board highlights

Board of Directors Meeting | October 7, 2026

2026/27 Budget

- The Board completed its final review of the 2026/27 budget, with no adjustments required following the annual audit.
- The budget reflects CASS' commitment to financial sustainability, balanced operations, and continued investment in strategic priorities.
- The budget will be presented to regulated members at the November AGM.

2026/27 Strategic Plan

- The Board reviewed revised wording under System Capacity to provide greater flexibility in monitoring education system data.
- The revised approach encompasses existing and emerging data sources without limiting CASS to specific reporting tools or measures.
- The Strategic Plan will be presented to regulated members at the November AGM.

CRA GST Audit

- Following consultation with Metrix Group LLP, CASS will not pursue an appeal of the CRA GST assessment, since the potential recovery would not justify the associated costs.
- Revised GST classification and oversight processes will support future compliance.
- CASS remains financially positioned to absorb the assessment while maintaining a surplus for the fiscal year.

ICSEI Sponsorship

- CASS has signed a $30,000 Platinum Sponsorship agreement for the 40th ICSEI Congress.
- Remaining McConnell Foundation Wellness Grant funds, held by Chinook's Edge School Division, are expected to cover approximately 97% of the sponsorship.
- The transfer of funds is being coordinated to fulfill the sponsorship commitment.

Fall Conference and Annual General Meeting

- Fall conference registration opened September 22, attracting over 100 registrations within the first 24 hours.
- The conference will feature professional learning focused on system education leadership, governance, student wellbeing, and emerging education priorities.
- The AGM is scheduled for November 5, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., with a virtual participation option.

2025/26 Annual Report

- The Board reviewed the draft Annual Report, which will be distributed to regulated members and subsequently submitted to the Minister of Education and Childcare.

CASS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2026/27



Dr. Reagan Weeks
President



Krimsen Sumners
1st Vice President



Debbie McKibbin
2nd Vice President / Zone 5 Director



Michael McMann
Past President



Dr. Jessie Shirley
Zone 1 Director



Laurie Kardynal
Zone 2/3 Director



Scot Leys
Zone 4 Director



Mike Nightingale
Zone 6 Director



Joanne Pitman
Metro Director



Jonathan Kaiswatum
First Nations (Treaty 7) Director



Dolorése Nolette
Francophone Director



Nancy Broadbent
Public Member

- Final CEP compliance audit information will be incorporated following the October 9 audit.

Federal AI Literacy Engagement

- CASS participated in a federal AI Literacy Roundtable involving K-12, post-secondary, and other education stakeholders.
- Discussions emphasized responsible AI adoption, educator preparedness, privacy, and the importance of coordinated AI literacy initiatives between K-12 education, advanced education, and employers.

Alberta Classroom Insights Portal

- The Board discussed implementation, incident reporting, information security, and privacy concerns associated with revised ACIP requirements.
- It was clarified that an Application Programming Interface (API) connection is not an available solution.
- CASS will continue identifying common implementation challenges and opportunities for clarification with Alberta Education and Childcare.

PECBA Review and Consultation

- CASS engaged with the Provincial Bargaining and Compensation Office regarding the review of the *Public Education Collective Bargaining Act.*
- A survey of chief superintendents generated 28 responses to inform CASS' organizational submission.
- The consultation provided an opportunity to communicate system education leaders' perspectives on provincial bargaining and labour relations.

2025/26 Audited Financial Statements

- Metrix Group LLP issued a clean audit opinion, with no significant deficiencies identified in internal controls or financial reporting.
- CASS reported revenues of $4,968,947, expenditures of $4,850,588, and a year-end surplus of $118,359.
- Total reserves reached $1,421,302, reflecting CASS' strong financial position.

Audit and Risk Management Committee Mandate

- The Board reviewed the GNC's recommendation to remove Section 2.7 which vested the committee with the responsibility to determine employee compensation and RRSP provisions.
- Compensation-related decisions will continue to be addressed directly by the Board through the annual budget process.

Women in Leadership Committee

- The Board discussed the future of the inactive Women in Leadership Committee and its alignment with CASS' current governance structure.
- The GNC will consult with the committee's most recent Chair and Vice Chair before presenting a further recommendation to the Board in November.
- Opportunities for networking, mentorship, and leadership development may continue through alternative formats.

Zone Committees Terms of Reference

- The Board reviewed the GNC's recommendation to clarify eligibility for participation in restricted portions of zone meetings.

- Participation by Indigenous Education Authorities in in-camera sessions will be limited to CEOs, Directors of Education, and Superintendents.

TAVE Committee Mandate

- The Board reviewed the GNC's recommendation to consider broadening the TAVE Committee's mandate beyond its current emphasis on trades.
- Further consideration of the committee's scope and name will be deferred until the anticipated conditional grant funding is confirmed.