

Professional Development

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES GUIDE

2022/23



The Alberta Teachers' Association

Curriculum | Educational accountability
Leadership and staff development | Pedagogy
Student assessment | Social justice | Induction
Teacher education | Technology integration



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Introduction

The *Professional Development Programs and Services Guide* is a summary of the workshops, programs and services offered by the Professional Development (PD) program area of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

The mandate of the Professional Development program area is to promote and maintain high standards of professional practice. Program area activities include matters related to pedagogy, curriculum and student assessment, social justice, leadership and staff development, teacher education and induction, technology integration, and educational accountability.

The Professional Development program area offers a wide range of programs and services to teachers, school staff and Association subgroups (locals, teachers' conventions and specialist councils) and provides representation to education partners.

Association PD staff members are available to assist you in planning and meeting your professional development goals. We hope that the *Professional Development Programs and Services Guide* will assist you in accessing the many services offered by PD staff. Please visit the Association website, www.teachers.ab.ca, for more information on professional development. If you have questions or suggestions for improvement, please let us know.

The Professional Development programs outlined in this document are not inclusive of all Association presentations. For a complete listing of presentations provided by Teacher Employment Services, please refer to the Association's website.



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Executive Staff Officers

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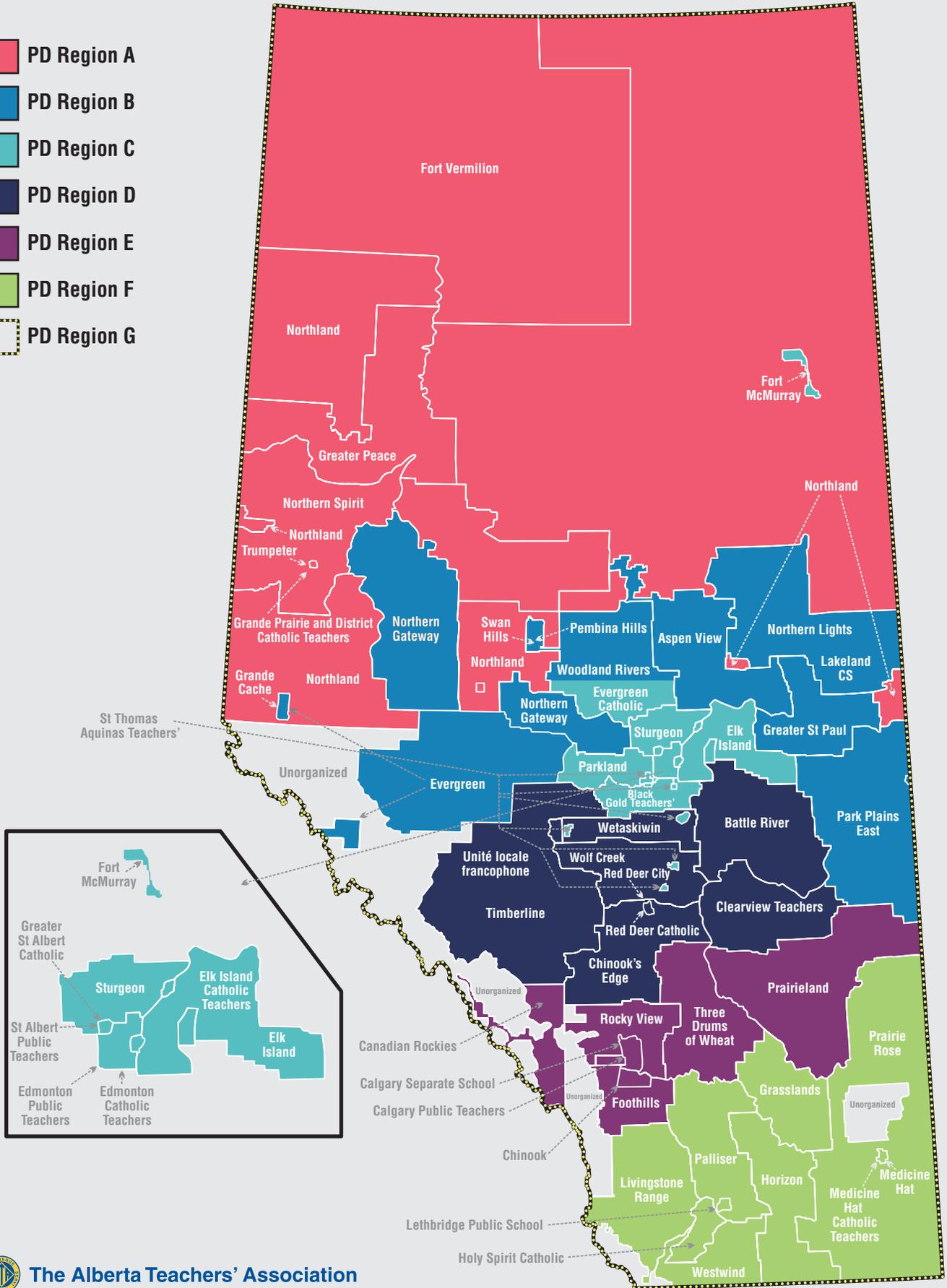
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Professional Development Regions

- PD Region A
- PD Region B
- PD Region C
- PD Region D
- PD Region E
- PD Region F
- PD Region G



PD Services for Regions



PD REGION A

Locals: Fort Vermilion, Grande Prairie and District Catholic Teachers, Greater Peace, High Prairie, Northern Spirit, Northland, Trumpeter
Executive Staff Officer: Monique A Gravel, monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION B

Locals: Aspen View, Evergreen, Greater St Paul, Lakeland Catholic Separate, Northern Gateway, Northern Lights, Park Plains East, Pembina Hills, Woodland Rivers
Executive Staff Officer: Dan R Grassick, dan.grassick@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION C

Locals: Black Gold Teachers', Edmonton Catholic Teachers, Edmonton Public Teachers, Elk Island, Elk Island Catholic Teachers, Evergreen Catholic, Fort McMurray, Greater St Albert Catholic, Parkland Teachers', St Albert Public Teachers, St Thomas Aquinas Teachers', Sturgeon
Executive Staff Officer: Chris W Gonsalvez, chris.gonsalvez@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION D

Locals: Battle River, Chinook's Edge, Clearview Teachers, Red Deer Catholic, Red Deer City, Timberline, Wetaskiwin, Wolf Creek
Associate Coordinator: Nancy J Luyckfassel, nancy.luyckfassel@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION E

Locals: Calgary Public Teachers, Calgary Separate School, Canadian Rockies, Christ the Redeemer, Foothills, Prairieland, Rocky View, Three Drums of Wheat
Executive Staff Officer: Danny W Maas, daniel.maas@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION F

Locals: Grasslands, Holy Spirit Catholic, Horizon, Lethbridge Public School, Livingstone Range, Medicine Hat, Medicine Hat Catholic Teachers, Palliser, Prairie Rose, Westwind
Executive Staff Officer: Jeff B Johnson, jeff.johnson@ata.ab.ca



PD REGION G

Locals: Unité locale francophone—Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest, Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord, Conseil scolaire Centre-Est, Conseil scolaire FrancoSud
Executive Staff Officer: Monique A Gravel, monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca



Workshops and Presentations

The Association has developed workshops to provide support to school-based professional development. Workshops are delivered by trained Association Instructors who are practising teachers from around Alberta.

All workshops use the principles of adult learning and incorporate a range of facilitation strategies. Workshops are modified to suit the needs of participants. Detailed descriptions of the workshops are posted on the ATA's website, at www.teachers.ab.ca, under My ATA > Professional Development.

In addition to offering workshops, the Association will, upon request, make presentations on education issues of interest to members. Be prepared to provide the topic for discussion; the date on which you would like to hold the presentation; an alternative date; the preferred time of day (morning or afternoon); the location;

the anticipated number of participants; the type of participants (for example, beginning teachers, administrators); and special requirements.

To book a workshop

To book a workshop or arrange a presentation, please contact Professional Development, telephone 1-800-232-7208 (toll free in Alberta) or 780-447-9485 (Edmonton area), or e-mail pdworkshops@ata.ab.ca. Please book at least six weeks in advance. The Association charges a nominal inclusive fee of \$200 plus GST for each workshop or presentation.

Ateliers et présentations

L'ATA a mis au point des ateliers pour soutenir le perfectionnement professionnel proposé dans les écoles. Ces ateliers sont présentés par des animateurs de l'ATA qualifiés qui enseignent actuellement en Alberta.

Tous les ateliers respectent les principes régissant l'apprentissage des adultes et comprennent toute une série de stratégies de facilitation. Il arrive que des modifications soient apportées aux ateliers afin de les adapter au mieux aux besoins des participants. Une description détaillée de nos ateliers se trouve sur le site Web de l'ATA à www.teachers.ab.ca : My ATA > Professional Development.

En plus d'offrir des ateliers, l'ATA effectue, sur demande, des présentations liées aux enjeux relatifs à l'éducation qui intéressent particulièrement les membres. Au moment d'effectuer une demande, soyez prêt à fournir le sujet de discussion; la date à laquelle vous aimeriez prévoir la présentation; une date de remplacement; l'heure souhaitée (matin ou après-midi); le lieu; le nombre prévu de participants; le type de

participants (par exemple, enseignants débutants, administrateurs); et toute exigence particulière.

POUR RÉSERVER UN ATELIER

Pour réserver un atelier ou organiser une présentation, veuillez contacter le secteur Perfectionnement professionnel, par téléphone au 1-800-232-7208 (sans frais en Alberta) ou au 780-447-9485 (région d'Edmonton), ou par courriel à pdworkshops@ata.ab.ca.

Veuillez réserver au moins six semaines à l'avance.

L'ATA applique un tarif fixe de 200 \$ plus TPS par atelier.



Indigenous Education and Walking Together: Education for Reconciliation

DEVELOPING AND APPLYING FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

In 2016, the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA)—along with representatives of the Government of Alberta, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) and other education organizations in Alberta—signed the Joint Commitment to Action (JCTA) to ensure that all K–12 teachers receive additional training related to First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories and cultures. The JCTA is part of an enduring commitment to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action. This lifelong commitment requires the collective efforts of all education partners, including the commitment to foster meaningful relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Elders, Knowledge Keepers and communities to authentically advance reconciliation.

As part of its commitment to the JCTA and the TRC Calls to Action, the ATA implemented the Walking Together: Education for Reconciliation professional learning project to support Alberta's teachers and school leaders in meeting the competency for developing and applying First Nations, Métis and Inuit foundational knowledge. The ATA continues to be committed to supporting the TRC Calls to Action and to supporting teachers and school leaders in implementing the Indigenous-focused competencies and indicators outlined in the Leadership Quality Standard and the Teaching Quality Standard. Resources, workshops and supports continue to be developed and available to support teachers and school leaders in meeting the competency for developing and applying First Nations, Métis and Inuit foundational knowledge. More information can be found on the Association's webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Indigenous Education and Walking Together.

WORKSHOPS

The following is a list of available workshops to support your learning journey in Indigenous education:

- CVΔP tapwewin: Dismantling Anti-Indigenous Racism
- The Blanket Exercise.
- Finding Our Way in Indigenous Education—Connecting Hearts and Minds
- Full Circle—Social Implications of Indigenous Realities
- The History and Legacy of Residential Schools
- Histoire et séquelles du régime de pensionnats
- Une histoire commune, un avenir à partager—Initiation aux traités
- Indigenous Matriarchy – Balance through Truth, Justice and Reconciliation
- Indigenous Alberta—The Footsteps of Our Ancestors
- Indigenous Content in the New Teaching Quality Standard: Moving from Inspiring to Requiring
- Indigenous Education Resources—Where Do I Start?
- Indigenous Ways of Knowing
- Our Shared History, Our Shared Future—A Brief Introduction to Treaties
- The Sixties Scoop—Understanding Implications and Contributing Toward Reconciliation

More information can be found on the Association’s webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Indigenous Education and Walking Together > Workshops.

To book a workshop or arrange a presentation, please contact Professional Development at 1-800-232-7208 (toll free in Alberta) or 780-447-9485 (in Edmonton), or e-mail pdworkshops@ata.ab.ca. Please book at least six weeks in advance. The Association charges a nominal inclusive fee of \$200 plus GST for each workshop or presentation.

STEPPING STONES

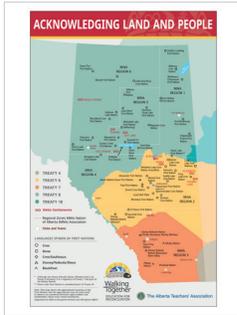
The Stepping Stones series is a publication of the Alberta Teachers’ Association Walking Together: Education for Reconciliation project and is intended to support teachers and school leaders on their learning journey to meet the competency for developing and applying First Nations, Métis and Inuit foundational knowledge.

The following publications are available in English and French on the Association’s webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Indigenous Education and Walking Together > Resources.

- *Alberta Métis Settlements and Agreements*
- *An Introduction to the Inuit*
- *Concepts and Policies on Assimilation*
- *Elder Protocol*
- *First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Music and Dance*
- *First Nations Traditional Plants and Uses*
- *Forced Relocation of Indigenous Peoples in Canada*
- *Indigenous Education Resources*
- *Indigenous Linguistic Diversity and Revitalization*
- *Métis Nation of Alberta*
- *Numbered Treaties within Alberta: Treaty 6*
- *Numbered Treaties Within Alberta: Treaty 7*
- *Numbered Treaties within Alberta: Treaty 8*
- *Residential Schools—First Nations Experience*
- *Residential Schools—Inuit Experience*
- *The Sixties Scoop*
- *Terminology*

Acknowledging Land and People Map

This map shows the approximate area and locations of treaty land and the encompassing First Nation language groupings of Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Stoney, Nakoda, Sioux and Blackfoot tribes and nations. Métis settlements are included and indicated within their designated Métis Nation of Alberta.

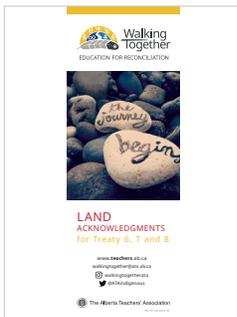


Acknowledging Land and People



Reconnaissance des territoires et des peuples

Land Acknowledgements Bookmark



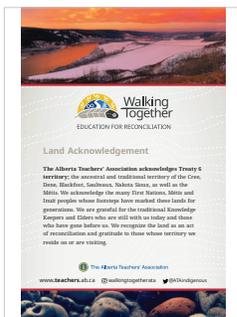
Land Acknowledgements Bookmark



French-Reconnaissance des territoires, Traités nos 6, 7 et 8

Land Acknowledgements Posters

Treaty 6/Traité no 6



Treaty 7/ Traité no 7



Treaty 8/ Traité no 8

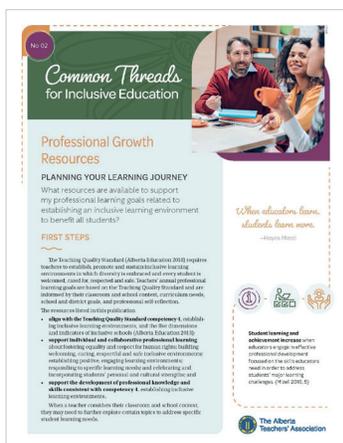


Inclusive Education

COMMON THREADS FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

In collaboration with the Council for Inclusive Education, a new resource series, Common Threads for Inclusive Education, has been developed to support implementation of the new Teaching Quality Standard and Leadership Quality Standard specific to inclusive education. Each of the resources contain background information, teaching strategies and further resources specific to the topics and are designed to be entry points to further learning.

The following Common Threads for Inclusive Education resources are available to provide entry points into further learning in inclusive education:

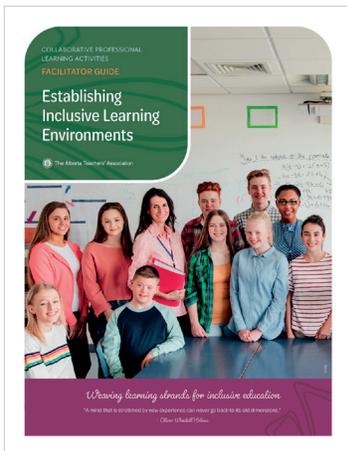


- *Autism Spectrum Disorder* (Eng)
- *Emotional and Mental Health* (Eng/Fr)
- *High Ability and Gifted Students* (Eng)
- *Immigrant and Refugees* (Eng/Fr)
- *Learning Disabilities* (Eng/Fr)
- *Professional Growth Resources* (Eng/Fr)
- *Parent Collaboration* (Eng/Fr)
- *Student Assessment in an Inclusive Classroom* (Eng/Fr)
- *Terminology*
- *Understanding Challenging Behaviours* (Eng/Fr)

More information can be found on the Association’s webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Inclusive Education > Building Professional Capacity.

ESTABLISHING INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The Establishing Inclusive Learning Environments guide is intended to support school principals and professional development leaders to work collaboratively with school staff to develop professional competency for inclusive education. The guide includes professional learning activities based on the principles of adult learning and intended to provide entry points to support inclusive education.



More information can be found on the Association's webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Inclusive Education > Collaborative Professional Learning Activities.

Specialist Councils

The Association's 21 specialist councils were created to foster the professional development of teachers interested in common curriculum or specialty areas. By organizing annual conferences, producing publications, maintaining websites, and offering regional workshops and seminars, specialist councils provide members with opportunities to share ideas and gather new information.

21 specialist councils

- Alberta School Learning Commons Council
- Career and Technology Education Council
- Conseil français
- Council for Inclusive Education
- Council for School Leadership
- Council of School Counsellors
- Early Childhood Education Council
- Educational Technology Council
- English as a Second Language Council
- English Language Arts Council
- Fine Arts Council
- Global, Environmental & Outdoor Education Council
- Health and Physical Education Council
- Indigenous Education Council
- Mathematics Council
- Middle Years Council
- Outreach Education Council
- Religious and Moral Education Council
- Science Council
- Second Languages and Intercultural Council
- Social Studies Council

16 reasons to join a specialist council

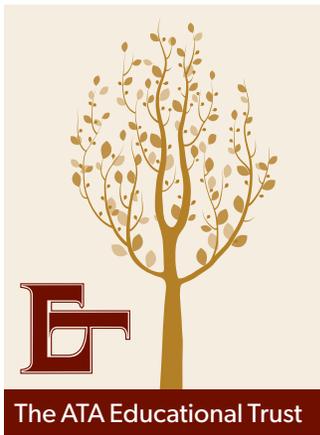
- Support in all stages of practice
- Venues for exchanging teaching tips
- Subject-based support and learning
- Opportunities to influence the development of curricula, assessments and resources
- Insight into the newest teaching approaches
- Research and practical strategies to support your practice
- High-quality periodicals and other publications
- Professional development by teachers for teachers
- Local and regional events
- Access to research grants and professional learning bursaries
- Support for school-based collaboration
- Leadership-skill development
- Current information on education issues
- Opportunities to network with peers
- Web resources and informal mentors
- Affiliation with national and international teacher groups

Active membership in the ATA includes one no-cost membership in a specialist council of your choice.

To choose your membership, log in at www.teachers.ab.ca and click on the Specialist Council Membership link under Your ATA Tools. Alternatively you can visit <https://bit.ly/specialistcounciljoin> and login with your ATA login credentials.

ATA SPECIALIST COUNCIL CONFERENCE GRANTS (\$500)

Each year, the ATA Educational Trust awards a number of grants to help defray the costs associated with attending an ATA specialist council conference. Eligible expenses include registration, accommodations, mileage and food. Only expenses not covered by other grants will be considered for compensation. The application deadline is September 30, 2022.



To qualify for a grant, applicants must

- register or plan to register for an ATA specialist council conference.
- take full advantage of other sources of funding available,
- not be a conference organizer,
- not have received a Trust bursary or grant in the past three years, and
- have completed and submitted to the ATA Educational Trust by September 30 a grant application form (only one form will be accepted from any applicant).

In October, the names of all eligible applicants are entered into a draw, and a set number of names are selected at random. The September 30 deadline is strictly applied. Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted.

Successful candidates will receive a claim form in October. Once they have attended the conference, they will need to submit the form along with original receipts for the expenses incurred.

For more information visit www.teachers.ab.ca > My ATA > Programs and Services > Grants, Awards and Scholarships > ATA Educational Trust.

Mentorship



The purpose of a mentorship program is to help beginning teachers become acculturated to the profession and grow professionally. The Association can offer staff support to assist locals and school jurisdictions in organizing mentorship programs for beginning teachers.

One of the most effective mentorship strategies is to pair beginning teachers with experienced teachers in their subject, grade or school. Using such strategies as collegial support, reflective practice and collaborative learning, the program provides proteges and mentors with opportunities for professional growth and development. Evaluation of the program shows that both proteges and mentors are convinced that the mentorship experience, as part of a comprehensive induction program, improves their teaching practice and student learning.

The Association offers an annual \$2,000 grant for up to three years to locals to assist with the mentorship steering committee and other related costs. This committee is required to have representation from the local, the school jurisdiction and the provincial Association.

For further information contact Monique Gravel at 780-447-9449 or 1-800-232-7208 (toll free in Alberta) or by e-mail at monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca.

Teachers' Conventions

Under the *Teaching Profession Act*, the Association is responsible for advancing and promoting the cause of education in Alberta and enhancing the teaching profession. A primary way in which the Association fulfills this obligation is by organizing annual conventions for teachers, where two teaching days are devoted each year for members to access a variety of professional development activities to improve and maintain their pedagogical and leadership competence. The Association has established nine convention associations across the province, each of which is governed by a constitution and a board made up of teachers selected by the participating locals.

The nine convention associations

- Calgary City
- Central Alberta
- Endless Skies
- Greater Edmonton
- Mighty Peace
- North Central
- Palliser District
- South Western Alberta
- Southeastern Alberta



Teachers have a professional and legal obligation to attend the convention to which they are assigned by their local. The mission for teachers' conventions is to support professionalism and enhance student learning by addressing teachers' professional needs, supporting professional collaboration, advancing effective teaching practices, and motivating reflective practice by exploring research and emerging issues.

For more information about Teachers' Convention, contact Danny Maas at 780-447-9441 or 1-800-232-7208 (toll free in Alberta) or by e-mail at conventions@ata.ab.ca.

Convention details are available on the Association website at www.teachers.ab.ca > My ATA > Professional Development > Teachers' Conventions.

Teacher Professional Growth Plans

Teachers have a professional responsibility to keep abreast of new developments in education and to continue to develop their professional practice.

In Alberta, every teacher employed by a school system must develop and implement an annual plan for professional growth that outlines the professional development activities the teacher intends to undertake in that year. The requirements for an annual teacher professional growth plan (TPGP) are outlined in the Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Policy of Alberta Education.

To access TPGP resources, visit the Association website at www.teachers.ab.ca (My ATA > Professional Growth Plans).

For more information about teacher professional growth, supervision and evaluation, contact Danny Maas at 780-447-9441 (in Edmonton) or 1-800-232-7208 (elsewhere in Alberta).

Teacher Qualifications Service

The Teacher Qualifications Service (TQS), established in 1966, is the agency in Alberta responsible for evaluating a teacher's years of education for salary purposes.

Evaluations completed by TQS are released in a statement of qualifications. Statements of qualifications are accepted by all public, separate and francophone school boards in the province, as well as some private boards, for the purpose of determining the placement of teachers on salary scales.

The principles governing evaluations are established and reviewed annually by a body known as the Teacher Salary Qualifications Board (TSQB). New principles take effect July 1 of the year they receive approval. The principles can be found on the Association website, www.teachers.ab.ca, together with the application form and procedures for obtaining an evaluation of educational qualifications for salary purposes.

Procedures for obtaining an evaluation of teacher education for salary purposes are as follows:

1. Complete an application form and submit it to the ATA Teacher Qualifications Service with the appropriate fee and official supporting documents. The application form can be downloaded from the Association website. The application portal is available through the Association website.
2. Apply for an Alberta teacher's certificate from the Registrar, Alberta Education, 44 Capital Boulevard, 10044 108 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5J 5E6 and provide evidence to the ATA Teacher Qualifications Service (www.alberta.ca/teacher-certification.aspx).

Note: TQS applications cannot be processed until all supporting documentation has been received. Applications are processed in the order of the date all documentation is received. Incomplete applications or missing documentation will delay processing.

Services for School Leaders

The ATA offers many professional development opportunities for school leaders and aspiring leaders. Opportunities such as the online speaker series, teacher growth supervision and evaluation workshops, Leadership Essentials for School Leaders, Educational Leadership Academy, uLead Conference and others are designed to support Alberta's leaders. To view a schedule of the many opportunities for school leaders you can visit tiny.cc/ATALeadersPD or scan the QR code.



ONLINE SPEAKER SERIES

The online speaker series occurs every year and may be attended from the comfort of your school office. This virtual series of 4-6 presentations every year brings in leadership experts from around the globe to share with Alberta leaders. Presenting through zoom, the guest speakers challenge participants to think differently about leadership and engage them in meaningful conversations. For further information you can visit tiny.cc/ATALeadersPD or contact Konni deGoeij at konni.deGoeij@ata.ab.ca or Nikki Cloutier at nikki.cloutier@ata.ab.ca.

LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

Leadership Essentials LE is a two-day conference intended for school and system leaders who are new to their role, within the last five years, and focuses on the exchange of information to assist them in their leadership roles. This annual two-day conference typically happens in late fall and information is sent out to schools and divisions very early in the school year. For further information you can visit tiny.cc/ATALeadersPD or contact Konni deGoeij at konni.deGoeij@ata.ab.ca or Nikki Cloutier at nikki.cloutier@ata.ab.ca.



ULEAD CONFERENCE

The uLead conference is hosted annually by the Council for School Leaders. This three-day conversation on leadership provides delegates with an opportunity to both see a variety of models of innovative leadership and to also discuss the direction we should be moving in as school leaders and systems in our age. It is a unique opportunity to join educational leaders from around the world in the beautiful world heritage location of Banff, Alberta at one of the world's premier conferences for school-based leaders, district-level leaders, and provincial and state education leaders. For more information you may visit www.uLead.ca



EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (ELA)

Each Educational Leadership Academy experience is crafted to offer a significant professional learning experience to principals, assistant principals, central office personnel, consultants and teachers aspiring to school leadership. The focus of the academy changes each year but is always grounded in informing the practice of school leaders and building their capacity to lead innovative change for students in Alberta. For further information, contact Chris Gonsalvez at 780-447-9406 or chris.gonsalvez@ata.ab.ca, or Tracee McFeeters at 780-447-9470 or tracee.mcfeeters@ata.ab.ca.

iTUNES U

The Alberta Teachers on iTunes U site allows principals, assistant principals and aspiring school leaders to explore a wide range of resources, courses and multitouch digital books directly tied to their roles. These resources connect directly to Alberta's professional practice competencies for school leaders and have been created by Alberta school leaders who are sharing their leadership stories and knowledge with colleagues in their own school districts and with school leaders throughout Alberta, across Canada and around the world. This includes a wide variety of short video resources by school leaders that speak to school leadership in the teaching profession.

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

The *Leadership Update* newsletter is sent about four per year to all principals in school mailings and is posted on the Association website. The update provides school administrators with information from the ATA on current issues and initiatives.

PD for Substitute Teachers

Substitute Teachers' Conference

Each year, the Association organizes a conference for substitute teachers. The conference is held in Edmonton and Calgary on alternate years. For further information, contact the Association's Southern Alberta Regional Office (SARO) at 403-265-2672 or 1-800-332-1280 (toll free in Alberta).

Teachers' Conventions

Active substitute teachers can attend their local teachers' convention. Procedures for obtaining convention identifiers and registration vary by convention association. Contact your convention association to confirm this information at www.teachers.ab.ca > My ATA > Professional Development > Teachers' Conventions.

PD Resources

LIBRARY

The Association maintains a professional library that contains an extensive collection of books, e-books, maker technology, articles, DVDs and streaming video available to all Association members. Our collections include materials in French and English.

Members can reserve items directly from the online catalogue on the library's website, <http://library.teachers.ab.ca>. Members can access the library's extensive web guides by using the blue boxes found on our website. Access to two full-text databases is available by logging in and making a selection from the our subscriptions list in the lower middle section of the page.

Requested materials are sent by mail (return postage prepaid). Materials are loaned for one month, and renewals may be arranged by telephone or e-mail, provided that the item has not been requested by another patron. The library also provides research services for members.

To request materials or research services, contact the library in person, by phone (780-447-9400 or 1-800-232-7208) or by e-mail (library@ata.ab.ca). Library hours are Monday to Friday 0800–1700 (September through June) and 0830–1630 (July and August).



Members can access the library's extensive web guides by using the blue boxes found on our website.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PUBLICATIONS

The Association publishes professional development monographs, research, reviews, reports, proceedings, studies and guides, as well as material on learning and teaching issues developed for teachers, administrators and parents.

View these publications on the Association's website at www.teachers.ab.ca.



Get Involved

ASSOCIATION INSTRUCTORS

The Association Instructor corps comprises 60 teachers and administrators from across the province who are trained to deliver workshops for school staff, system PD days and teachers' conventions.



ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATOR INSTRUCTORS

The Association Administrator Instructor corps comprises 20 principals and assistant/vice-principals from across the province who are trained to deliver workshops for system PD days and teachers' conventions using materials prepared by the Association. The Association Administrator Instructor corps offers workshops for leaders and learning communities.

Association Instructors have been chosen for the 2022/23 school year. In the event that replacements are needed throughout the term, they will be chosen from vetted applicants who have been approved by Provincial Executive Council. Teachers who want their application package kept on file for such a possibility should send a letter of application, a resumé that includes workshop experience and area of interest, and the names of three referees who have observed them facilitating a PD workshop for teachers to pdworkshops@ata.ab.ca.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIRS

PD chairs, with the support of local PD committees, provide leadership, motivation and assistance in meeting the professional development needs of teachers at the local level.

Local PD committees should have a policy and frame of reference to guide the work of PD chairs. PD committees are organized into seven geographic regions (page 5), and each region has a PD executive staff member and one or two PD facilitators assigned to work with the local PD committees and PD chairs.

The Association has developed an ongoing program of knowledge and skill development to support PD chairs in their key leadership role. The training program begins with an intense four-day seminar held each year at Summer Conference in August. Additional training and support are provided to PD chairs at two Professional Development Area Conferences—the first is held in the fall and the second in the spring. PD chairs focus their efforts on planning and coordinating local professional development programs, with a special emphasis on school-based activities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FACILITATORS

A corps of PD facilitators supports the work of locals in developing professional development programs in their locals and schools.

Direct assistance to local PD chairs across the province is provided in a wide variety of areas: providing current updates to PD resources and offerings, developing needs assessments, refining district programs, planning and developing school-based programs, and coordinating district and PD committee activities. PD facilitators are assigned to each PD region to assist Association PD staff in liaising with local PD chairs. Requests for assistance for your district or school PD committee should be directed to the staff officer assigned to your region. Teachers interested in becoming a PD facilitator should send a letter of interest, a resumé detailing PD experience and references to Monique Gravel at monique.gravel@ata.ab.ca.

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) FACILITATORS

Indigenous Education PD Facilitators provide specific expertise to members related to the Indigenous-focused competencies and indicators, including the facilitation of Walking Together: Education for Reconciliation workshops.

The Indigenous Education PD Facilitators assist in developing and maintaining relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Cultural Advisors, including following local cultural protocols and sharing Indigenous education expertise for members, locals and various subgroups. Teachers interested in becoming an Indigenous Education PD Facilitator should send a letter of interest and resumé to Melissa Purcell, Executive Staff Officer, Indigenous Education at melissa.purcell@ata.ab.ca. More information can be found on the Association's webpage (www.teachers.ab.ca) under My ATA > Professional Development > Indigenous Education and Walking Together > Becoming an Indigenous Education PD Facilitator.

SPECIALIST COUNCILS

The Association's 21 specialist councils were created to foster the professional development of teachers interested in common curriculum or specialty areas.

Joining a specialist council and volunteering for their executive team or conference team is a great way to become more involved in Association work.



The Alberta
Teachers' Association