



**DR Report for Calgary District – January 2024**  
**Barnett House: 1-800-232-7208 SARO: 1-800-332-1280**



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**Guidelines for attendance of meetings for District Representatives as approved by ARA**  
 "28.6 The following shall be observed as the appropriate order of priority among Council member assignments:

1. Council Meetings
2. Provincial Committee Meetings
3. Assigned Representation Functions
4. Organized meetings with members of the Association at any level involving government political leaders or Alberta Education officials at the Assistant Deputy Minister level or higher
5. Local Association Meetings
6. Specialist Council Liaison Assignments
7. Teacher Convention Association Meetings
8. Area Conferences
9. Consultants Meetings

(1981 12, 2006 04)"

"The Alberta Teachers' Association, as the professional organization of teachers, promotes and advances public education, safeguards standards of professional practice and serves as the advocate for its members."

As set out in the Teaching Profession Act, the objectives of The Alberta Teachers' Association are as follows:

1. to advance and promote the cause of education in AB;
2. to improve the teaching profession
3. to arouse and increase public interest in the importance of education and public knowledge of the aims of education, financial support for education, and other education matters;
4. to cooperate with other organizations and bodies in Canada and elsewhere having the same or like aims and objects.

**December / January District Representative Activities**

<b>DEC 4</b>	Indigenous Education Committee (Zoom)
<b>DEC 5</b>	Foothills CSR (Zoom)
<b>DEC 6</b>	Christ the Redeemer (Zoom)
<b>DEC 11</b>	Rocky View Strategic Action Committee (Zoom)
<b>DEC 13</b>	Canadian Rockies CSR (Zoom)
<b>DEC 15</b>	Indigenous Advisory Circle (Edmonton)
<b>DEC 18</b>	Summer Conference Review (Zoom)
<b>DEC 19</b>	Christ the Redeemer Member Organizing (Zoom)
<b>JAN 9</b>	Foothills CSR (Zoom)
<b>JAN 10</b>	Rocky View POLEC (Zoom)
<b>JAN 11</b>	Rocky View Executive (Calgary)
<b>JAN 13</b>	Christ the Redeemer CSR (Zoom)
<b>JAN 16</b>	Christ the Redeemer TW (Zoom)
<b>JAN 17</b>	Indigenous Education Council (Zoom)
<b>JAN 18</b>	CTF (Edmonton)
<b>JAN 18/19</b>	PEC (Edmonton)
<b>JAN 20</b>	PDTCA (Zoom)
<b>JAN 22</b>	Rocky View Strategic Action Committee (Zoom)
<b>JAN 23</b>	Council of School Counsellors Council (Zoom)



**Central Matters Survey Link**

<https://legacy.teachers.ab.ca/membersonly/CollectiveBargainingUpdates/BargainersBlog2016-18/Pages/Central-table-bargaining-2024-begins.aspx>

Survey is open Monday, January 29, 2024 to Friday, March 1, 2024 at 4:30 PM

**Alberta Colony Educators (ACE) Survey Link**

<https://surveys.teachers.ab.ca/s3/New-Specialist-Council-ACE>

The ATA has received a request from the Alberta Colony Educators (ACE) group to form a new specialist council "to provide support and professional development for educators who work with students from Hutterite colonies and those of Mennonite heritage". Before this request will be considered by PEC, at least 200 active or associate members of the Association must indicate their support for the creation of this council by completing the online survey. **This survey will remain open until 2024 02 29.**



## ATA Human Rights Statement

As an organization that promotes and is committed to respecting human rights and ensuring a safe, secure and healthy environment for all, the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) works to ensure that all present at or participating in ATA programs and events are protected from violence and harassment. All ATA members are therefore expected to promote and defend the fundamental human rights of everyone engaged in ATA programs, activities or other ATA work. ATA members are expected to treat one another with fairness, respect and dignity and to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, accountability, competence and integrity as representatives of the provincial Association as well as their respective locals and subgroups. Furthermore, ATA members are obliged to act to prevent violence and harassment wherever possible and report to the appropriate person in authority any suspected breaches of this statement that come to their attention.

**1. Executive Secretary** – The following was adopted as interim policy of the ATA and will be referred to the 2024 ARA for confirmation: “that the Association support diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives and programming at Alberta postsecondary institutions and call upon the Government of Alberta to refrain from penalizing financially, or by other means, those Alberta postsecondary institutions that choose to implement DEI policy and/or maintain DEI offices.”

**2. Government** – Association staff are working to help shape the processes of the Alberta Teaching Profession Commission (ATPC) to ensure they are fair and transparent for our members. Through meetings with government staff and letter writing campaigns, small improvements have been made. The Association has disposed of all outstanding discipline investigations, but still has one professional conduct hearing to complete. Association table officers met with executive officers of the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta; topics of conversation were curriculum, class size and complexity, the “Take Back Alberta” movement, the discipline complaint process, inclusive education standards and public education. The Association conducted a “pulse” research study in December 2023 to gain insight into the current challenges faced by teachers in Alberta. The results speak to the need to address such issues as increasing class sizes and complexity, declines in supports and resources for students with exceptionalities, aggression in schools, professional strain and artificial intelligence. Look for an early to mid-February publication date for the full results of the survey.

**3. Teacher Employment Services** – *Bill 85*, which amended the *Education Act* by adding a requirement to have updated criminal records and vulnerable sector checks, has now come into full effect. Bill 85 applies to those whose employment requires a certificate of qualification as a teacher, a leadership certificate or a superintendent leadership certificate. The legislation requires that the checks be completed by 2024 01 01 and must be updated every five years. The letter of transmittal, which commences List of All Matters (LAM) bargaining was sent in mid-December. Bargaining is set to commence in late January. Recent Worth Knowings have been shared with Teacher Welfare Committees (TWC) and posted online. The new additions, Instructional and Assignable Time Payback (2023 12 20) and Who Is the Decider on Collective Agreement Entitlements? (2023 12 13) will be particularly important for all members.



**4. Professional Development** – Registration QR Code for the Beginning Teacher Network:



Association staff attended an Education Stakeholders' meeting on 2023 12 11 to discuss the Ministerial Order on Student Learning and The Guiding Framework for the Design and Development of Kindergarten to Grade 12 Provincial Curriculum. Association staff and members of the Social Studies Specialist Council will meet with Alberta Education Staff on 2024 01 24 to provide feedback on the draft K–12 Social Studies Scope and Sequence. Alberta Education staff will be presenting two sessions at each of the nine Association Teachers' Conventions in 2024.

**5. Table Officers (TOC)** – Staff will prepare an implementation strategy for the Status of Racialized Teachers Working Group recommendations for presentation to TOC. An ad hoc committee on Coordinating Communications to Members will be formed to discuss the coordinating of communicating with members, with a focus on support for school-based representatives, comprised of members from Association staff, PEC, and three local presidents.

**6. Finance** – *The DRAFT* Budget currently has a fee increase of \$90, taking it from \$1,347 to \$1,440. The budget will be presented and discussed at ARA. (\$7.5 per month increase.)

**7. President** – Schilling continues a full schedule of meetings and interviews, advocating on a wide range of issues affecting teachers and the Association. He continues to meet with government on the issues that are of utmost importance to teachers, including class size and complexity, classroom violence, education funding, and curriculum.

**8. Strategic Planning Group** – The Association, through the Strategic Planning Group, is monitoring changes to scope of practice and credentialing in the health-care sector. The Government of Alberta recently announced a new compensation model for nurse practitioners that will allow them to open their own clinics and take on patients as early as January 2024. Unlike family doctors, nurse practitioners will be paid a salary and will not be required to purchase malpractice insurance. The government could make a similar move in education by changing how teachers are credentialed.

**9. Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF)** – The cost of sending teachers on Project Overseas has increased from \$11,000 to \$15,000 per teacher. With the current budget, the ATA can only sponsor 8 delegates for 2024, instead of the usual 12.

**10. Central Table Bargaining Committee (CTBC)** – 2024 Central Matters Survey will be sent to members by 2024 01 24. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes. Members are reminded to not complete this on school jurisdictional time or school jurisdictional devices.

**11. Indigenous Education** – Staff, in consultation with the Indigenous Education Committee and Indigenous Advisory Council, will prepare guidelines to assist Convention Associations to appropriately host invited elders at Convention. Annually, each convention board be assigned an Indigenous Education PD Facilitator to work with/advise the board in a non-voting role. ATA's Indigenous Education Council will be hosting the "Soaring With Knowledge" Conference in Medicine Hat, Alberta November 1-2, 2024.

**12. Resolutions** –The committee reviewed 40 resolutions submitted by 10 locals and 1 resolution jointly submitted by 2 locals, as well as 6 resolutions submitted by 3 specialist councils. The resolutions were forwarded to staff, committees, and specialist councils for advice. The committee referred to the DEHR Committee a review of inclusive education policy related to 2SLGBTQIA+ issues that was requested by PEC. The committee added definitions of harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression to the Glossary of Terms.





**13. Steering Committee** – The 107th Annual Representative Assembly (ARA) takes place on 2024 05 18–20, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency (700 Centre Street S) in Calgary. 2024 ARA information will be sent to local and specialist council presidents and secretaries on 2024 02 07. Local delegate entitlement and an information sheet with the hotel link will be provided at that time.

**14. Committee to Review Summer Conference** – the **Committee submitted its final report to PEC, which resulted in the following recommendations being approved:**

- Increased allowances for on and off-site delegates at Summer Conference.
- Increased GIA for local delegates traveling in excess of 500 km one-way to and from Summer Conference, an allowance for accommodation and subsistence of \$335 per delegate (not to be used for an extra night's stay in Banff or Canmore).
- Courses/seminars to run in a two-year cycle.
- Program schedule be revised to reduce the conference by one full day where the course/seminar programming would stay consistent, but free time would be reduced.

**15. Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Committee** –The 2024 DEHR Conference for Locals will be held on 2024 04 18(eve)–19 at Barnett House. The theme for this year's conference is Upholding Human Rights in Challenging Landscapes. Two delegates per local may attend. Locals may pay for additional delegates if desired. DEHR Grant application deadline is April 30. The *Supporting Ukrainian Newcomer Students and Their Families in Alberta Schools* resource is complete. One copy was sent in the last school mailing.

<b>2023-24 Calendar of Association Events</b>		<b>What options are available to teachers dealing with violence in the classroom? FIRST, call Barnett House or SARO and ask to speak to someone in Teacher Employment Services. (Phone numbers listed above.)</b>
2023 09 25-26	<i>Professional Conduct Seminar (Edmonton)</i>	1) Protest the placement of a student 2) Look at alternative placements for the students (inclusive placements, segregated settings, home schooling, on-line learning, etc.) 3) Ensure that appropriate support is being provided (file review, EA support, Behaviour plan, IPP, parents, etc.) 4) Engage external agencies where appropriate (police, child welfare, etc.) 5) Suspension/Expulsion 6) Transfer 7) Occupational Health and Safety complaint 8) Harassment complaint 9) Medical accommodations 10) In some cases, call the police.
2023 10 05	<i>World Teachers' Day</i>	
2023 10 13-14	<i>Beginning Teachers' Conference (Calgary)</i>	
2023 10 20-21	<i>LPEO and LCO Seminar (Edmonton)</i>	
2023 10 20-21	<i>Substitute Teachers' Conference (Calgary)</i>	
2023 10 25-26	<i>Legal Issues for School Leaders Conference (Edmonton)</i>	
2023 10 27-28	<i>Local Presidents' Meeting (Edmonton)</i>	
2023 11 17-18	<i>Collective Bargaining Conference (Edmonton)</i>	
2023 11 20-21	<i>Leadership Essentials for School Leaders Conference (Edmonton)</i>	
2023 11 24-25	<i>Fall PD Conference (Calgary)</i>	
2024 01 25-26	<i>Teacher Growth, Supervision, and Evaluation Workshop (Calgary)</i>	
2024 02 09-10	<b>Local Presidents' Meeting (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 03 01-02	<b>Political Engagement Seminar (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 03 08-09	<b>Women in Leadership Summit (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 03 11-15	<i>Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week</i>	
2024 04 12-13	<b>Collective Bargaining Conference (Calgary)</b>	
2024 04 14-15	<b>uLEAD Conference (Banff)</b>	
2024 04 18-19	<b>Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Conference (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 04 26-27	<b>Spring PD Conference (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 05 03	<i>LPEO and LCO Seminar (Edmonton)</i>	
2024 05 17	<b>Local Presidents' Meeting (Calgary)</b>	
2024 05 18-20	<b>Annual Representatives Assembly (Calgary)</b>	
2024 05 24-25	<b>Local Treasurers' Seminar (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 06 07	<b>Local Secretaries' Seminar (Edmonton)</b>	
2024 08 12-16	<b>Summer Conference (Banff)</b>	
2024 08 15-16	<b>Teacher Growth, Supervision, and Evaluation Workshop (Edmonton)</b>	

<b>Free Specialist Council Membership</b> 	<b>Indigenous Education and Walking Together</b> 	<b>ATA Subscriptions</b> 	<b>ATA Library</b> 
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