
Jan 19	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw	Unable to attend. Minutes report attended by representatives from Prairie Land SD, High Prairie SD, Pembina Hills SD, Grande Prairie Catholic SD, ATA, ASBA, GoA, Wetaskiwin SD and CARC. Venue is well equipped, sponsorships/door prizes still pending, guest RSVPs are slow (GoA, Indigenous groups).
Jan 23	Education Stakeholders: K-6 Draft Social Studies Curriculum	B. Rai S. Odishaw K. Li W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from all education stakeholder organizations in Alberta, and staff from Alberta Education. Participants were provided an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft scope and sequence of the Draft K-6 Social Studies curriculum.
Jan 25	Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortia (SAPDC)	S. Odishaw	Attended by representatives from ASBA, ASCA, CASS, Medicine Hat College, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge School Division, and SAPDC. Each representative provided a summary of recent and upcoming activities and priorities of their organizations. Some expressed concerns related to the scope and sequence of the draft K-12 Social Studies curriculum, along with timing available for development of resources. ARPDC has not been given an opportunity to review the draft, and likely won't until it's released to the public. The ARPDC Assurance Survey has been broadly circulated, with an invitation for respondents to participate in upcoming focus groups.
Feb 5	Minister of Education / Stakeholders Meeting	B. Rai S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Attended by representatives of ASCA, ASBA, ACSTA, CASS, ATA, PSBAA, Charter Schools, etc. The Minister gave a high-level overview of the SOGI pronoun, health care, education policies announced by GoA 01.31.24 and spoke to 'next steps' related to stakeholder consultation, resource approval processes, implementation targets/processes, etc. Some stakeholder questions were answered, but largely this was an 'information giving' session, not an opportunity for genuine consultation. Those opportunities will be forthcoming.
Feb 12	ARPDC Provincial Advisory Committee	B. Rai	Attendees reviews the Annual Report Highlights and discussed the planned ARPDC rebranding pending Ministerial approval.
Feb 13	Northwestern Regional Learning Consortium (NRLC)	S. Odishaw	Unable to attend
Feb 15	Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES)	S. Odishaw B. Rai	The conference was well attended by representatives from rural school divisions across Alberta. The Minister of Education brought greetings and answered delegates' questions. Conference speakers all provided through-provoking and inspirational messages, which prompted meaningful conversations among delegates for the entirety of the event.
Feb 29	Learning Network Education Services	W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from Lakeland Catholic SD, Lakeland College, Northen Lights SD, East Central Catholic SD, St. Paul SD,



	(LNES) Regional Stakeholder (Consortium)		Lloyd Minster Catholic SD, ASCA, and ARPDC. Participants received updates from LNES on highlights and learning opportunities, ARPDC information related to its Annual Report and Assurance Survey, and shared their organizational updates.
March 11	Partners Meeting	B. Rai S. Odishaw W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from ASBA, ASCA, and CASS. ASBOA has withdrawn from participating. Partners spoke briefly about the 2024-2025 budget, and the need to see details in the Funding Manual. Also provided was information related to each organization’s upcoming events.
March 12	Education Stakeholder Meeting: K-6 Draft Social Studies Curriculum	K. Li W. Keiver	Attended by representatives from all education stakeholder organizations in Alberta, and staff from Alberta Education. Participants were provided with a summary of the processes and engagement that had taken place to date, and an overview of next steps. Release of the draft K-6 social studies curriculum is anticipated shortly, with opportunity for broad public feedback. Public release was announced on March 14, with links to the draft K-6 curriculum, overview for K-12 social studies curriculum, and the public survey: https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say
March 21	Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Circle (IERC)		Cancelled by host
March 27	Minister of Education – ASCA Exec	B. Rai W. Keiver	President Rai spoke candidly with the Minister about the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Upcoming legislation preserving choice/parental rights *Consider timing, notice, and method when organizing engagement opportunities intended for parents *Review of School Council legislation *Budget – funding in Alberta compared to National average; apparent reduction in funding for curriculum implementation and resources; increase in funding to private/independent and collegiate schools *Funding opportunities through collaborative opportunities with ASCA.

ASCA School Council Engagement Task Force (SCETF) 2023-2024

In 2023-2024, the tenth year of the program, 22 Member School Councils opted in to participate on the ASCA Board of Directors School Council Engagement Task Force.

The Board consulted these ASCA Member School Councils once during the 2023-2024 school year. Feedback gathered via email using a survey mechanism with the identified parent liaisons from these 22 ASCA Member School Councils on education related topics of interest relevant to the work of the 2023-2024 Board of Directors. The consolidated responses received for each topic are available on the “[What We Heard](#)” page of the ASCA website.



The ASCA Board of Directors is greatly appreciative of the participation of these 22 SCETF Councils.

Schools/Divisions:

School Name	Division
Mount View School	CBE
Ronald Harvey Elementary School	STASD
Whispering Ridge Community School	PWSD
Sweet Grass School	EPSB
Calmar Elementary School	BGSD
Sangudo Community School	NGSD
Langdon School	RVSD
St. Michaels School	HSCSD
Ecole Notre Dame Elementary School	LCSO
Julia Kiniski Elementary School	EPSB
Jessie Duncan Elementary School	CESD
Joseph M. Demko School	STASD
École Secondaire Sainte Margurite d'Youville School	GSAC
St. Oscar Romero Catholic High School	ECSD
Wes Hosford Elementary School	EIPS
Kensington School	EPSB
Father Lacombe Catholic School	STAR
Aspen Grove School	GPSD
Westwind Alternate School	WWSD
École Our Lady of the Rosary School	RDCSD
École Fox Run School	CESD
Penhold Elementary School	CESD

ASCA Board 2023-2024 Internal Committees

Terms of Reference for each Committee were approved by the Board. Directors appointed as Lead for their Committee provided regular activity reports and updates to the Board. Committees worked to accomplish their assigned responsibilities, bringing recommendations for actions or decisions as needed to the Board of Directors for approval. The ASCA President and Executive Director are deemed to be ex-officio members of all Committees of the Board, unless otherwise noted.

The Internal Committees on which the 2023-2024 ASCA Board of Directors served were:

Advocacy / Resolutions Committee

Directors: Shelley Odishaw, Chelsea Ezeagwuna, Ken Glazebrook, Krista Li, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

Following the 2023 AGM and the establishment of the new Advocacy/Resolutions Committee, the new members updated the current Terms of Reference (ToR).

The 2023-2024 Advocacy/Resolutions Committee was responsible for:

- * Updating the election package for the 2023 provincial elections, which Member School Councils utilized to engage with candidates and foster parent involvement.



* Assessing existing ASCA Advocacy Policies approaching their tenth anniversary for continued relevance, recommending to the membership whether to archive, amend/revise, or maintain them.

* Reviewing incoming Proposed Advocacy Resolutions (PARs), ensuring they aligned with ASCA's foundational documents. The Committee applauds Member School Councils for submitting PARs for debate at the Annual General Meeting.

Despite their efforts, the committee was unable to complete all tasks, as a result, they pass on the task of restructuring the School Council Engagement Task Force for better information gathering to the 2024/2025 committee.

Fund Development Committee (FDC)

Directors: Greta Gerstner, Kerry Bodell, Richard Haggarty, Chelsea Ezeagwuna, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

In the June board meeting, the Board approved the establishment of a Fund Development Committee so that the Association can explore/raise alternative funding to realize additional revenue. The Terms of Reference for the Committee were created on June 17, 2022, and reviewed/revise and approved for 2023-2024 in June 2023.

The Committee decided to do another online auction and added a golf tournament hoping to raise \$25,000 for the Association.

The online auction had 103 items, raising \$8134.23. We received \$200.00 from donations and \$250.00 from sponsorships.

Our expenses were approximately \$2400.00 which includes the auction platform, service fees (for any payments made through the auction site – Stripe fees) gift basket items purchased for the auction, the Event Planner, and snacks/refreshments for the Auction Item pick up event. Shipping/postage to ship the items to the successful bidders was just over \$50.00 this year, which was paid back to the Association by the successful bidders.

Total net revenue earned from the auction was therefore about \$5700.00, much lower than hoped for.

Our Association's first ever "Drive Fore Funds" Golf Tournament will be held on June 5, 2024, at The Ranch Golf & Country Club just west of Edmonton with a shotgun start of 2:15 pm. We hope to raise \$10,000 in needed revenue from this event. We will need 80 registered golfers and at least \$2,000 in sponsorship to reach our target revenue for this event.

Registration was \$245 for early birds until March 15, 2024, and \$260 for the regular rate for individuals. For a team of 4, early bird registration was \$975 and \$1035 for the regular rate after. The registration fee includes a round of 18-holes golf, electric power cart with GPS, bottle of water, driving range privileges and BBQ steak meal. The golf format will be Texas Scramble, so golfers of all levels are encouraged to come out and support our Association. The link from our website is below for your reference:

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/golf-tournament-information>

Unfortunately, due to a lack of capacity on our committee, we did not utilize Zeffy, the donor management platform, nor were we able to have any staff resources go towards this as we were not successful in any of our grant applications this year.

We also were not able to find different ways to diversify our streams of revenue nor explore all the different organizations who align with ASCA to approach for donation or sponsorship opportunities due to lack of capacity from Directors.



Governance Committee

Directors: Brandi Rai, Shelley Odishaw, Greta Gerstner, Ken Glazebrook

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

The Governance Committee reviewed and revised its Terms of Reference in June 2023.

Lack of Director capacity prevented the Governance Committee from achieving any of the goals it set for itself this year.

Internal Financial Committee (IFC)

Directors: Kerry Bodell, Greta Gerstner, Edward Tse, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

The Internal Finance Committee (IFC) met to review the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee. The ToR was approved at the June 2023 Board meeting.

Detailed financial updates were presented by management at each Board meeting in the form of an Income Statement and Balance Sheet. Information included Budget, Year to Date Actuals and an estimated Year End Forecast. The Committee ensured insurance/liability coverage, Society Annual Return filing, CRA Charity Return filing and ensured that the Board is fulfilling its fiduciary responsibility and that administrative financial procedures comply with non-profit best practices. The Committee also ensured the repayment of the CEBA loan on the date agreed upon by the Board.

Legacy Committee

Directors: Krista Li, Shelley Odishaw, Edward Tse, Richard Haggarty, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

Following the 2023 AGM and establishing the new composition of the Legacy Committee, it met with ASCA Executive members to review the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee. The ToR was approved at the June 2023 Board meeting.

The Committee was not able to undertake any ongoing planning or activities this year, resulting from Director and staff capacity constraints.

While the 100th Anniversary of ASCA may seem to still be a few years away (2029), it is recognized that those 5 years will pass more quickly than perhaps anticipated. To prevent Director and staff stress and burnout as 2029 approaches, it is recommended that manageable effort in preparing for and planning the 100 Years recognition and celebration be consistently applied moving forward.

Member Engagement Committee (MEC)

Directors: Greta Gerstner, Shelley Odishaw, Chelsea Ezeagwuna, Krista Li, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

In June our committee met to create our terms of reference for the year. We wanted to communicate regularly with the Membership and School Council Networks, so we created a social media challenge with 11 posts asking members to post how they were celebrating specific events.

The posts are:

1. September

i: It's back to school time for our ASCA members! What is your school doing to welcome back students and staff? Send us your photos and videos and we'll share them on our social media to celebrate!



ii: September 30 is Orange Shirt Day. This is an important day for our school members to live the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Show us what your school is doing to live Truth and Reconciliation!

2. October

It's Fall, y'all! How is your school jumping into fall? Send us your photos and videos of neat fall things at your school!

3. November

November is a month of remembrance. How is your school spreading the message of peace, hope, and remembrance this month? Send us your photos and videos!

4. December

Jack Frost is in the air! What is your school doing to celebrate winter? Send us your photos and videos!

5. January

2024 is here! How is your school leaning into the New Year? Send us your photos and videos!

6. February

February is Black History Month! The First Black History month in Canada was celebrated in Nova Scotia in 1988. How is your school celebrating Black History Month? Send us your photos and videos!

7. March

Does your school have some amazing artists who want to share their work? Send us your photos of what your school is creating.

8. April

Spring is in the air! How is your school celebrating Spring? Send us your photos and videos!

9. May

Asian Heritage Month has been celebrated in Canada since the 1990s. How is your school celebrating Asian Heritage or diversity? Send us your photos and videos.

10. June

It's Pride Month! Show us how your school is celebrating by sending us your photos and videos!

As a Committee, it was important that ASCA create our own Land Acknowledgement to advance reconciliation. We did this at our January Board meeting. The Land Acknowledgement has also been broken up to be read on specific Treaty lands for our members if they wish to read it at the start of their own school council meeting.

We attended some Scheduled Learning Opportunities in March and April as connecting with our members though social media was not working well. Members had the opportunity to ask any questions they may have at the end of their Learning Opportunity, and we briefly shared some information with them.

Nominations Committee

Directors: Richard Haggarty, Krista Li, Ken Glazebrook, Edward Tse, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

Following the 2023 AGM and establishing the new composition of the Nominations Committee, it met to review the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee. The ToR was approved at the June 2023.

The Nominations Committee also met to review and revise existing nominations documents for the purposes of improvement and enhancement. The Committee recommended and reviewed updates to the Candidates Questionnaire, the Nomination Form, and the Information Package for a position on the ASCA Board of Directors for use in 2024.



The Committee also reviewed all Nomination Forms and Candidate Questionnaires as they were received from parents on ASCA Member School Councils, prior to their posting on the ASCA website, and hosted a virtual Candidate's Information Session prior to the AGM.

Recognition Awards Committee (RAC)

Directors: Kerry Bodell, Ken Glazebrook, Chelsea Ezeagwuna, Brandi Rai

Staff Support: Executive Director

Summary:

The Recognition Awards Committee is a standing committee that chooses recipients for awards recognizing the contributions of Member School Councils, Parents, Learning Partners, Districts and other ASCA supporters.

The Committee met to review the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee. The ToR was approved at the June 2023 Board meeting.

The Committee moved for a low-cost option to allow Members to participate in a meaningful awards program while keeping it at a minimal cost to the Association.

The Committee met to review and assess nominations; recommendations were reviewed at the March 2024 meeting by the Board.

The 2024-2025 Board of Directors needs to consider the resources of the Association to decide how/if the work of this Committee continues.
