

Calgary District Report

December 2016

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DR Meeting Dates

Dec. 1-2	Prov. Exec. Council
Dec. 6	Foothills CSR
Dec. 12	Canadian Rockies CSR
Dec. 13	Finance Committee
Dec. 14	Diversity, Equity and Human Rights
Dec. 15	Rocky View Exec.
Dec. 20	Foothills Exec.
Jan. 10	Foothills CSR
Jan. 12	Rocky View EXEC
Jan. 16	Canadian Rockies CSR
Jan. 18	Finance
Jan. 19-20	Prov. Exec. Council



Bargaining

Central Bargaining continues with upcoming meetings on December 19-20. The **initial proposal** and continually updated **Bargainer's Blog** is available on our website. Of course, teachers require an account (simple to obtain) to access this private material.

Percentage of teachers who have an online account

Foothills 66%
Rocky View 65%
Canadian Rockies 63%
Chinook 56%

Professional Development

Walking Together consultants are available for booking through professional development branch at Barnett House.

- Consultants are hosting regional meetings of local Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- The workshops developed over three years will meet the scope of foundational knowledge required by our new TQS.
- They will create a series of one page fact sheets to support the workshop content.
- They have contextualized the Kairos Blanket Exercise for Treaty 6, 7, and 8.

PEC amended the bylaw concerning teacher count for the purpose of collecting and charging of convention fees. Each local association receives member count data when the Association remits fees to the locals according to the schedule in Bylaw 10(1). To facilitate the accurate communication and collection of

convention fees, the Association shall provide each convention association with a copy of the member count data sent to each of its member-locals according to the same schedule. Member count data sent bi-monthly to locals will now also be sent to conventions so that the two sub groups can coordinate collection of convention fees based on accurate and identical numbers.

2Learn

Without government funding, 2Learn's annual budget dropped from \$960,000 in 2013/14 and \$721,000 in 2014/15 to only \$177,000 in 2015/16. 2Learn would like to ensure these resources stay online throughout the curriculum development period, and has prepared a curriculum support proposal and a number of annual budget scenarios. To remain online for the current school year, 2Learn has scaled back its operations significantly

Member Services

Call trends to member services tend to fall into three categories: employment information, employer action and interpersonal relations/staff.

Of note from member services:

- The vulnerability of temporary contract teachers.
- Acknowledgement that first year teachers need support – less teaching time or a mentor.
- Representation equals advice.
- By the School At, employers must engage in protective measures for teachers.

Discussion of what is teacher work is in the context of inclusion of complex students. For example, changing diapers is not the work of teacher.

When coaching events make sure that there is a supervisor.

Government

Just released: a new publication ***The Role of the Superintendent and the Teaching Profession in Alberta.***

Upcoming workshop: **Privacy Implications in the Networked Classroom.** Barnett House 2017 01 26. The focus is on supporting Alberta teachers, school leaders and central office staff who have an interest and responsibility in privacy as it relates to students, digital technologies and networked classrooms.

PISA

Association staff is coordinating the February 2017 launch of [What You Need to Know About PISA](#). This book will serve as a catalyst for a range of public engagement activities to be undertaken by teacher organizations in Canada and internationally following the release of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2015 results on 2016 12 06. <https://www.teachers.ab.ca/Publications/ATA%20News/Volume-51-2016-17/Number-7/Pages/PISA-2015.aspx>

Supreme Court decision allows BCTF's appeal. British Columbia Teachers' Federation challenged the law passed in 2002 that stripped class size, class composition and specialist teacher, counsellor, teacher-librarian and special education teacher ratios from collective agreements and prohibited the future negotiation of clauses related to teachers' conditions of professional practice. The BC government is now required to reinstate the clauses that were stripped from the collective agreements, including class size maximums in elementary and secondary schools, and the number of school counsellors in schools. This is anticipated to reinstate 3 500 teaching positions. This decision speaks about the need to bargain in good faith. Good faith consultation involves meeting and engaging in meaningful dialogue in which positions are explained and each party reads, listens to and considers various representations made by the other. There must be an honest effort to find middle ground. <http://www.scc-csc.ca/case-dossier/info/sum-som-eng.aspx?cas=3650>

The burden cost of the SLA program including instructional time, administrative and assessment time, and professional development/release time amounts to the vicinity of 7 million dollars according to our association's calculation.

Our association is writing to the minister of education, again, regarding curriculum and assessment issues.

Teacher Welfare

My ASEBP Mobile App

The My ASEBP Mobile App has been given a new look and feel and is now much easier to use. The app can help covered members better prepare for planned expenses and current health and wellness costs. It is available at the Apple App and Google Play Stores.

App features include the ability to:

- Submit Extended Health Care, Vision, Health Spending Account (HSA) and Wellness Spending Account (WSA)* claims,
- Submit receipts by taking a photo within the app,
- Transfer eligible unpaid amounts to Health Spending Accounts (HSA) at the tap of a button,
- View all claims as well as HSA and WSA balances on one page,
- Access up to three years of ASEBP claims history,
- View ASEBP ID cards, both on and offline, and
- View coverage details.

Trustees Report:

https://www.asebp.ab.ca/resources/publications/trustees_reports/trustees_report_2016_11.pdf

Some grievances currently examine the issues of: when does 90 days for extended disability benefits begin?, What does being absent from school mean? What does reduction in teacher workload mean?

By the Employment Standards Code, every teacher must have 30 minutes of rest in five hours of work. These rest periods can be no shorter than ten minutes each.

Using **credit cards with loyalty rewards programs**: teachers who make purchases for school events and are reimburse by the jurisdiction may collect loyalty points. See the specifics from the CRA (Canada Revenue Agency) here→

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/bsnss/tpcs/pvrll/bnfts/lylty/menu-eng.html>

Q – Are there any Collective Agreements with different religious holidays?

A- There is one but there is a statute that says if you are of another faith you can take a holiday

