

- The new three-year French as a Second Language (FSL) Grade 10-12 Program of Studies has been finalized. Optional implementation is September 2007 and mandatory implementation is September 2008.
- A call for resources for FSL has been made for the three-year and nine-year programs of study for senior high school. New learning and teaching resources will be authorized for use in the mandatory implementation year for both course sequences.
- The schedule for the provincial implementation of the FSL nine-year program of studies is:
 - grades 4–6: September 2006
 - grades 7–9: September 2007
 - grades 10–12: September 2008

This schedule applies only to those schools that have offered FSL in the past and to those schools that choose to offer the nine-year course sequence.

- Guides to Implementation for grades 10–11 of the Nine-year Program and French 10-3Y, 20-3Y and 30-3Y, two senior high course sequences are currently in development and will be ready for September 2008.
- The following support resources are now online:
 - An interim copy of *French as a Second Language Program Articulation: Nine-year Course Sequence (4–6)* is now available at <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/french/fsl/PrArticulation/guide.asp>. A draft version of the *French as a Second Language Program Articulation: Nine-year Program of Studies (7–9)* will be made available online in the fall of 2007 for field validation.
 - Lists of approved teaching and learning resources to support the French as a Second Language Nine-year Program of Studies- grades 4- 9 - are available at <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/french/FSL/Resources/update>.
 - An interim copy of *French as a Second Language Classroom Assessment Materials: Nine-year Course Sequence (Grade 4)* is now available at <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/french/fsl/ClassAssessment/gr4/guide.asp>. This resource contains strategies and activities that teachers can use to assess Grade 4 learning outcomes. Assessment materials for grades 5 and 6 are slated for development in the future.
 - The FSL Guide to Implementation – grades 4- 6 is finalized and has been distributed to schools in September 2007. Additional copies can be purchased from the LRC or for download from the Alberta Education Web site: http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/french/FSL/default_en.asp

- Alberta Education has also produced two kits for Grade 4 *French as a Second Language – Ma classe* (order number 629785) and *Alberta Winter Festivals – Les fêtes hivernales en Alberta* (order number 679607), which are comprised of audiovisual and print materials. These resources are available from the Learning Resources Centre. Two additional resources are being developed and are scheduled to be available in 2008:
 - *Alberta – My Province – L’Alberta – Ma province*
 - *Les fêtes et les célébrations* - for grades 4–6.
- Newly authorized programs of study are now available for Grades 4-6 Language and Culture Nine-Year Programs for Chinese, Cree, German, Ukrainian, Spanish and Japanese. They can be found at http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages
- Revisions to the draft grades 7–9 levels of the nine-year programs of study for Chinese, Japanese, German, Ukrainian and Spanish are being completed. Field testing of the Grade 7 levels will commence in October 2007.
- Community validation of the Cree Language and Culture Three-Year and Six-Year Programs of Study has been concluded. New programs of study for Cree language and culture three-year and six-year programs are now posted online at http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/aborigin/default.asp.
- Grades 4–6 guides to implementation to support the language and culture nine-year program for Chinese, German, Japanese, Punjabi, Spanish and Ukrainian, are being revised and are scheduled to be available in fall 2007. The grades 4–5 Cree language and culture guides to implementation will be posted in fall 2007.
- Field test drafts of the Grade 7 guides to implementation to support the language and culture nine-year programs for Chinese, German, Spanish and Ukrainian will be available in winter 2007. Japanese and Punjabi field test drafts of the Grade 7 guides to implementation will be available spring 2008.
- High school guides to implementation to support the language and culture three-year programs for Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, and Ukrainian will be posted in the winter of 2007. Italian language and culture three-year program is posted at http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/ital3y.asp
- *Ukrainian Language Arts Kindergarten–Grade 3 Guide to Implementation* and the *Ukrainian Language Arts Grades 4–6 Guide to Implementation* will be posted in September 2007. The guides for grades 7–12 will be posted in the winter of 2007/2008.
- New authorized titles were added to existing authorized resources lists for Chinese, Cree, German, Italian, Japanese, Punjabi, Spanish and Ukrainian programs.
- A call for resources to support grades 7–9 of the language and culture nine-year programs for Chinese, German, Japanese, Punjabi, Spanish and Ukrainian has been issued. Resource reviews will occur October to December 2007.

- Newly authorized resources for Italian language and culture programs will be available December 2007.
- The first nine scenarios of the digital learning resource, *Hola amigos!* are available on the LearnAlberta.ca website at www.learnalberta.ca <<http://www.learnalberta.ca>>. This resource supports grades 4 and 5 of the Spanish language and culture nine-year program and was developed in partnership with the government of Spain as represented by Instituto Cervantes. Additional scenarios will be added as completed with the full set of 18 scenarios available during the current school year.
- A second phase of development with Instituto Cervantes is underway. A series of digital resource to support grades 6 and 7 of the Spanish language and culture nine-year program is currently in the design stage with an estimated launch of the first of these new resources is spring 2008.
- Adaptations to the resource package! *Hola Amigos!* are currently being produced. The French adaptation, “*Bonjour les amis*” will support grades 4-6 of the nine-year program.
- *Konnichiwa!* is a collection of digital learning resources that supports grades 4 and 5 of the Japanese language and culture nine-year program. This resource, developed in joint partnership with the Japan Foundation, combines animated movies, videos and interactive activities to meet specific learning outcomes. The first two scenarios will be available on the LearnAlberta.ca website at www.learnalberta.ca <<http://www.learnalberta.ca>> in October 2007.
- *Bonjour mes amis* is a collection of digital learning resources that support grades 4 and 5 of the French as a second language nine-year program. This resource combines animated movies and interactive activities to meet specific learning outcomes. The first two scenarios will be available on the LearnAlberta.ca website at www.learnalberta.ca <<http://www.learnalberta.ca>> in October 2007.
- Grade 4 classroom assessment materials and benchmarks for grades 6, 9 and 12 are now available for Chinese, Cree, German, Japanese, Punjabi, Spanish and Ukrainian nine-year language and culture program. Grades 5 and 6 classroom assessment materials, and performance standards for Grade 4 of these language programs, have been developed.
- The following new language programming supports are now posted at <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/languages/>:
 - *School Administrator’s Guide to Implementation Language Programming*
 - Brochures to help inform school communities about available provincial language programs of study: Chinese, Cree, German, Japanese, Spanish and Ukrainian.
 - Information sheets for teachers and administrators new to the language program or wishing to start a new program, for Chinese, Cree, German, Japanese, Spanish and Ukrainian.
- School jurisdictions, First Nations authorities and private schools, who provided language program enrolment information to Alberta Education using the Extranet application, now have authority level summary reports available on the extranet. Superintendents may print their authority’s summary report of 2006/2007 language

enrollments by school using the posted PDF file. Additionally each authority may import the posted excel file, allowing further analysis and reporting of their language enrollment. Alberta Education is now working on the application enhancements to allow districts to upload their data electronically. We hope to collect 2007/2008 data early in 2008.

- *A Review of the Literature on Second-Language learning, 2nd edition* and *A Survey of the Literature on Aboriginal Language Learning and Teaching* are available at <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/languages/LitReview.asp>
- Expanded professional development opportunities are available for language teachers through various professional development service providers. See http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/teaching/professionaldevelopment
- The Student Exchange Program invites applications for reciprocal exchanges with Germany, Japan, Mexico, Spain and Quebec. The deadline for applications is February 28th, 2008. More details and application forms can be found at www.education.gov.ab.ca/nie/exchange
- The application deadline for full year educator exchanges in 2008 - 09 is December 31st. Destinations include Australia, New Zealand, UK, Germany, Switzerland and Denmark. See www.education.gov.ab.ca/nie/exchange.
- Short (2 week) exchanges are available to Germany and Denmark with AB teachers traveling in summer 2008 and visitors returning in fall 2008. See www.education.gov.ab.ca/nie/exchange
- Funded by Alberta Education, the University of Calgary's Language Research Centre has developed an engaging 23-minute video about the advantages of learning another language. ***Advantage for Life: Learning Another Language*** is an accessible overview of the cognitive, economic and social advantages that come with learning another language.
 - ***Advantage for Life*** is available for free download and viewing on the Alberta Education web site at: www.education.gov.ab.ca/languages/InfoParents.asp
 - You may also download and view ***Advantage for Life*** at: www.ucalgary.ca/lrc/AdvantageForLife.htm
- Alberta Education said farewell to two special Language Advisors in the summer of 2007. Mr. Edmund Borschel, and Mr. Baolong Ni.
- Alberta Education is pleased to welcome Mr. Wieland Petermann, the new German Language Consultant.
- Alberta Education will welcome two new Language Advisors to Alberta in the fall of 2007. These Language Advisors will support Chinese and Ukrainian language programs.
