

Alberta International Education Advisory Council

Terms of Reference

Alberta's International Education Advisory Council for the Kindergarten to Grade 12 system has been established as an outcome of *Alberta's International Education Strategy, 2001 (Strategy)* and reflects the guiding Principles for the *Strategy*, whereby:

The provincial government has an ongoing responsibility to ensure and promote Alberta's international reputation for high quality learning programs and services; and,

Education system stakeholders (including school authorities, schools, teachers, students, parents and school communities) share with government ongoing responsibility for developing and advancing the Strategy.

Terms of Reference

The International Education Advisory Council will conduct its activities in ways that are designed to foster, encourage and enhance partnerships within the education community to support the further development, refinement and promotion of the Strategy and the annual activities of an Alberta Education action plan aimed at:

- Increasing opportunities for Alberta students to develop international and intercultural knowledge, skills and awareness;
- Attracting international students to Alberta to meet their educational needs
- Enhancing the international growth of Alberta's K-12 educational products and services; and,
- Strengthening the provincial, national and international linkages necessary for building a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to international education in our province.

The duties of the Council shall include the following:

1. Facilitating communication and networking among Council members and with other stakeholders as required by the *Strategy* as well as other provincial, federal and foreign governments.
2. Facilitating the formation of partnerships for carrying out mutually beneficial strategies that advance international education objectives. These strategies may involve already existing initiatives such as:
 - (a) Promoting and legitimizing international education initiatives;
 - (b) Building knowledge and capacity among international education providers;
 - (c) Recruiting international students to Alberta schools based on best practices and standards for international student learning and home stay experiences;
 - (d) Promoting and enhancing school twinnings and other classroom-based linkages/connections;

- (e) Showcasing individual school authority international education activities and promoting international education week;
- (f) Enhancing student and teacher exchange programs;
- (g) Furthering the internationalization of education programs including second language programming

In carrying out these duties, the Council will:

1. provide feedback to the Chair based on members' expertise and field experience;
2. establish, as required, working groups of members to advise the Council as a whole;
3. provide data, review and assess the implications of policy, practice and outcomes related to internationalization activities, such as international student programs, school and classroom-based twinnings, student and teacher exchange programs, and other provincial and pan-Canadian programs as may be determined by the Chair of the Council;
4. maximize the use of limited financial and human resources and avoid duplication of services; and,
5. develop a provincial communication strategy highlighting the work of the Advisory Council.