

## **KPMG GIVES ASBA CLEAN AUDIT**

**Arnold Follingo**, partner, KPMG December 9 presented the August 31, 2005 Year End Financial Statements to the ASBA Board of Directors. The ASBA received an unqualified (clean) audit report.

### **ASBA 2004-2005 Financial Statements – highlights**

The full financial report is posted at [www.asba.ab.ca/policy\\_framework/downloads/pdf/financials\\_2005.PDF](http://www.asba.ab.ca/policy_framework/downloads/pdf/financials_2005.PDF)

ASBA Manager of Finance **Heather Rogers** provided the following highlights:

In 2005 the ASBA's assets, liabilities and fund balances totaled \$3.6 million. Operating revenues totaled \$3.8 million and operating expenditures were \$3.77 million resulting in an operating surplus of \$38,569. The ASBA ended the year with an overall surplus of \$127,963. This surplus is mostly the result of increases in fee for service revenues and registration revenues.

The costs (\$89,053) associated with the administration of the new Supplemental Integrated Pension Plan (SiPP) were deferred in the 2004-2005 statements and these expenses will be recovered in 2005-2006.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDAS/ MINUTES NOW ONLINE**

Agendas and minutes for the ASBA Board of Directors meetings are now available online. Go to the Board of Directors page and scroll down to the bottom of the page. See this link: [www.asba.ab.ca/people/board\\_of\\_directors.html](http://www.asba.ab.ca/people/board_of_directors.html)

## **ASBA SUPPORTS CHANGES TO SCHOOL COUNCIL REGS.**

At its December 9 meeting, the ASBA Board of Directors considered and supported several proposed changes to the School Councils Regulation. The Department of Education is reviewing the regulation and is gathering stakeholder input.

One of the most significant proposed changes, supported by the ASBA Board of Directors, is the addition of a section specifically outlining the responsibilities of school boards with regard to school councils.

### **Proposed new section Responsibilities of school boards**

- (1) School boards must provide school councils with the opportunity to participate and provide feedback:
  - (a) in the development or review of the school's overall mission, vision, and philosophy;
  - (b) in the development of school based policies;
  - (c) to proposed school board policies;
  - (d) in the development of the school's annual education plan (school improvement planning), results report, and budget.
- (2) School boards must provide school councils with the opportunity to:
  - (a) identify a general profile of preferred qualities and skills to be considered in the selection processes for principals and superintendents.
  - (b) provide school councils with the opportunity to receive an interpretation of the school's

provincial testing program results within a meaningful context.

- (3) School boards must provide school councils with policy to guide school councils' fundraising if school councils decide to engage in fundraising.
- (4) School boards must ensure that school councils have access to timely, accurate and relevant information.

The ASBA Board of Directors also supported a proposed change that will see school boards give school councils the opportunity to identify a general profile of preferred qualities and skills to be considered in the selection processes for principals and superintendents. In supporting this change, the board of directors reiterated that this statement be carefully worded to ensure that while school councils may have input into the development of a general profile to be considered when hiring a superintendent or principal there is no expectation of mandatory participation in the actual hiring process.

## **CSBA ELECTION SURVEY EXPLORES ISSUES IMPACTING SCHOOL BOARDS**

In the run up to the January 23 federal election, the Canadian School Boards Association surveyed all the major political parties about their stances on issues that impact school boards such as: ending GST charges for school boards and supports for immigrant and refugee children. The results of the CSBA survey are posted on the CSBA website at:

[www.cdnsba.org/newsflash/releases/2006%20Election%20Survey%20Results.pdf](http://www.cdnsba.org/newsflash/releases/2006%20Election%20Survey%20Results.pdf)