

What others are telling Learning Commission

Most organizations have posted their Learning Commission presentations online. Urls are provided so readers can download these organization's complete reports. The following outlines some of the points these groups have made.

Alberta Catholic School Trustees --
http://www.acsta.ab.ca/resources/Commission_Presentation.pdf

- ◆ It is essential to have a separate local governing body to maintain the essence of Catholic Education.
- ◆ It is imperative that Catholic educators have the ability and provincial resources to develop curriculum that meets the overall educational standards without forfeiting the faith component.
- ◆ Catholic schools need to maintain a separate facility from its public counterpart.

College of Alberta School Superintendents-
<http://www.cass.ab.ca/StandardofExcellence.html>

- ◆ **Role of the teacher:**
The current role of the teacher (section 18, School Act RSA 2000) must be redefined in legislation to reflect "what makes a good school." Professional obligations would include a balance of reasonable participation in practicum experiences, in curriculum development and assessment, in professional development, and in extra-curricular activities.
- ◆ **Integration of services:**
Delivery of services to students must be effectively integrated so that

teachers can meet the learning needs of children while other professionals meet other needs. These services must be coordinated through school authorities, with appropriate resource allocation.

- ◆ All certificated central office personnel outside of the collective agreement must have the right of optional associate membership in the ATA, similar to the chief superintendent and chief deputy superintendent.

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta - Ph. 1.780.479.8080

- ◆ Implement a new part in the School Act to deal specifically with large urban public school jurisdictions (over 50,000 students).
- ◆ Vest bargaining certificates with the local of the ATA instead of the provincial ATA.
- ◆ Increase funding by \$240 million annually.
- ◆ Government adopt policy that only students whose parents are of the minority faith, where a separate school system operates, may enroll in the separate school system.

The **Alberta Teachers' Association** presented December 4. See http://www.teachers.ab.ca/what/Fighting_for_Public_Ed/Submissions.html for a copy of their report.

To present in 2003

The **Association of School Business Officials of Alberta** presents on January 8 and the **Alberta Home and School Councils' Association** presents on January 9. The ASBA Learning Commission submission and supporting documents are at <http://www.asba.ab.ca>.

Donation replaces Christmas card

This year, instead of sending Christmas cards, the ASBA donated \$250 to Success By Six, a prevention program aimed at giving children (prenatal to six years) the necessary early childhood development to enter school ready to learn and realize a meaningful, self sufficient future. Merry Christmas everybody. NOTE: The office will be closed December 25, 26, 27 and January 1.

ASBA audited financial statements online

Rob Quilley, of KPMG presented the ASBA's audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2002 to the ASBA Board of Directors. The ASBA received a clean audit report. Operating revenues for 2001-2002 were \$3.44 million; operating expenditures were \$3.29 million and the operating surplus was \$149,331. Self-supporting functions and other revenues generated an additional \$79,976 bringing the overall surplus to \$229,307 for the year. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balances were \$3.92 million. The audited financial statements are posted on the association's website at http://www.asba.ab.ca/pdf/financials_2002.pdf.

ASBA President on Rutherford Jan. 3

Tune in at 9 a.m. on January 3, 2003 to hear ASBA President Michele Mulder on the Dave Rutherford Show on CHQR.