

CASS Zone Report – September 2024

Orange Shirt Day and Beyond (2023-24): The third year of conditional grant funding concluded with the hosting of three virtual language learning series last spring. Each three-part series introduces teachers to various indigenous learning activities, including Cree, Inuktitut, and Blackfoot. Legacy resources supporting each of these languages have been created and will be posted on the Empowering the Spirit Website.

Over the three years of conditional grant funding, the project's impact has been far-reaching. In both English and French, a total of 24 video resources, 18 teaching/lesson plan resources and 11 professional learning playlists/resources, have entered classrooms and professional learning communities across Alberta. Our work has reinforced the importance of and support for revitalization of Indigenous language and culture in the healing for survivors. Though the continuation of the conditional grant funding of "Orange Shirt Day and Beyond" will not be renewed by Alberta Education for the 2024-25 school year, we encourage schools and educators around the province to continue accessing the resources in honoring this year's "National Day for Truth and Reconciliation" in their classrooms. All videos and resources are available at the APLC Orange Shirt Day and Beyond pages.

Provincial Curriculum Committee Updates: APLC staff and consultants met on September 4th and 5th to confirm the Terms of Reference and work plans for the 2024-2025 provincial committees. In 2024-2025 APLC will have Provincial Committees focused on serving the four curricula being implemented:

- Social Studies
- > Science
- French Language Arts and Literature
- > French Immersion Language Arts and Literature

<u>The Consortium Three Year Strategic Plan</u>: is informed by the ARPDC Assurance Framework final report, Provincial Advisory Council (PAC) feedback, and feedback from Regional Advisory Committees. The Strategic Plan is built around the following four priorities, approved by the CASS Board at their June meeting.

- New Curriculum
- Quality Teaching
- Quality Leadership
- Quality Engagement

Provincial Collaborative Communities

As a part of our key actions for Quality Teaching and Learning, Leadership, and Engagement, The Consortium will be hosting virtual collaborative communities to gather subject/focus area colleagues to engage in conversation and learning. Collaboratives will meet 3-4 times throughout the course of the year in each of the following areas:

- English as an Additional Language
- Music
- Physical Education and Wellness
- First Nation, Metis and Inuit Learning
- Early Learning
- Leadership

Consult your local consortia for additional information and registration details.

ARPDC Rebranding Project: <u>APLC.ca</u> launched on September 9th. The new website features an enhanced design that includes improved search functionality on the Learning Opportunities and Curriculum Resources pages. In addition to the website APLC has developed several key assets that will be rolled out to support the implementation of our new brand.

SAPDC Director: Collette Sylvestre has assumed the role of Regional Director for SAPDC. Collette is very familiar with the operations of APLC, having served as a Designer of Professional Learning across the province. Collette's passion for professional learning and practical experience will be a huge asset to SAPDC and APLC. Welcome Collette!

Relationships: The Consortium continues to focus on enhancing our relationships with the various education stakeholders, that we are so privileged to serve. Our team looks forward to connecting formally with every school authority to discuss how we might support the great work being done in your organization.