

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WITH CHINA

Vision

An enhanced, sustainable international education partnership that provides mutual teaching and learning opportunities as well as other significant social, cultural and economic benefits.

Principles

1. Alberta's education interests in China provide an alignment of goals between Alberta's International Strategy, the International Education Strategy, and Alberta's education sector by identifying and developing areas of common interest and benefit.
2. Alberta's education interests support its public diplomacy¹ and economic development objectives with China.
3. Alberta's international reputation of providing high quality education is important and will enhance the sustainability of its partnerships with China.
4. Alberta's education marketing in China will provide leadership in furthering provincial and federal objectives.
5. School jurisdiction and Education collaboration allows for effective use of resources to advance targeted activities.
6. China and Alberta collaboration in education partnerships and activities is mutually beneficial and serves to enhance the sustainability of our historic and amicable relationship.

Alberta's Objectives

1. Students have knowledge of Chinese language and culture and a better understanding of their own respective cultures.
2. Students appreciate the value of learning about another language and culture, and the importance of international education.
3. Students are better prepared to learn, collaborate, engage, and succeed in an increasingly global society.
4. School jurisdictions and their schools promote the value of joint education initiatives with Chinese school jurisdictions and schools.
5. Cooperative relationships are established among and between senior leadership, principals, teachers, and students in Alberta and China.
6. Education together with school jurisdictions promote and support the implementation of the Alberta/China MOU, other Education/China Agreements, and the Strategic Framework for China.
7. Teachers' knowledge and understanding of China's language and culture, its education system, its teacher preparation philosophy, and its teaching and learning philosophies is enhanced.
8. Teachers mutually engage in opportunities to reflect on and articulate their practice.
9. Education and school jurisdiction knowledge and understanding of the Chinese education system is enhanced.

¹ ...international education should not be overlooked as an instrument of public diplomacy.” Evan H. Potter, *Branding Canada: Projecting Canada's Soft Power through Public Diplomacy* McGill-Queen's University Press 2009, Page 128.

Key Strategies

1. Expand learning opportunities for Chinese language and culture.
2. Expand learning opportunities for students to appreciate the value of learning about another language and culture and the importance of international education.
3. Develop learning opportunities for students of Chinese language and culture to build a global vision.
4. Develop new avenues for jurisdictions and their schools to promote the value of joint education initiatives with Chinese school jurisdictions and schools.
5. Develop new avenues for jurisdictions to share strategies for establishing cooperative relationships among and between senior leadership, principals, teachers, and students in Alberta and China.
6. Create an action plan to promote and support the implementation of China/Alberta initiatives.
7. Participate in annual study tours to China, the Chinese Visiting teacher program, teacher mobility programs, and the sharing of innovative practices and other student and educator learning opportunities.
8. Develop opportunities to build capacity around teachers' knowledge and understanding of China's language and culture, its education system, its teacher preparation philosophy and its teaching and learning philosophies.
9. Develop opportunities for Alberta and Chinese teachers to engage in professional conversation.
10. Develop opportunities to build capacity of Education and school jurisdiction knowledge and understanding of the Chinese education system.

“One of our education objectives is to help create global citizens. Alberta’s ability to engage effectively with the international community and exert positive influences in world affairs requires knowledge about the culture, conditions and aspirations of citizens in other countries. International Education plays a pivotal role in helping us impart that kind of knowledge to our students.”

***Dave Hancock,
Minister of Education
The Cass Connection
Spring 2010***

2011 Action Plan and Indicators of Success

Objectives	Key Strategies	Actions	Indicators of Success
1. Students have knowledge of Chinese language and culture and a better understanding of their own respective cultures.	1. Expand learning opportunities for Chinese language and culture.	a) Identify the district's current reality (perform a gap analysis) and articulate realistic possibilities for moving forward. (Districts) b) Recruit Chinese-speaking teachers or utilize the Chinese Visiting Teachers program to expand Chinese language and culture opportunities for middle school students. (Districts)	i. Increase in the number of Chinese language and culture opportunities available in Alberta. ii. Increase in the implementation of Alberta Chinese Program of Study throughout the province. iii. Increase in the level of jurisdictional involvement in Chinese language culture programming.
2. Students appreciate the value of learning about another language and culture, and an importance of international education.	2. Expand learning opportunities for students to appreciate the value of learning about another language and culture, and the importance of international education.	a) School districts and Alberta Education (AE) are deliberate about articulating the value of learning another language and culture, and the importance of international education. (Districts and AE) b) i) Develop a promotional piece focused on the importance of international education opportunities and activities with China to be used in school and district publications. (AE) ii) Distribute material. (Districts)	iv. Increase in the number of opportunities available to facilitate increased appreciation of the value of learning about another language and culture and the importance of international education. v. Increase in the number of students involved in opportunities to facilitate increased appreciation of the value of learning about another language and culture and the importance of international education.
3. Students are better prepared to learn, collaborate, engage, and succeed in an increasingly global society.	3. Develop learning opportunities for students of Chinese language and culture to build a global vision.	a) Use emerging technologies to connect students from China and Alberta. (Districts) b) Share information on opportunities for Alberta students in China. (Districts)	vi. Students have an opportunity to explore topics and issues that impact our world. vii. Students can articulate the impact of having opportunities to build a global vision.
4. School jurisdictions and their schools	4. Develop new avenues for	a) Provide an update to district staff on the	viii. Increase in the number of opportunities available to promote

<p>promote the value of joint education initiatives with Chinese school jurisdictions and schools.</p>	<p>jurisdictions and their schools to promote the value of joint education initiatives with Chinese school jurisdictions and schools. (New)</p>	<p>China Strategic Framework and any current or planned district initiatives. (Districts)</p>	<p>the value of joint Alberta/China education initiatives. (New)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ix. Increase senior leadership and principal support. x. Increase in the number of opportunities for interactive student learning.
<p>5. Cooperative relationships are established among and between senior leadership, principals, teachers, and students in Alberta and China.</p>	<p>5. Develop new avenues for jurisdictions to share strategies for establishing cooperative relationships among and between senior leadership, principals, teachers and students in Alberta and China.</p>	<p>a) Confirm and/or initiate a school/jurisdiction partnership with China. (Districts)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> xi. Increase in the number of collaborations and partnerships between senior leadership, principals, teachers and students in Alberta and China. xii. Increase in the number of opportunities available for establishing cooperative relationships.
<p>6. Education together with school jurisdictions promote and support the implementation of the Alberta/China MOU, other Education/China Agreements and the Strategic Framework for China.</p>	<p>6. Create an action plan to promote and support the implementation of China/Alberta initiatives.</p> <p>7. Participate in annual study tours to China, the Chinese Visiting teacher program, teacher mobility programs, and the sharing of innovative practices and other student and educator learning opportunities.</p>	<p>a) Explore possibility of incorporating strategies related to the Strategic Framework into the 3-year district plan for 2010-13 or 2011-14. (Districts)</p> <p>b) Work with AE to learn about all district opportunities for staff and students that are or will be available during the 2010/2011 school year. (Districts and AE)</p> <p>c) Encourage and promote participation in available opportunities. (Districts)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> xiii An action plan has been created and implemented. xiv Increase participation in the activities outlined in Key Strategy 7.

<p>7. Teachers' knowledge and understanding of China's language and culture, its education system, its teacher preparation philosophy and its teaching and learning philosophies is enhanced.</p>	<p>8. Develop opportunities to build capacity around teachers' knowledge and understanding of China's language and culture, its education system, its teacher preparation philosophy and its teaching and learning philosophies.</p>	<p>a) Collaborate with AE to bring about additional opportunities in international education with China for district staff and students. (Districts) b) Encourage and promote participation in available opportunities. (Districts)</p>	<p>xv. Increased opportunities are made available. xvi. Increase participation by teachers in opportunities. xvii. Increase participation of senior leadership in study tours in order to promote and develop teacher capacity.</p>
<p>8. Teachers mutually engage in opportunities to reflect on and articulate their practice.</p>	<p>9. Develop opportunities for Alberta and Chinese teachers to engage in professional conversation.</p>	<p>a) Encourage and promote participation in available opportunities. (Districts) b) Use emerging technologies to connect teachers from China and Alberta. (Districts) c) Identify accountability mechanism for participants. (Districts)</p>	<p>xviii. Increased opportunities are made available. xix. Increase in participation by teachers in opportunities. xx. Increase in senior leadership support.</p>
<p>9. Education and school jurisdiction knowledge and understanding of the Chinese education system is enhanced.</p>	<p>10. Develop opportunities to build capacity of Education and school jurisdiction knowledge and understanding of the Chinese education system.</p>	<p>a) Identify and report on opportunities for increased participation in activities that would help build capacity. (AE and Districts) b) Explore future collaboration with ARPDC to increase professional development opportunities for teachers and staff. (AE and Districts)</p>	<p>xxi. Increased opportunities are made available. xxii. Increase in participation of opportunities.</p>