



2026 CASS Fall Conference
Deerfoot Inn and Conference Centre, Calgary
Program-at-a-Glance



Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (Pre-conference)

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Registration and Check-in	<i>Foyer</i>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch included)	CEP Course – Developing Leadership Capacity at the System Level: The Ripple Effect Facilitators: Danica Martin & Erin Tisdale Host: <i>TBD</i> Format: Hybrid Format (10 hours) - Participants will begin with 5 hours of in-person learning at the CASS Pre-Conference, followed by two online sessions (2.5 hours each) scheduled in the weeks following the pre-conference. • In-person – Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (10:00 am – 4:00 pm) • Online – Thursday, November 12 (3:00 pm – 5:30 pm) • Online – Thursday, November 19 (3:00 pm – 5:30 pm) SLQS: LL LQS: DLC	<i>TBD</i>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch included)	CEP Course – Leading to Support Effective Governance Facilitators: Dr. Edgar Schmidt & Dr. Dwayne Zarichny Host: <i>TBD</i> Format: Hybrid Format (10 hours) - Participants will begin with 5 hours of in-person learning at the CASS Pre-Conference, followed by two online sessions (2.5 hours each) scheduled in the weeks following the pre-conference. • In-person – Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (10:00 am – 4:00 pm) • Online – Thursday, November 12 (8:00 – 10:30 am) • Online – Thursday, November 19 (8:00 – 10:30 am) SLQS: GOV LQS: FER, EVL	<i>TBD</i>

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch included)	CEP Course – Relational Leadership Mastery: Building Effective Connections Facilitators: Dr. Christopher Fuzessy & Cynthia Glaicar <i>Host: TBD</i> Format: Hybrid Format (10 hours) - Participants will begin with 5 hours of in-person learning at the CASS Pre-Conference, followed by two online sessions (2.5 hours each) scheduled in the weeks following the pre-conference. • In-person – Wednesday, November 6, 2024 (10:00 am – 4:00 pm) • Online – Thursday, November 19 (8:30 am – 11:00 am) • Online – Thursday, December 3 (8:30 am – 11:00 am) SLQS: BER LQS: FER	<i>TBD</i>
Note: These courses are open to CASS members and non-CASS members. Regulated members will earn 10 CEP credits upon course completion.		

Wednesday (evening), November 4, 2026

Note: Regulated members who attend the entire conference are eligible to earn 10 CEP credits. For those attending only part of the conference, calculate one hour of professional learning = 1 CEP Credit.		
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Registration and Check In	<i>Foyer</i>
7:00 – 7:15 pm	Conference Opening Elder Blessing, CASS Land Acknowledgement, O Canada Welcome Remarks Sponsor Remarks	<i>Sundance Ballroom</i>
7:15 – 8:45 pm	Plenary Session – Expanding Pathways and Possibilities for Students: Education, Industry, and the Power of Partnership <i>Moderators of Panel Discussion: Dr. Reagan Weeks & Stefan Rutkowski</i> SLQS: VL LQS: EVL	<i>Sundance Ballroom</i>
8:45 – 9:00 pm	Professional Networking & Transition Break	
9:00 pm	President's Reception	<i>Chrome Room</i>

Thursday, November 5, 2026

7:30 am – 8:15 am	Breakfast / Registration	<i>Foyer</i>
8:15 am – 8:30 am	Land Acknowledgement, Opening Remarks, Sponsor Remarks	<i>Sundance Ballroom</i>
8:30 am – 8:45 am	Professional Networking and Transition Break	

8:45 am – 10:15 am		Communities of Practice (For Regulated and Eligible Members)				
Room - TBD	Room - TBD	Room - TBD	Room - TBD	Room - TBD	Room - TBD	Room - TBD
Curriculum, Assessment & Technology Facilitated by: Nicole Lakusta <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC	Data Analytics, Accountability and Reporting Facilitated by Michael Craig <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC	Deputy Superintendents Facilitated by: Jody Seymour <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL, GOV	First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Facilitated by: Billie-Jo Grant <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL, EFNMI LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC, SFNMI	Human Resources / People Services Facilitated by: Mark Siemens <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC	Inclusive Education Facilitated by: Irene Donaldson <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC	Superintendents <i>Note: This session is for Superintendents ONLY.</i> Facilitated by: Dr. Reagan Weeks <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL, GOV
10:15 am – 10:45 am		Professional Networking & Transition Break				
10:45 am – 12:00 pm		Alberta Stories of Practice / Breakout Sessions				
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
CASS as Regulator: Upholding Standards in System Education Leadership Presenter: David Keohane <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: MCPL, LL, GOV LQS: MCPL, LLC, URSC	Data Analytics, Accountability and Reporting Presenter: Michael Craig <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL, LL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL, LLC	Exploring Alberta's Dual Credit Pathways: Expanding Opportunities for Student Success Presenters: Brianne Fletcher, Les Kirchner, Natasha Pearson, James Trodden, & Sean Loughheed <i>Host: Colleen Symyrozum-Watt</i> SLQS: VL, LL LQS: EVL, LLC	Reflect to Look Ahead: Leading Fair, Transparent and Equitable Assessment Practice for Student Learning and Achievement Presenters: Dr. Lori Cooper & Michelle Howell <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: MCPL, LL LQS: LLC, PIL	The Strategic Role of School Communications: Building Trust, Managing Issues, and Strengthening System Leadership Presenters: Cindy Nickerson & Dr. Andrea Holowka <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, VL, SOAR LQS: FER, EVL, MSOR, URSC	Top Hidden Traps for School HR and How to Navigate Around Them Presenter: Colin Fetter <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, SOAR LQS: FER, MCPL, LLC, MSOR	What Actually Supports Leaders? Insights from the Field and Research Presenters: Dr. Chris Fuzessy, Dr. Nadia Delanoy, & Dr. Stephen MacGregor <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, VL LQS: FER, MCPL, EVL
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm		Lunch Opportunity to visit sponsor display tables.				

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Alberta Stories of Practice / Breakout Sessions				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Alberta Schools Nutrition Programs Learning Lab Presenters: Corinne Kruse, Trevor Mitchell, Cheryl Shinkaruk, & Garry Tink <i>Host: Dr. Edgar Schmidt</i> SLQS: BER, SOAR LQS: MSOR, URSC	From Challenge to Collaboration: Building Effective Partnerships with Parents to Support Student Success Presenters: Irene Donaldson, Leah Odyanski, & Kevin Newman <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, VL LQS: FER, EVL, DCL	Practical Strategies for Managing Large and Complex Access to Information Requests Presenter: Lorne Randa <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, SOAR LQS: FER, MCPL, LLC, MSOR	Rewriting the Story: Systemic Leadership for Structured Literacy in Black Gold School Division Presenters: Nicole Lakusta & Julie Reed <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: MCPL, LL LQS: LLC, PIL	Unlearning Colonialism - From Research to Action Presenters: Dr. Marianne Barrett, Dr. Dwayne Donald, Catherine Coyne, Heather Friedenthal, Kim Smollie, & Geoff Howard <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: VL, EFNMI LQS: EVL, SFNMI	Wellbeing Is Leadership Work: Building Coherent Systems of Support Presenter: Dr. Jodie Mattia <i>Host: Danica Martin</i> SLQS: BER, LL, SOAR LQS: FER, LLC, URSC
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Professional Networking & Transition Break				
3:15 pm – 3:25 pm	Sponsor Prize Draws Prior to AGM Start				
3:25 pm – 3:30 pm	Transition Break				
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Annual General Meeting (For Regulated Members)				<i>Sundance Ballroom</i>
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Mentorship Networking				<i>Midnapore Room</i>

Friday, November 6, 2026

7:30 am – 8:15 am	Breakfast / Registration				
8:15 am – 8:45 am	Sponsor Remarks, Closing Remarks				
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Professional Networking and Transition Break				
9:00 am – 10:15 am	Alberta Stories of Practice / Breakout Sessions				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Creating Thriving Programs of Choice Presenters: Sarah Fedoration & Nicole Lafrenière <i>Host: TBD</i>	Elevating Wellness Education Through System and School Leadership Presenters: Dr. Lauren Sulz, Dr. Hayley	Meeting Up! System Strategies to Enhance Meetings Presenters: Anthea Boras & Ray Hoppins	Navigating POPA: Stories of Practice from Alberta School Authorities	Navigating the First Years: A Superintendent Panel on Leadership, Learning, and Board Relations	Professional Conduct and Competency: What System Education Leaders Need to Know Presenter: Barry Litun

SLQS: VL, LL LQS: LLC, PIL, DLC	Morrison, Dr. Jonathon Mauro, & Dr. Douglas Gleddie <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: VL, LL LQS: PIL, URSC	<i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, SOAR LQS: FER, MSOR	Presenters: Sean Beaton, Michelle Johnson, & TBD <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: VL, SOAR LQS: EVL, MSOR	<i>Note: This session is for Superintendents ONLY.</i> Panelists: Superintendents <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, VL, GOV	<i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, MCPL, SOAR LQS: FER, MCPL, LLC, MSOR
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Professional Networking & Transition Break				
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Alberta Stories of Practice / Breakout Sessions				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Advancing School-Based Mental Health Decision-Making: The SBMH Screening and Referral Project Presenters: Dr. Jennifer Turner, Dr. Gina Cherkowski, & Lorian Stienwand <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, LL, SOAR LQS: FER, LLC, URSC	Advancing Student Achievement Through System Instructional Frameworks Presenters: Corinne Kruse, Terri-Lynn Duncan, Beverley Barca, & Keith Gamblin <i>Host: Dr. Gloria Antifaiff</i> SLQS: MCPL, VL, LL LQS: MCPL, EVL, PIL	Beyond Individual Resilience: How Leadership Practices Can Support Teacher Well-Being and Career Sustainability Presenters: Dr. Theodora Kapoyannis, Raisa Jivani, & Dr. Patricia Danyluk SLQS: BER, MCPL LQS: FER, DLC	Investigations That Build Trust: Fair Process, Progressive Response, and Transparent Communication in Schools Presenters: Dr. Chris Fuzessy & David Chisholm <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: BER, SOAR LQS: FER, MSOR	Reimagining Systems to Support Student Success Presenters: Sean Loughheed & Shelagh Hagemann <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: MCPL, LL LQS: MCPL, LLC, PIL	Supporting Good Governance in Politically Complex Times <i>Note: This session is for Superintendents ONLY.</i> Presenter: Joanne Pitman <i>Host: TBD</i> SLQS: VL, GOV
12:00 pm	Lunch to Go In the afternoon, optional time for school authority teams to meet				<i>Sundance Ballroom</i>

Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard	Leadership Quality Standard
✓ Building Effective Relationships ✓ Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning ✓ Visionary Leadership ✓ Leading Learning ✓ Ensuring First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education for All Students ✓ School Authority Operations and Resources ✓ Supporting Effective Governance	✓ Fostering Effective Relationships ✓ Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning ✓ Embodying Visionary Leadership ✓ Leading a Learning Community ✓ Supporting the Application of Foundational Knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit ✓ Providing Instructional Leadership ✓ Developing Leadership Capacity ✓ Managing School Operations and Resources ✓ Understanding and Responding to the Larger Societal Context

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