

board highlights

Board of Directors Meeting | September 8-9, 2022

CASS Conditional Grant Update

The 2021-2022 Conditional Grant Report was submitted to the Ministry on August 31, 2022 as stipulated in the contract. Highlights of the report include:

- **Deliverable 1: Excellence in System Leader Professional Practice** - A continued consistent and intentional focus on the SLQS, in both operational and strategic ways, has kept the practice standards at the forefront.
- **Deliverable 2: Enhancing Implementation of Inclusive Education and Specialized Educational Supports for Students** - With Ministry approval, this deliverable shifted to a focus on the SLQS Competency 7: Supporting Effective Governance. Competency 7 is unique to the three standards (TQS, LQS, SLQS), being the only competency to explicitly identify supporting effective governance. A curriculum map was developed by superintendents to support the development of professional learning opportunities focused on this competency.
- **Deliverable 3: Success for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students** - The members of the CASS First Nations Métis, and Inuit Education Action Committee continue to provide valuable insight and guidance as new learning emerges and action items are addressed. The CASS Guide to Relationships and Learning with Indigenous Peoples in Alberta continues to be one of the top 10 pages for users to access on the CASS website. Since the inception of the guide in July 2019, there has been 15,477 Unique Users, 26,849 Visits/Sessions, and 31,206 Pageviews. The update and revision to this guide along with the translation to French, all made possible because of the conditional grant, will ensure continued interest.
- **Deliverable 4: Success for Students through Skilled Trades, Apprenticeships, and Vocational Education** - Education partners from across Alberta developed a strategic framework to support system education leaders' efforts to scaffold students' skilled trade experiences. The strategic framework is unique and will guide next steps to advance work in this area.
- **Deliverable 5: Success for Students through Effective Assessment Practices** - A research report was created to provide a deeper understanding about parents' assessment literacy and needs for receiving communication about their child's progress. The results of the report will assist the Ministry in achieving the outcomes identified in the Education Business Plan. As well, CASS will use the results of the report to further their work with school authorities to meet the leading learning competencies in the LQS and SLQS.
- **Deliverable 6: Bridging the Learning Gap for Early Learning Students K – 3** - Drawing from the learning of school districts that received funding to bridge the learning gap for students in Grades 1-3, an eLeadership Guide was developed to share research and stories of practice about dealing with learning disruption.
- **Deliverable 7: Improving the Professional Practice of CASS Regulated Members** - A conceptual framework document was approved by the CASS Board. The CASS Continuing Education Program (CEP) will be fully implemented in Fall 2024.

CASS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022/23



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President



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1st Vice President



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Zone 2/3 Director



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Cam Shade
Director First Nations (Treaty 7)



Dr. Daphne Mai'Stoina
Director First Nations (Treaty 8)



Dr. Robert Lessard
Director Francophone School Authority

CASS Board of Directors Work Plan

- A scope and sequence for “CASS Legislated Requirement Readiness” was presented to the Board at the June 11, 2021 Strategic Planning Session.
- The work plan outlined a plethora of deliverables, from re-defining the composition of the CASS Board of Directors to establishing legislated committees, to developing a continuing education plan for regulated members, and demonstrated that the Board has fulfilled the work plan expectations.

Terms of Reference for Zone Executive and Meetings

- The *CASS Act* stipulates that basic governance principles will need to prevail for CASS where zone committees are committees of the College, and the Board is responsible for establishing Terms of Reference for these committees.
- Following a consultation with zone directors and a feedback meeting about a common terms of reference for zone committee meetings, a transitory terms of reference was shared to assist zone executives in planning their meetings in September.
- When the regulated membership votes to adopt the CASS Bylaws at the AGM on October 27, 2022, the Terms of Reference document will be incorporated into the Bylaws document and have lasting application throughout CASS in all zones.

CASS Bylaws

- With the *CASS Act* now in effect with full legislative authority established on September 1, 2022, the existing Bylaws are non-enforceable. A new set of Bylaws were presented to the Board for deliberation to determine its suitability. The review was done through a series of guiding questions as follows:
 - ✓ Is the recommendation based upon legal requirements and therefore, must be included?
 - ✓ Is the information provided understandable and appropriate to the context within which CASS must operate?
 - ✓ Is there capacity in the organization to implement and enforce expectations?
 - ✓ Do the Bylaws and associated schedules provide sufficient transparency to the public about how CASS operates as a professionally regulated body?
 - ✓ Are there possible elements within the package that are currently missing?
- The Bylaws will be presented at the CASS AGM on Oct 27, 2022.

CASS/ASBOA Summer Conference Venue

Presented with the question, “*Should a summer conference be booked at a resort area for next year which would add costs to registration and other areas (i.e., transportation) or remain at a similar hotel like the Deerfoot Inn next year?*”, the Board recommended that a hotel in Red Deer be explored for August 2023. Although not a resort location, Red Deer would be ideal since it is not the same place as the fall or annual conferences.

Code of Conduct for Professionals in K-12 Education

- The Ministry acknowledged that superintendents have unique experiences and having the most insightful understanding of what is of highest priority within a code of conduct.
- The Zone Directors were tasked to facilitate a process for superintendents from their zones to fill out the survey to collect feedback.
- Each zone’s responses will be collated and shared with the Board at its October 5, 2022 meeting.
- A report will then be shared with the Ministry for its consideration.

Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check

The Board recommended that the concern of significant delays to provide a criminal record check and vulnerable sector check as required by the *Student First Act* be raised with the Deputy Minister with a mutual understanding that school authorities will make every possible effort to accomplish this, but that a grace period will need to be provided and agreed upon.

Consideration of Title Change for Executive Director

- The Board unanimously endorsed a recommendation to change the title of the existing executive director of CASS to that of Chief Executive Officer.
- Behind this decision are many areas of consideration, but the two most important ones address the legal provisions of the *CASS Act* and the situational needs of CASS as an organization that has significantly grown in scope over the past two years.
- Section 9(2) of the CASS Act states that “the executive director is the chief executive officer of the College.”
- Under the College’s mandate to provide governance and administrative support to ARPDC, there are currently seven other executive directors in charge of seven consortiums throughout the province. It is therefore important to clarify that their direct reporting is to the “chief” executive director who currently undertakes the pinnacle administrative position in our organization, which is the chief executive officer.