

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools Division International Strategy

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools International Strategy was initiated in June of 2005 and adopted by the Division in the fall of 2006.

The international strategy is a continuation of the mission of Red Deer Catholic Schools.

Vision Statement Red Deer Catholic Schools

“The Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools are gospel-centered communities of hope, fostering a Catholic Christian value system within a pluralistic society. Continuing the mission of Jesus, prophet, priest, and servant-king.”

Vision Statement Red Deer Catholic Schools International Strategy

In support of our mission to bring Christ to every child, our division International Strategy recognizes the critical importance of providing opportunities for our staff and students to compete in rapidly changing global community. Our International Strategy is aligned with the Alberta International Education Strategy (2001) and provides significant benefits to our staff and students including:

- † Providing opportunities for our division to promote our faith to students from abroad.
- † Provide our division with an opportunity to promote our programs globally and bring attention to the strength of our mission across the world.
- † With Christ’s teachings as our example, our program will foster international cooperation and a better understanding of international issues and global responsibilities for stakeholders of our division.
- † Provide our students a greater understanding of a global perspective that will expand their knowledge of the world.
- † Provide our students with the opportunity to become more knowledgeable and prepared to live and work in a global community through their interaction with international students.
- † Provide revenue-generating strategies to the division by marketing our regular and on-line programs internationally.

In today's changing global community, it is imperative that our students have access to the diverse knowledge and skills that international students bring.

Our international strategy will accept students from across the world to enjoy the benefits of our first class education system and to provide our students with the opportunity to benefit from daily interactions with international students. Further, the strategy will allow staff and students the opportunity to travel and learn abroad through international exchange programs as developed by our schools and through international exchange programs.

Our international strategy will focus on the following four dimensions.

RDCRD International Strategy Four Dimensions

International Students

International students from around the globe will be invited to study in our schools through the International Services Program. The focus for this recruitment will be to provide educational opportunities for international students and the opportunity for our students to gain global understanding, cultural awareness and international connections through their presence.

Exchanges and Twinning

- a. student exchanges
- b. teacher exchanges
- c. school twinning

Special Cultural and Language Programs

These opportunities are offered outside the scope of any twinning partnerships that are in place.

- a. Canadians abroad, including field trips and special travel opportunities
- b. International students in Red Deer for short term programs, summer institutes and camps
- c. On-line ESL and other programs
- d. International partnerships

Integrating International Perspectives into Learning

- a. curriculum
- b. special school-based events
- c. international clubs
- d. involvement in international student orientation programs
- e. linking with cultural groups in the community to support cultural diversity
- f. promoting cultural diversity in the school
- g. regular ESL programming and development

The International Services Program and individual schools will both be responsible for implementation of the district International Strategy.

The International Services program will be mainly responsible for the implementation of the International Student dimension while assisting the schools with the implementation of the other three dimensions.

The schools will be mainly responsible for the implementation of Exchanges and Twinning, Special Language and Cultural Programs and Integrating International Perspectives into Learning. The administration of the schools will be expected to include the division International Strategy within their school planning documents.

