

## **Superintendents, Principals and Education Directors:**

### *Your knowledge can improve student education*

We want to give all students the best possible start in life so that they can meet the demands of living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Alberta Education is moving forward in the development of new Kindergarten to Grade 12 provincial curriculum in all grades across the subject areas of Language Arts (English, Français, French), Math, Social Studies, Sciences, Arts and Wellness education.

These are exciting times and **we want to hear from education system leaders** about what children should be learning in the future. We also ask you to help promote awareness and encourage participation of school and school authority staff as well as parents, students and broader community members in this survey.

During the course of this work, we are exploring opportunities to gather valued and meaningful feedback from Albertans in every corner of the province. The broad based engagement is an opportunity for the many voices of Albertans and stakeholders across the province to provide valued input into the curriculum development process. The Fall 2016 online provincial curriculum survey is the first of many opportunities to gather feedback. The survey can be accessed at: <http://curriculumsurvey.alberta.ca>.

There are two parts of the survey. Part A gives Albertans an opportunity to share their thoughts about the Government of Alberta's general direction for the development of all new curriculum. It will likely take you about seven minutes to complete this first part of the survey. Everyone wanting to participate in the survey will need to complete Part A.

Once you have completed Part A, you have the option to move to Part B where you will answer questions about what you see as the strengths and gaps in our current curriculum. You will create your 'own journey' through Part B based on subject areas of interest. You will be asked to select the specific grade levels and subject areas that you would like to provide feedback on. Part B may take you between 15 minutes and one hour to complete depending on the number of subjects and grade-specific questions you choose to answer.

Albertans without technology are encouraged to stop by their local libraries or learning commons to complete the survey. Additionally, the [Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia \(ARPDC\)](#) will assist people that do not have access to technology to complete the survey. Individuals who do not use technology can obtain a print copy of the survey from their local ARPDC.

The online provincial curriculum survey will run from October 18 to November 18, 2016 and can be accessed from multiple electronic devices. Survey questions are available in English and in French. Français is in French only and is intended for Francophone education. Please note that the Government of Alberta webpages are scheduled for maintenance from November 11 to 13, 2016. This may lead to the survey being temporarily unavailable during that time.

Participation in this survey is voluntary and responses will be completely confidential. Only the combined results from all the survey respondents will be shared. The personal information collected is pursuant to section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (RSA 2000, C. F-25).

In addition to, or instead of completing the survey individually, you can attend face-to-face engagement sessions hosted by the ARPDC in each region of the province from October 18 to November 18, 2016. These sessions will allow education stakeholders across the province to meet and discuss the topics identified in the survey and then complete the survey. Information on how to register for these sessions will be posted on the [ARPDC](#) website as it becomes available. Of course, you can also host your own session for your group to complete the survey.

The survey results will be used by Expert Working Groups made up of teachers and post-secondary educators who have expertise within subjects and across grades. These working groups are made up of a balanced representation of Alberta's geographic and demographic diversity; and will also include representation from Francophone and First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities. Working with Alberta Education staff, in partnership with the Alberta Teachers' Association, Expert Working Group will consider survey results along with literature reviews, analysis of our current curriculum, research on student learning, what other jurisdictions from around the world are doing, and previous work with our stakeholders, such as curriculum development prototyping, to help develop new provincial curriculum over the next six years.

This initial survey won't be the only opportunity for **education system leaders** to provide input about K–12 education in Alberta – or to learn what the future curriculum will look like. In addition to providing input through the online survey this fall, there will be additional opportunities to be involved in the development of new provincial curriculum over the next few years. This includes the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft subject area introductions and draft scope and sequences targeted for May and June 2017.

Information about provincial curriculum development along with additional opportunities to provide input can be found on the Alberta Education webpages at:  
<https://education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development/>.

**Please note:** Alberta Education has developed audience-focused articles for parents, trustees and teachers which are available on the Alberta Education webpages to use for distribution.