



Continuing
Education
Program

CASS CEP Committee Meeting Highlights February 14, 2025

The purpose of the CASS Continuing Education Program Committee is to provide recommendations regarding the continuing education program to the Governance and Nominating Committee to recommend to the CASS Board of Directors.

Committee Membership 2024-2025

Chair:

Vincent Behm, Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools, CASS Board of Directors

Committee Members:

Kimberly Frykas, Grande Prairie Public School Division, Zone 1

Shauna Boyce, Parkland School Division, Zone 2/3

Dr. Ryan Sawula, Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, Zone 4

Dr. Chris Fuzessy, Foothills School Division, Zone 5

Terri-Lynn Duncan, Horizon School Division, Zone 6

Wesley Oginski, Holden Rural Academy, Charter Schools

Jonathan Kaiswatum, Tsuu'tina Education, First Nations School Authority

CASS Representatives:

David Keohane, CASS CEO

Gloria Antifaiff, CASS Principal Leadership Consultant

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☑ CEP Course Presentation: *Supporting Effective Governance: Hacks and Heuristics*

Dr. Scott Morrison presented an overview of a new CEP course, developed in collaboration with an advisory committee of regulated members. The course is centered on SLQS Competency #7 – *Supporting Effective Governance* and is structured around four course learning outcomes.

Participants that take this course will:

- learn how to insert themselves as activating presences with their Board.
- learn how to communicate with the Board and to help their Board communicate, engage, and advocate with both the public and one another.
- learn how to help the Board focus on their fiduciary duty to provide the public with assurance.
- understand the efficacy of adhering to guidelines and processes derived from several key Board policies.

The course description is as follows:

Participants will learn approximately 50 hacks and heuristics they can apply to ensure their Boards are edified, engaged, constructive, and productive. These hacks and heuristics have been vetted through a committee of seven chief superintendents serving in rural, urban, and metro school authorities. The pedagogy will promote the social co-construction of meaning, yet the primary goal of the course is for each participant to leave with a personalized philosophy of how to best support effective governance in their context.

Committee members praised the course for providing practical, “rules of thumb” strategies that help system education leaders approach governance in a hopeful, solution-focused way. The course is seen as essential not only for new superintendents and central office staff, who might be inexperienced with board interactions, but also for experienced leaders who can share these valuable tools with others.

☑ Key messages for members at the 2025 Annual Conference

Committee members recommended key messages for the 2025 Annual Conference regarding the continuing education program such as emphasizing retirement accommodations to clarify the implications for accreditation. They also recommended reminding members that full conference attendance may be recorded as 10 credits, simplifying the credit entry process. A reminder should be given about the pre-conference CEP courses—5 hours of face-to-face instruction is followed by 2 scheduled online classes. Finally, they endorsed messaging that underscores the rigorous, quality-assured aspect of the CEP courses, which have garnered positive feedback.

☑ Review Update for Governance & Nominating Committee

Committee members reviewed the February CEP committee update for the Governance and Nominating Committee. Progress is underway for all six mandated areas identified in the Committee’s Terms of Reference.

☑ Development of Annual CEP Survey

The committee members continued to provide guidance and feedback on the development of the Annual CEP Survey. As a reminder, the purpose of the annual CEP survey is to ensure that the CASS Continuing Education Program is providing professional learning for system education leaders to meet the competency requirements as it pertains to the enactment of the Alberta professional practice standards. The revised goal is to annually administer the survey with the first survey to run in October 2025.

☑ Next Meeting

The next CEP committee meeting will be on Thursday, March 13, 2025.