

About the Alberta School Boards Association

Founded in 1907, the Alberta School Boards Association has been serving school boards for more than 100 years. Every francophone, public and separate school board in the province has chosen to be a member of the ASBA. Membership is voluntary. The ASBA has extended membership to the publicly supported school systems in the cities of Yellowknife and Lloydminster. Associate membership is available to First Nations and Métis Boards of Education.

What does it cost to be a member of the ASBA?

School boards set the association's membership fees at the Spring General Meeting. Depending on how many students a school board serves, membership costs between \$8,800 and \$227,000 per board. Visit the ASBA website at www.asba.ab.ca/files/pdf/fees_10_11.pdf for the fee schedule.

What does the ASBA do?

The ASBA offers school boards

- the powerful advocacy opportunities that present themselves when school boards unite to lobby on behalf of the province's students and the communities they serve
- the services of a team of lawyers, negotiators and consultants, well versed in the culture of school boards, who are available to help with unique local challenges
- exclusive access to a suite of insurance, employee benefit and pension plans designed especially for school boards and their employees
- opportunities to network and learn at two annual meetings, regular Zone (regional) meetings and provincial issues forums
- timely information about emerging trends in education



Through the ASBA, school boards may...

1. **Hire, on a fee-for-service basis** lawyers, labour relations, educational and communications consultants for help with complex local issues. Some of the services the ASBA staff and consultants provide are:

Education services

School board orientation: role of the board/role of the superintendent
Superintendent and senior executive recruitment
Board governance workshops
Superintendent evaluations
Strategic planning
Administrative and governance issue reviews
Board evaluations
Conflict resolution
School evaluations
Organizational reviews: transportation, electoral boundaries, facilities, human resources
Policy development and reviews
Team building

Legal

Boards of reference
Constitutional matters
Contracts and policy review
Grievance arbitration
Human rights complaints
Interpretation of legislation
Labour and employment matters
Litigation at all levels of court

Labour

Labour Relations

Collective bargaining
Collective agreement preparation and interpretation
Teacher and support staff compensation analysis
Collective agreement analysis
Grievance management
Arbitration board appointments
Legislation analysis and interpretation

Employee Relations

Workplace mediation
Employee discipline
Attendance management

Training

Collective bargaining
Grievance management
Progressive discipline

Human Resources

Facilitation
Recruitment
Compensation research
Information and data base design
Classification system design

Custom services

The ASBA will strive to accommodate board requests for services other than those listed above. Contact ASBA Executive Director David Anderson at 1.780.451.7109 or danderson@asba.ab.ca.

Fee-for-service rates for 2010-2011

Communications \$176/hr
Education services \$200/hr
Labour services \$176/hr
Legal services \$225/hr

2. **Join employee benefit, insurance and pension plans** developed to respond to the unique needs of an educational setting
 - The Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan
 - available only to school boards who are members of the association
 - The Alberta School Boards' Insurance Exchange
 - an insurance program tailored to meet the needs of school boards
 - The Supplemental integrated Pension Plan
 - available to school boards who choose to participate
3. **Receive specialized research and information** to help them do their work locally
Labour relations research: The ASBA keeps school boards up to date about collective bargaining by providing reports describing ratified settlements, salary levels, salary increases and settlement trends. Yearly, the ASBA produces a management compensation report, a teacher distribution report and a trustee remuneration report.

Communications Now: The ASBA produces a monthly package of public relations and communications tips tailored to school and school board issues.

Hot News: This e-letter provides school boards with information about emerging issues and news in education.

The *ASBA website* www.asba.ab.ca. Make this your first stop for information about the association and the work it does on behalf of school boards.

4. **Learn from and network with school trustees** across the province by attending the ASBA's two annual meetings, regional meetings in the five Zones and by participating in issues forums which explore emerging issues of relevance to school boards as decision-makers.



How is the ASBA governed?

Who sets ASBA policy?

School boards set the policies that guide the work of the association and the ASBA Board of Directors in its decision-making. Generally most policy decisions are made at the Fall General Meeting, though policy may also be considered in the spring. The association's governance handbook is posted here: www.asba.ab.ca/files/pdf/gov_handbook_aug10.pdf

Because general meetings occur just twice a year, school boards have given the board of directors, elected by school boards, the authority to direct the business and affairs of the association with the exception of the following decisions which may only be made by school boards attending a general meeting:

- Electing the president and vice-president
- Setting the association's annual budget
- Assessing membership fees
- Amending bylaws and requesting amendments to the constitution
- Setting policies

Between general meetings, the ASBA Board of Directors may adopt interim policy positions. These are subject to ratification by school boards at the next general meeting.

Who governs the ASBA?

The 12-member board of directors.

The board is made up of:

- President – elected by the whole membership
- Vice-president – elected by the whole membership
- Six Zone directors – elected by respective Zones
- Four metro board representatives – elected by respective metro board:
Calgary Catholic, Calgary Public, Edmonton Catholic and Edmonton Public

Note: *Representatives of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association, the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta and the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophone de l'Alberta attend ASBA Board of Directors meetings as observers. They do not vote.*

The ASBA Board of Directors meets monthly. These meetings are open to all trustees. The meeting schedule is available on the ASBA website at www.asba.ab.ca.

Strategic plan

The ASBA Board of Directors develops the strategic plan which sets out where and how the association focuses its energy and resources. For insight into what is top of mind for the coming term read the 2010-2013 Strategic Plan here: www.asba.ab.ca/files/pdf/strategic-plan/strat_plan_glance_10_13.pdf

“Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.”

Edmund Burke, British MP and political philosopher, 1774

Key meeting dates 2010-2013

See the calendar on the ASBA website at www.asba.ab.ca/calendar/calendar.asp for a list of upcoming ASBA events including General Meetings, Zone meetings and ASBA Board of Directors meetings.

General Meetings

The ASBA holds two general meetings a year in the Fall and in the Spring.

Fall General Meeting	Spring General Meeting
2010 November 21-23	2010 June 7-8
2011 November 20-22	2011 June 6-7
2012 November 18-20	2012 June 4-5
2013 November 17-19	

A brief history of the ASBA

On Jan. 23, 1907, at the suggestion of Lethbridge trustee, J. H. Fleetwood, the Honourable A.C. Rutherford, Alberta's premier and minister of education, met with 60 school trustees to adopt the founding constitution and objectives for the association that is today the official organization representing all school boards in Alberta. In 1939, 32 years after the founding meeting, this new organization was incorporated with the passage of the Alberta School Trustees' Association Act. While association activity was virtually suspended during World War I (1914 to 1918), a 1919 convention reaffirmed the original constitution with some minor amendments. Two years later, 1,200 trustees attended the 1921 convention, evidence of the burgeoning interest in educational issues. In 1942 the association hired a full-time secretary-treasurer with a permanent office. In the spring 1991 sitting of the Alberta legislature, the title of the association's act was amended to Alberta School Boards Association Act.

What is the legal mandate of the ASBA?

The Alberta School Boards Association Act sets out the objectives, powers and purposes of the ASBA as follows:

- a to consider and deal with matters relating to education and school administration in Alberta with a view to the betterment of education for the benefit of the public;
- b to provide a medium for expression of the views and suggestions of the school boards of Alberta on matters pertaining to education;
- c to render advice and assistance to its members on matters affecting them;
- d to enter into arrangements for the provision of group benefits to its members and employees and the members and employees of other educational associations;
- e to co-operate with educational associations in Canada in matters of national educational interest;
- f to promote the interest of school districts and school divisions throughout Alberta;
- g to bring about, for the advancement and betterment of education in Alberta, 1 the economical and efficient administration of the affairs of school districts and school divisions, and 2 the economical and efficient performance of all duties undertaken by or imposed on school districts or school divisions;
- h to co-operate for the promotion, guidance and improvement of legislation on educational and school questions;
- i generally, to do all acts and things that appear to the association conducive to the good and welfare of 1 education in Alberta, or 2 any one or more school districts or school divisions, and
- j to do and perform all acts and things incidental to and necessary for the purpose of effecting any of the objects set out in this section.



ASBA Foundation Statements

Mission Statement

Promoting excellence in public education

Mandate

The Alberta School Boards Association is a province-wide organization of locally elected school boards. Providing leadership focused on continuous improvement of the public education system, the Alberta School Boards Association:

- Advocates provincially and nationally on public education issues, with a strong voice, on behalf of locally elected school boards.
- Provides timely, well-researched information on public education issues to school boards.
- Encourages networking and interaction among school boards and stakeholders on education issues.
- Works with other provincial organizations, national education organizations and governments to improve public education.
- Provides services to school boards.

Vision Statement

- ASBA is a respected and influential provincial association of locally elected school boards.
- ASBA supports publicly elected school boards in their efforts to ensure that students in Alberta have the opportunity to reach their highest potential.
- ASBA is the leading voice advocating for public education in Alberta.
- ASBA is energized by the enthusiastic participation of its members.

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles are high level directional statements that define the Alberta School Boards Association's values and parameters.

- Public education – public, separate and francophone jurisdictions – must be governed by locally elected school boards.
- School boards must have the autonomy to make decisions in the best interests of the students and communities they serve.
- School boards must have access to equitable long-term stable funding to fulfill the mandate of educating their students. A portion of this funding must come from property taxes.
- Direct access to the local property tax base and the ability to tax are fundamental to school board autonomy, accountability and responsiveness to their communities.
- The Alberta School Boards Association will sponsor or provide input to any amendments to the School Act and regulations.
- School boards are responsible for communicating with their communities about the local public education system.
- School boards are responsible for providing quality public education to their students.

ASBA Zones

Each school board is a member of one of the ASBA's five Zones. Trustees are welcome to attend Zone meetings which provide opportunities for information sharing, networking and trustee development. The Zones are a key internal communication link for the association. A member of the ASBA Board of Directors attends every Zone meeting to ensure two-way communication between the ASBA leadership and school boards. For more information about Zones, see the Importance of Zones document at www.asba.ab.ca/people/zones/importance.asp.

Zone 1

Serving nine school boards in north western and north central Alberta

Fort Vermilion School Division No. 52
 Grande Prairie Public School District No. 2357
 Grande Prairie RCSSD No. 28
 High Prairie School Division No. 48
 Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No. 37
 Northland School Division No. 61
 Northwest Francophone Education Region No. 1
 Peace River School Division No. 10
 Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76

Zone 4

Serving eight school boards in central Alberta

Battle River Regional Division No. 31
 Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73
 Clearview School Division No. 71
 Red Deer Catholic Regional Division No. 39
 Red Deer Public Schools
 Wetaskiwin Regional Division No. 11
 Wild Rose School Division No. 66
 Wolf Creek School Division No. 72

Zone 5

Serving 10 school boards in and around the City of Calgary
 Calgary Board of Education
 Calgary RCSSD No. 1

Canadian Rockies Regional Division No. 12
 Christ the Redeemer CS Regional Division No. 3
 Foothills School Division No. 38
 Golden Hills School Division No. 75
 Greater Southern Francophone Reg. Auth No. 4 (P)
 Greater Southern SC Francophone Ed Reg. No. 4
 Prairie Land Regional Division No. 25
 Rocky View School Division No. 41

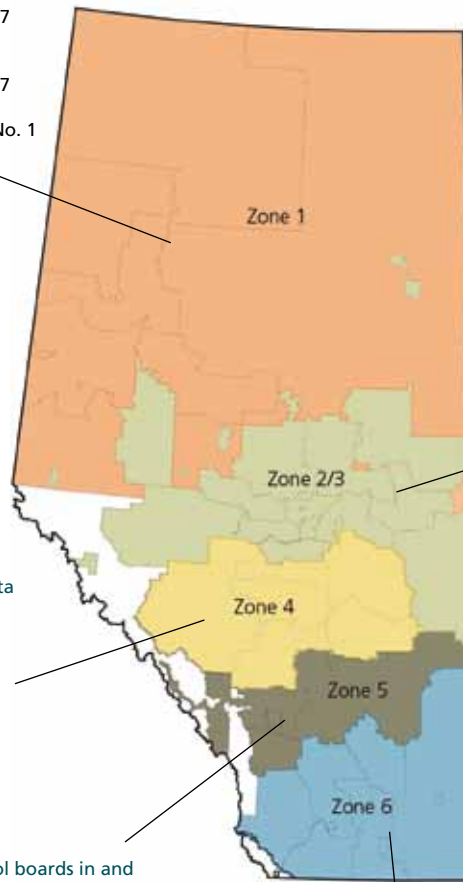
Zone 6

Serving 10 school boards in southern Alberta from the foothills of Pincher Creek to the Saskatchewan border
 Grasslands Regional Division No. 6
 Holy Spirit RCS Regional Division No. 4
 Horizon School Division No. 67
 Lethbridge School District No. 51
 Livingstone Range School Division No. 68
 Medicine Hat CS Regional Division No. 20
 Medicine Hat School District No. 76
 Palliser Regional Division No. 26
 Prairie Rose School Division No. 8
 Westwind School Division No. 74

Zone 2/3

Serving 29 school boards in north central and northeast Alberta including two jurisdictions in the Northwest Territories and two partially in Saskatchewan

Aspen View Regional Division No. 19
 Black Gold Regional Division No. 18
 Buffalo Trail Regional Division No. 28
 East Central Alberta CSSR Division No. 16
 East Central Francophone Education Region No. 3
 Edmonton Catholic Separate School District No. 7
 Edmonton School District No. 7
 Elk Island CS Regional Division No. 41
 Elk Island PS Regional Division No. 14
 Evergreen CSR Division No. 2
 Fort McMurray RCSSD No. 32
 Fort McMurray Public School District No. 2833
 Grande Yellowhead Public School Division No. 77
 Greater North Central Francophone ER No. 2
 Greater St. Albert Catholic Reg. Div. No. 29
 Lakeland RCSSD No. 150
 Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No. 42
 Lloydminster Public School Division
 Lloydminster RCSSD No. 89
 Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10
 Northern Lights School Division No. 69
 Parkland School Division No. 70
 Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7
 St. Albert PSSD No. 6
 St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1
 St. Thomas Aquinas RCS Regional Division No. 38
 Sturgeon School Division No. 24
 Yellowknife Catholic Schools
 Yellowknife Education District No. 1



Meet the ASBA Board of Directors

September 2010

Visit the ASBA website www.asba.ab.ca/people/board-of-directors.asp for biographies of the trustees elected to govern the association, board of directors meeting dates, meeting agendas and meeting minutes. **Note:** *The photo of the ASBA Board of Directors on page 17 is of the 2009-2010 board. Visit the ASBA website for photos and bios of the current board of directors.*

President

Heather Welwood

Northern Lights School Division No. 69

Vice-president

Jacquie Hansen

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools

Metro Director

Karen Kryczka

Calgary Board of Education

Metro Director

Mary Martin

Calgary Catholic School District

Metro Director

Marilyn Bergstra

Edmonton Catholic Schools

Metro Director

Dave Colburn

Edmonton Public Schools

Zone 1 Director

Dianne Lavoie

Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No. 37

Zone 2/3 Director

Lynda Akers

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division

Zone 2/3 Director

Lisa Brower

Elk Island Public Schools

Zone 4 Director

Keith Warren

Wild Rose Public Schools

Zone 5 Director

Anne-Marie Boucher

Conseil scolaire du Sud de l'Alberta

Zone 6 Director

Karen Bartsch

Grasslands Public Schools

Observer

Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA)

Alice Brick

Grande Prairie and District Catholic Schools

Observer

Fédération des conseils scolaires francophone de l'Alberta (FCSFA)

Roy Goulet

Conseil scolaire catholique et francophone du Sud de l'Alberta

Observer

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

Patty Dittrick

Clearview Public Schools



Meet the ASBA Board of Directors (2009-2010)

(Photo taken May 2010)

Back row from left to right:

Alice Brick, Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association; Bev Esslinger, Edmonton Public Schools; Roy Goulet, Fédération des conseils scolaires francophone de l'Alberta; Serafino Scarpino, Calgary Catholic School District; Kerry Milder, Zone 6; Clayton Jespersen, Zone 2/3; Anne-Marie Boucher, Zone 5 and David Anderson, Executive Director

Second row from left to right:

Patty Dittrick, Public School Boards Association of Alberta; Dianne Lavoie, Zone 1; Marilyn Bergstra, Edmonton Catholic Schools and Lynda Akers, Zone 2/3

Front row from left to right:

Heather Welwood, President and Jacquie Hansen, Vice-president

Absent from photo:

Karen Kryczka, Calgary Board of Education and Jackie Swainson, Zone 4

Meet the ASBA Zone Chairs

September 2010

Zone 1

Ralph Wohlgemuth

Grande Prairie and District Catholic Schools

Zone 2/3

Johnette Lemke

Black Gold Regional Schools

Zone 4

Dianne Macaulay

Red Deer Public Schools

Zone 5

Jay Lyons

Foothills School Division

Zone 6

Colleen Deitz

Palliser Regional Schools



Meet the Zone Chairs (2009-2010)

(Photo taken May 2010)

From left to right: Dianne Macaulay, Zone 4; Ralph Wohlgemuth, Zone 1; Colleen Deitz, Zone 6 and Lisa Brower, Zone 2/3

Absent from photo: Jay Lyons, Zone 5

Meet the ASBA Staff

September 2010

These are the people who work on behalf the province's school boards.

David Anderson
Executive Director

Val Dale
Senior Legal Secretary

Jennifer Elsinga
Administrative Assistant

Donna Engel
Director, Corporate Services

Teresa Ergezinger
Administrative Assistant

Grace Garcia Cooke
Lawyer

Bobbie Garner
Administrative Assistant

Jim Gibbons
Senior Education Advisor

Terry Gunderson
Education Consultant

Marian Johnson
Administrative Assistant to
the Executive Director

Suzanne Lundrigan
Director, Communications

Scott McCormack
Labour Relations Consultant

Mac McDonald
Sr. Labour Relations Consultant

Deborah McGuire
Lawyer

Melanie McNaughton
Senior Legal Secretary

Elaine Pallister
Corporate Receptionist

Noreen Pownall
Administrative Assistant

Yvon Prefontaine
Lawyer

Heather Rogers
Director, Finance
and Administration

Jeremy Schick
Lawyer

Heather Tkachuk
Policy and Research Analyst

Debra Tumbach
Senior Lawyer



Meet the ASBA Staff (Photo taken May 2010)

Back row from left to right: Angela Town, Lawyer; Jennifer Elsinga, Administrative Assistant; Terry Gunderson, Education Consultant; Mac McDonald, Sr. Labour Relations Consultant; Heather Tkachuk, Policy and Research Analyst; Yvon Prefontaine, Lawyer and Scott McCormack, Labour Relations Consultant

Second row from left to right: Bobbie Garner, Administrative Assistant; Marian Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Melanie McNaughton, Senior Legal Secretary; Donna Engel, Director, Corporate Services; Val Dale, Senior Legal Secretary; Suzanne Lundrigan, Director, Communications

Front row from left to right: Teresa Ergezinger, Administrative Assistant; Debra Tumbach, Senior Lawyer; Elaine Pallister, Corporate Receptionist and David Anderson, Executive Director

Absent from the photo: Noreen Pownall, Administrative Assistant; Deborah McGuire, Lawyer; Jeremy Schick, Lawyer and Grace Garcia Cooke, Lawyer