



Provincial Grant Updates

Orange Shirt Day and Beyond - 2023-24

As we near the end of the 2023-24 grant, focus has been on the “...and Beyond” Orange Shirt Day, and the appreciation and understanding of language revitalization and culture in the reconciliation process. Throughout the spring, virtual learning opportunities for “Conversational Cree” and “Conversational Iniktuuk”, were offered and we will complete our language series with “Conversational Blackfoot” throughout the month of June. In addition, the process of translating a variety of current resources on the [Orange Shirt Day and Beyond pages](#) of the Empowering the Spirit website continues with Cree, Blackfoot, and Inuktitut resources to be finalized in the upcoming school year.

In consultation with the provincial Elder’s Partner Circle, a proposal for a renewed grant has been submitted to Alberta Education.

Official Languages in Education Program -

ARPDC’s application for Official Languages in Education (OLEP) Programs Hub Project grant funding has been approved for the next 4 school years subject to the ratification of a Canada-Alberta agreement on minority-language education and second-language instruction covering the period targeted by the project.

A matching grant funding contribution according to the following schedule will support the design and delivery of professional learning sessions and the creation of resources for French Immersion and French as a Second Language educators.

OLEP Funding	School Year (July 1 - June 30)			
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	\$215,000	\$215,000	\$230,000	\$230,000

Under the project title, Professional Learning Supports for French Immersion and French as a Second Language Educators, the funding available through this matching grant program will focus on two initiatives:

1. New Curriculum Planning, Instruction, and Assessment Resources for French Immersion Teachers
2. Professional Learning Workshops for French Immersion and French as a Second Language Teachers

OLEP funding in the 2023/24 school year was dedicated to co-creation of new curriculum planning, instruction and assessment tools and resources and professional learning opportunities in FILAL, Science and Mathematics, both regionally and provincially. In addition, learning opportunities were offered for those teaching French as a Second Language. To date, 160 sessions have been offered to 1500 participants. To enhance two-way communications with our school divisions across the province consultants participated in 12 regional and/or provincial meetings. These meetings brought clarity around emerging regional needs and offered an opportunity to bring greater awareness of the support offered by ARPDC.

Provincial Curriculum Committee Updates

ELAL

Work Plan: [English Language Arts and Literature \(ELAL\)](#)

The English Language Arts team is wrapping up the work on the Annual Work Plan with a significant increase in the resources on the website, YouTube channel, and [Podcast](#). CASS member and Calgary Chief Superintendent Joanne Pitman joined the podcast for a recent episode, highlighting literature for leadership as a key part of the conversation. Significant asynchronous and online learning opportunities are available with the Camp Rewrite Alberta Campground's weekly drops June -August accessed on the teacher's schedule. In addition to the above opportunities, the [Alberta Literature Institute](#) will run August 22-23, 2024 as part of the APLC Summer learning institute held throughout the third week of August.

Mathematics

Work Plan: [Mathematics](#)

The Math Committee's work was front loaded within the first half of the program year and as a result we are now wrapping up the learning opportunities and resources from our collaborative provincial workplan, including:

- posting on-demand video recordings on the ARPDC YouTube channel including Gr 4 - 6 concept support sessions and videos created by teachers in the Combined Grade Planning Cohort sessions.
- on-going translation of resources into French
- on-going posting of Boards on NewLearn Alberta
- completion of the Math Administrative Support Resource, to be posted on www.arpdc.ab.ca

The committee is now transitioning into planning for potential learning opportunities in 2024/25, including several sessions for the APLC August summer learning institute.

Science

Work Plan: [Science](#)

Throughout the spring, members of the Science curriculum committee have made conscientious efforts to operationalize the objectives identified in the Science Work Plan, focussing on the provision of resources for those implementing the new K-3 curriculum. In addition, professional learning sessions have been offered to support those schools piloting the draft Science 4-6 curriculum and those preparing for implementation this September. Planning for Summer Institute science sessions is underway with the focus being implementation of the new Science 4-6 curriculum.

Highlights include:

- With the K-3 Energy CPAR documents in the completion phase and available in the near future, [Curriculum Planning & Assessment Resource \(CPAR\)](#) documents for all Science K-3 organizing ideas will be available on the ARPDC curriculum resources site .
- With the completion of the Space Science [Gr 4](#), [Gr 5](#), and [Gr 6](#) sessions, which are now available on the ARPDC resources site, grade level Science Resource Packs for K to Grade 6 have been created and posted to NewLearn Alberta Boards. Resource Packs include links to a recorded session and the accompanying slide deck for each organizing idea applicable to the grade level. These resource packs offer sample planning and instructional ideas, assessments and resources to support implementation.
- Ensuring science curriculum implementation resources created were available on both the ARPDC resources site and NewLearn Alberta Boards has been a focus. To date 37 Boards have been published, with an additional 8 in progress. These Boards reflect the resources available on the ARPDC site, for example the CPAR's, Numbered Outcomes Documents, Scientific Method, [Concept Maps](#), and Science [Skills & Verbs Glossary](#).
- Parallel supports continue to be developed for our French Immersion colleagues. Professional learning sessions in May are focussing on an introduction to the new science curriculum for [Grades 4-6](#). The [Summer Institute](#) will also focus on Science 4-6 implementation.



FILAL & FLAL

Work Plan: [French Immersion Language Arts and Literature/French Language Arts and Literature](#)

Learning opportunities supporting both FILAL and FLAL were offered this spring with a highlight being the hybrid offering of [La lecture enrichie](#), exploring reading strategies in K-3. The host site was in Calgary with over 60 participants joining us from Bonnaville, Grande Prairie, Red Deer, and Edmonton. Other opportunities include the sessions offered presenting the new curriculum, by grade level (4,5,6) and program - [Francophone](#) (FLAL) and [French Immersion](#).

Our summer programming includes a [Summer Institute for FILAL](#). Planning is well underway for 2024-25 with the focus being the continued support required for implementation of the new 4-6

curriculum in FILAL and FLAL. Cohorts of francophone and french immersion grades 1, 2, and 3 teachers will be created to support an integrated approach to planning. Regular opportunities to meet as a cohort and to access professional support through ARPDC will be offered.

Systemic Reports

Annual Learning Plan

The ARPDC [Annual Learning Plan](#) was approved by the CASS Board of Directors at the December meeting. ARPDC has analyzed the data gathered through the Assurance Framework Survey to set the Priorities for The Consortium for 2024/2025.

Annual Report

The [Annual Report for ARPDC Operations](#) was approved by the CASS Board of Directors during their December meeting. Regional Directors will be gathering in early June to begin the process of creating the Annual Report for the 2023/2024 school year.

Curriculum Implementation

“The Consortium” Website Development

Regional Directors are collaborating with a web developer in Calgary to redesign a new website for The Consortium. The new website will feature a modern look and feel built around the recently approved brand “The Consortium”.

Significant focus is being placed on the improvement of search functionality on the Curriculum Resources section of the new website. The Regional Director team continues to transition all resources on various ARPDC websites to the new APLC website.

Further enhancements will also be made on the Learning Opportunities page that will provide end users with a more informed interface that provides all the information required to make decisions regarding whether or not to pursue registration.

The Consortium website is currently scheduled to “go live” during the first week of September. In the meantime, the current arpdc.ab.ca website will remain active and accessible to Alberta educators.

Operational Updates

ARPDC Rebranding Project

A committee of Regional Directors is currently collaborating with a Marketing firm in Calgary to design and procure all of the digital assets required to support the newly approved brand for APLC. The assets include items such as trade show assets, business cards, letterhead, mailing labels, social

media icons, zoom backgrounds, and print and digital promotional materials. The team is currently on track to have the digital assets available for the beginning of the upcoming school year.

Assurance Framework Development

Dr. Gloria Antifaiff and the ARPDC Executive Director will be attending the June meeting of the Board of Directors to provide an overview of the [ARPDC Assurance Framework Public Report for 2023/2024](#). Upon approval of the previously mentioned report, the document will be posted on the ARPDC website for public review.

Communications

The ARPDC Communications Committee has completed a Communications Report to guide the organization in the upcoming school year and beyond. The plan includes the development of Social Media Guidelines and a comprehensive style guide that incorporates the new organizational brand and colors.

The Regional Director team has approved the hiring of a Communications Manager to provide oversight and leadership on the marketing, communications, and digital asset management for The Consortium. The recruitment process for this new individual will begin in June.

Based on the feedback received through the Assurance Framework Survey, Regional Directors have decided to collaborate on the development of a newsletter strategy for The Consortium that will replace the various regional newsletters. The Consortium Newsletter will reinforce the provincial orientation of the organization while still providing Regional offices with an opportunity to highlight key events and resources of interest to stakeholders within their region.

Technology

The work on standardizing technology practices is well underway. The transition to @arpdc.ab.ca email addresses has been finalized. Movement to the new Brand will require a second transition in email addresses. However, the transition to @apl.c.ca email addresses is a more streamlined transition that requires users to simply include a notification message indicating they have a new email address. For the foreseeable future, both the @arpdc.ab.ca and @apl.c.ca addresses will direct messages to the appropriate individual.

Documentation of key technology infrastructure and procedures has been completed. This documentation provides the organization with redundancy and backup plans should the Technology Manager or other key ARPDC personnel be unavailable to perform their normal organizational function.

The amalgamation of software used within ARPDC has begun. Adobe software is now managed systemically, and Microsoft Office is currently underway and will be completed prior to the end of the school year.

The ARPDC Technology Committee met for the last time on May 2nd. The Technology Committee has played a key role in providing feedback to the Technology Manager and Executive Director on key

projects being considered, or in progress. The Technology Committee will meet in early September to begin their work for the upcoming school year.

Celebrations

Ministry of Education Pilot Strategy

The Ministry of Education, as part of its mandate to support the implementation of new curriculum, has begun planning for Piloting the K-6 Social Studies Curriculum. Unlike past piloting processes, ARPDC consultants and Regional Directors have been invited to participate in Ministry sponsored workshops. ARPDC has also been asked to speak about the support and resources the organization has available during the initial meeting of the Pilot group.

Key Data

1. Professional Learning Sessions (Date Range: February 1/ 24 to May 31/24)

Total # of Sessions
1,219

Total # of Registrants
48,398

Priority Area	# of Sessions	# of Registrants	# of Learning Hours
New Curriculum	302	11,299	33,568
Quality Teaching	790	34,579	77,965
Quality Leadership	127	2,520	10,836

2. Professional Learning Resources (Date Range: July 1/24 to May 31/24)

# of Boards published on Learn Alberta	84
# of Resources added to ARPDC Resources site	193
# of Videos added to ARPDC YouTube Channel	130