



Contents:

- Committee Membership for 2018-19
- Effective Strategies
- 2019 First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Gathering April 10-12 in Edmonton
- OECD Directorate for Education and Skills-Supporting Success for Indigenous Students

For more information please contact:

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The mandate of the CASS First Nations Métis & Inuit Education Action Committee is to collaboratively identify effective education practices for school authorities through engaging with representatives of First Nations, Métis, Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter authorities or associations.

Thank you to members of this committee for agreeing to represent their CASS zone, First Nations Treaty Area, Métis community Organization, and Alberta Education to collaboratively identify effective educational practices.

Committee Membership for 2018-19

Chair – Elizabeth Gouthro, CASS Director of Leadership Learning

CASS Representatives:

- Mike Barbero** – CASS Director of Leadership Learning, Student Engagement
- Barry Litun** – CASS Executive Director
- Charlene Bearhead** – Consultant

Treaty Representatives:

- Stephanie Alexis** – Education Policy Analyst, Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations (Treaty 6)
- Valerie McDougall** – Director, Tsuut'ina Nation Department of Education (Treaty 7)
- Genevieve Fox** – Director of Education, Blackfoot Confederacy Tribal Council (Treaty 7)
- Chester Auger** – Director, Bigstone Cree Nation Education (Treaty 8)

Métis Representatives:

- Gerald Cunningham** – President, Alberta Métis Settlements General Council
- Lisa Cruickshank** – Assistant Director, Rupertsland Institute, Métis Education Council

Zone Representatives:

- Karen Penney** – Deputy Superintendent, Peace River School Division (Zone 1)
- Glenda Bristow** – Director, St. Paul Education Regional Division (Zone 2/3)
- Lana Nogue** – Director of Inclusive Learning Services, Wolfcreek Public Schools (Zone 4)
- Andrea Holowka** – Superintendent, Calgary Catholic School District (Zone 5)
- Joann Bartley** – Director – Holy Spirit Catholic Schools (Zone 6)

Alberta Education Representatives:

- Nicole Callihoo** – Assistant Deputy Minister
- Ronald Taylor** – Acting Director First Nation, Métis and Inuit Services Branch

Effective Strategies

Participants shared many strategies that were having an effective impact in their zone/district. Most of these strategies were the provision of professional learning opportunities for their staff supporting the implementation of the TQS and LQS. In some

cases these learning sessions were open to ASCA and Staff Association members. Others mentioned successful district wide orange shirt days , blanket exercise for all staff within a local context, establishing a point person at each school to support school leadership , planting of medicine gardens , a zone 4 cultural camp spring of 2019, deepen relationships with Elders and other Indigenous community members (Elder in residence programs, Wisdom and Guidance/ Elder Advisory Councils,) classroom partnerships between provincial and First Nations schools, Zone 4 Indigenous Kit building with Indigenous peoples (2 day interactive workshop) to support the authentic implementation of Indigenous knowledge into the curriculum.

The 2019 First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Gathering April 10-12 in Edmonton

Members provided feedback on the draft program which is now open for registration. This the fourth CASS Gathering, and we encourage you register and share with your staff.
<https://www.erc.ca/register/?id=3358>

OECD Directorate for Education and Skills-Supporting Success for Indigenous Students

This short OECD report highlights many promising and existing practices that are evident in their international studies. Many of these practices have been implemented in Alberta as evidenced in the reports from the committee. Yet, as the report states, more can be done to help each other, teachers, principals, district staff learn from and with each other and our Indigenous communities. There are also some good examples of additional practices that could be implemented to support success for Indigenous students.

- <http://www.oecd.org/education/Supporting-Success-for-Indigenous-Students.pdf>
- https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/promising-practices-in-supporting-success-for-indigenous-students_9789264279421-en#W_NPFKcZOYU
- <http://www.oecd.org/education/Supporting-Success-for-Indigenous-Students.pdf>