

## *Provincial Grant Updates*

### **Orange Shirt Day and Beyond - 2023-24**

The 2023-24, third year, of conditional grant funding for Orange Shirt Day and Beyond concluded with the hosting of three, virtual, language learning series last spring. Each three part series introduced teachers to various indigenous language learning, including “Conversational Cree”, “Conversational Inuktitut” and “Conversational Blackfoot”. Legacy resources supporting each of these languages have been created and will be posted on the [Empowering the Spirit website](#).

Over the three years of conditional grant funding, the project's impact has been far-reaching. In both English and French, a total of 24 video resources, 18 teaching/lesson plan resources and 11 professional learning playlists/resources, have entered classrooms and professional learning communities across Alberta. Our work has reinforced the importance of and support for revitalization of Indigenous language and culture in the healing for survivors. Though the continuation of the conditional grant funding of "Orange Shirt Day and Beyond" will not be renewed by Alberta Education for the 2024-25 school year, we encourage schools and educators around the province to continue accessing the resources in honoring this year's "National Day for Truth and Reconciliation" in their classrooms. All videos and resources are available at the APLC's [Orange Shirt Day and Beyond](#) pages.

### **Official Languages in Education Program**

ARPDC was able to support a variety of initiatives across the province thanks to grant funding through the *Official Languages in Education Program* (OLEP). French Immersion pedagogy was interwoven into sessions focussed on new curriculum implementation in both virtual large group sessions and elbow to elbow coaching opportunities. In addition to 196 professional learning sessions with 1,700+ registrants, curriculum implementation resources, housed on the ARPDC and Learn Alberta websites, were also created. For the 2024-25 school year, The Consortium will continue to offer a variety of learning and collaborative engagement opportunities through funding secured through the OLEP grant. The focus will again be new curriculum implementation in addition to deepening pedagogy in subject areas such as Literacy and Mathematics.

## *Provincial Curriculum Committee Updates*

ARPDC staff and consultants will be gathering virtually September 4th & 5th to confirm the terms of reference and work plans for the 2024/2025 provincial committees. Current Consortium plans include the use of provincial committees to support the implementation of the four new provincial curricula. As further curricula are announced by the Minister of Education, The Consortium, will add to the provincial committees to provide the required support.

The Consortium quarterly report in November will provide the CASS Board with specific details regarding the work plans of the various provincial committees.

## Systemic Reports

### The Consortium Strategic Plan

[The Consortium Three Year Strategic Plan](#) is informed by the ARPDC Assurance Framework final report, Provincial Advisory Council (PAC) feedback, and feedback from Regional Advisory Committees. The Strategic Plan is built around the following four priorities, approved by the CASS Board at their June meeting.

- New Curriculum
- Quality Teaching
- Quality Leadership
- Quality Engagement

### Annual Report

The *Annual Report for ARPDC Operations* is due for submission to the Ministry of Education prior to November 30, 2024. The Consortium Regional Director team is on schedule to have the report completed and available for the CASS Board to review early in the fall of 2024.

## Curriculum Implementation

### Summer Institutes

APLC hosted a number of sessions in July and August focused on New Curriculum as well as Curriculum sessions that supported ongoing capacity building in curriculum areas that were implemented in previous years. These virtual institutes were held during the weeks of July 8-11 for Francophone and French Immersion educators in Science and FILAL. During the week of August 19-21 numerous sessions for New Curriculum in grades 4-6 Science were held along with sessions for K-3 and 4-6 Mathematics in both English and French. ELAL and literacy sessions were also provided.

Sessions were structured to allow individuals to attend more than one subject area if interested. These Summer Institute sessions focused on exploring essential concepts in the curriculum. Throughout the sessions, teachers had the opportunity to delve deeper into the required knowledge, understanding, skills, and procedures of the Alberta Curriculum. They were presented with effective strategies, engaged in collaborative planning, and prepared to kick-start their year. Awareness and reference to the New Learn Alberta website, developing student engagement strategies specific to the subject area, and sampling suggested year plans were also explored. The Summer Institutes were attended by a total of 72 registrants in July and 2,352 registrants in August. Recordings of these sessions are available at <https://arpdc.ab.ca/new-curriculum-resources/>

Additional Professional Learning opportunities provided over the summer addressed Colony Educators, Artificial Intelligence, and Literacy with 446 registered participants.

On August 22nd and 23rd, the APLC proudly hosted the fifth annual Summer Literacy Institute, bringing the experience to educators across the province in virtual format. The event featured a stellar lineup of seven renowned presenters from across North America, including influential voices like Rebekah O'Dell, Angela Stockman, Matt Johnson, David Robertson, Kathy Salmon, and even the Poet Laureate, in collaboration with the University of Lethbridge Bookstore. In addition, twelve of our own Provincial Learning Designers led an impressive 39 sessions, sharing innovative strategies and insights. We had 68 teachers from around the province who participated in the sessions. Running within the institute, we were thrilled to offer UFLI Implementation training to over 302 educators, ensuring a broader impact on literacy education. Recordings of these valuable sessions have been made available to stakeholders and are accessible to teachers for asynchronous learning, extending the reach and benefits of the institute even further.

## **Operational Updates**

### **ARPCD Rebranding Project**

The Consortium Branding Project is nearing conclusion. The project has been facilitated by True Market, a marketing company situated in Calgary. The project has been focused on the creation of a brand message and digital assets aligned to a renewed provincial orientation for the organization. A new website for The Consortium will go live on September 9th. The new url for the organization will be aplc.ca. In addition to the new website, the project deliverables include new document templates, standardized email signature lines, standardized zoom backgrounds, business cards, brochures, and renewed trade show assets. The Consortium team is excited to roll out their new brand beginning on September 9th and looks forward to the feedback of the Board.

### **Human Resources**

The Consortium is pleased to welcome Collette Sylvestre to the organization. Colette has assumed the role of Regional Director for the Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium (SAPDC). Colette comes to the position having served as a Designer of Professional Learning for various consortia offices. Colette's passion for professional learning, experience serving adult learners, and leadership skills position her well to support the SAPDC.

The Consortium has created two new positions to support the communications and digital asset management of the organization. Shannon Whalen, assumed the role of Communication Manager on August 14th. Shannon is familiar with The Consortium having served previously as the Communications Officer for the Calgary Regional Consortium. Brennah Robinson, assumed the role of Digital Asset Coordinator on August 14th. Brennah also is familiar with The Consortium having served previously as the Communications Officer for the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium.

## **Celebrations**

### **Relationships**

The Consortium continues to focus on the enhancement of relationships with all stakeholders. The

Ministry plan for supporting the implementation of Social Studies has, as a key strategy, the inclusion of The Consortium team in supporting and planning Professional Learning.

The Consortium’s Social Studies Committee participants will be active participants in Ministry led Professional Learning on the Social Studies curriculum and will co-plan and co-facilitate professional learning on assessment in Social Studies.

This key shift by the Ministry to include The Consortium in their implementation strategy is a significant shift that will positively impact the ability of The Consortium to support the various professional learning needs of school authorities across Alberta.

**Data Chart**

**1. Professional Learning Sessions** (Date Range: June 1/ 24 to August 31/24)

**Total # of Sessions**  
**182**

**Total # of Registrants**  
**7836**

Priority Area	# of Sessions	# of Registrants	# of Learning Hours
New Curriculum	24	654	1,741
Quality Teaching	138	6,688	14,910
Quality Leadership	20	494	2,776

**2. Professional Learning Resources** (Date Range: June 1/24 to August 31/24)

<b># of Boards</b> published/updated on Learn Alberta	<b>44</b>
<b># of Resources</b> added to ARPDC Resources site	<b>46</b>
<b># of Videos</b> added to ARPDC YouTube Channels	<b>41</b>