

Provincial Curriculum Development Update

Curriculum Coordinators' Meetings

Spring 2017



Alberta is Updating Provincial Curriculum

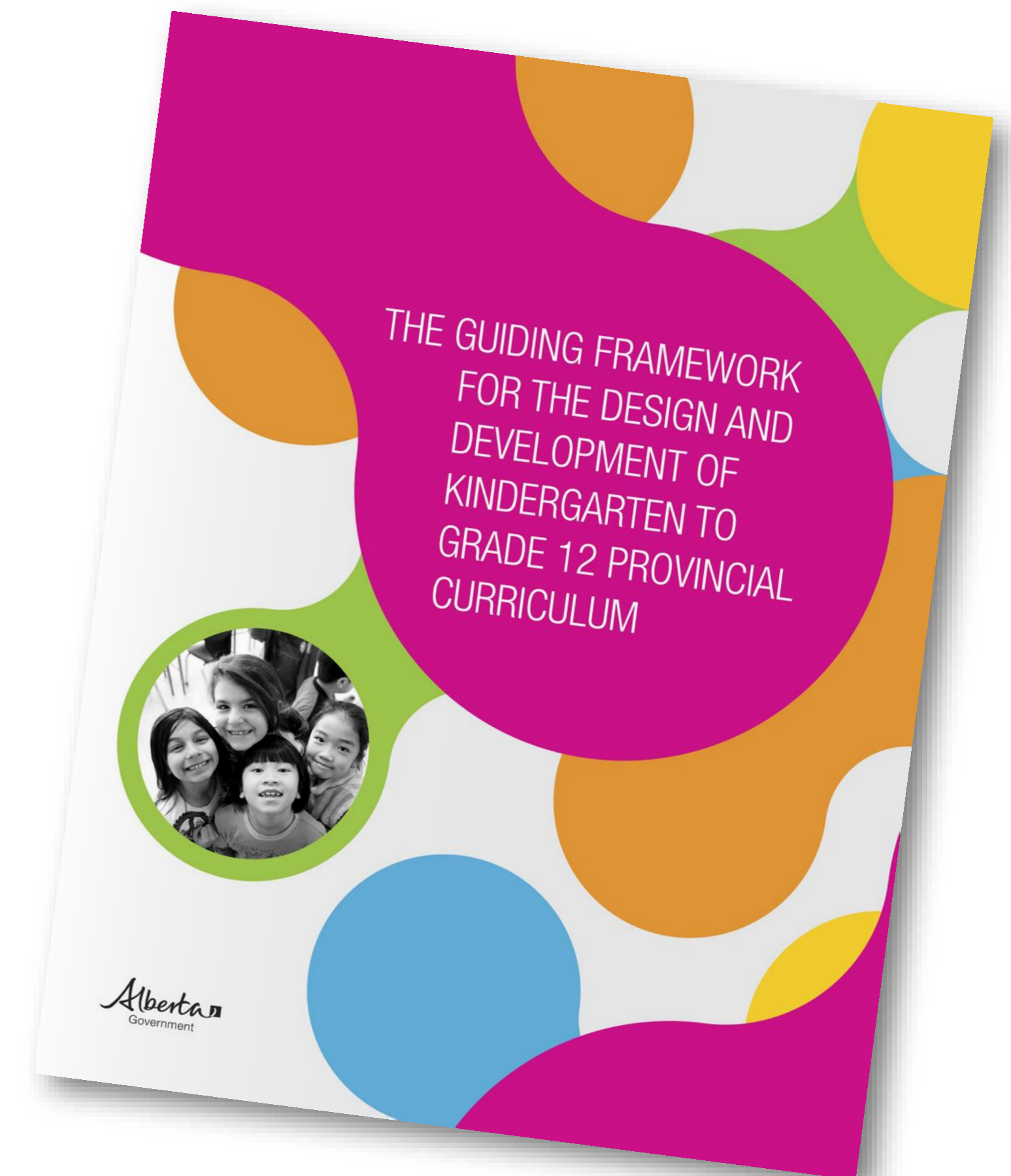
- Developed over six years across six subjects areas in Kindergarten to Grade 12:
 - Arts Education
 - Language Arts (English, French Immersion, Français for Francophones)
 - Mathematics
 - Social Studies
 - Sciences
 - Wellness Education
- Simultaneously in English and in French

Future Curriculum: Greater Consistency and Coherence

CURRENT	NEW
Inconsistent and informal standards to develop and review curriculum	Consistent and clearly stated Principles and associated Standards to develop and review curriculum
Stand-alone subject design (different approaches to developing learning outcomes)	Common approach to design (including developing learning outcomes) across subjects
Limited inclusion of Francophone cultures and perspectives	Inclusion of First Nations, Métis and Inuit and Francophone cultures and perspectives across all subjects and grades
Hundreds of learning outcomes	Fewer but more focused learning outcomes
Literacy, numeracy and cross-curricular competencies are not explicit or consistent across subjects	Explicit competencies and supports for literacy and numeracy across all subjects and grades

Background: *The Guiding Framework*

- builds on strengths of current provincial curriculum;
- is based on reviews of research, jurisdictional scans, and stakeholder consultations over past years and prototyping;
- is grounded in Principles with associated Standards;
- has common architecture and design which allows teacher planning across subjects, especially when teaching multiple subjects across grade levels; and
- has received broad based support.



Standards for Provincial Curriculum Development Processes

- Standard 11: Quality curriculum is developed and reviewed regularly to ensure continual improvement using consistent processes as outlined in Alberta's three interconnected phases: Shaping, Developing and Implementing.
 - The process of curriculum development ensures the engagement of stakeholders, including subject experts such as teachers, post-secondary professors and other educators, parents, students, Albertans, groups and industry, and notably members of Francophone and First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities.
 - Curriculum is developed and implemented simultaneously in French and English.

Standards for Provincial Curriculum Development Processes

- Standard 4: Curriculum includes the diverse perspectives, in historical and contemporary contexts, of Francophones living in Alberta, Canada and the world.
 - Curriculum includes and respects the unique perspectives and experiences of Francophones.

Involvement of Francophones in the History of Alberta and Canada

[Dr. France Levasseur-Ouimet presentation at the 2005 Social Studies Summer Institute](#)

Standards for Provincial Curriculum Development Processes

- Standard 3: Curriculum includes ways of knowing and diverse perspectives, in historical and contemporary contexts, of First Nations, Métis and Inuit.
 - First Nations, Métis and Inuit traditional knowledge, experiences and languages and cultures are evident within meaningful, relevant and authentic learning outcomes.
 - Curriculum includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, including residential schools and their legacy, treaties and the diverse contributions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit to Alberta and Canada.

Rationale, Policy and Commitments



The Guiding Framework



Purpose



Curriculum Development



Guiding Voices Relationships



Guiding Voices - Language, Cultural Identity and Voice



Guiding Voices - Experiences and Worldviews



Guiding Voices-Ancestors, Time and Place



Reconciliation



Implications of Future Curriculum?



Curriculum Development and Management Application (CDMA)

- Provincial curriculum will be developed through this digital platform.
- This platform will be a “one window” access to subject-specific programs of study, resources and assessment.
- The platform will support the move to a shorter curriculum development cycle and an improved evergreening process.

Curriculum Development and Management Application

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Curriculum Selection
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Select one or more categories to view items in those categories.

Early Years
 Middle Years

K

1

2

3

4

5

6

Later Years

7

8

9

10

11

12

Core Subjects

- ELA
English Language Arts
- FA
Fine Arts
- H/CALM
Health/Career & Life Management
- MAT
Mathematics
- PE
Physical Education
- SCI
Science

Cross-Curriculum Viewer
Multiple Subjects, Grades 5 to 9

Organize By:
 Essential Understandings ▾

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	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7
ELA	Essential Understanding Analysis of data from a population informs the process of reaching logical conclusions.		
SCI	Essential Understanding Plants may utilize photosynthesis to convert hydrocarbons to antimatter.		
SS	Essential Understanding Increasingly complex ideas, structures and forms are developed and enhanced through comprehension of a variety of text and stories.		
ELA	Essential Understanding Writing fictional works verifies the medula oblongata's role in society so that plants can take their place on earth.		
SS	Essential Understanding Procedural knowledge verbs a conceptual knowledge to learning significance.		
SCI	Essential Understanding Grade 5 science teachers are really good at teaching grade 5 students science.		

Timelines for Development (English and French)

- Kindergarten to Grade 4 by end of 2018
- Grades 5 to 8 by end of 2019
- Grade 9 and High School developed in phases from 2020 to 2022

Current curriculum remains in effect until new curriculum is implemented.

Implementation dates have yet to be set.

Curriculum Development Process



Shaping

- Research
- Review of curriculum from other national and international jurisdictions.
- Fall 2016 Online Curriculum Survey
 - ✓ Over 32,000 responses
 - ✓ Over 3,600 Albertans participated in regional face-to-face sessions
 - ✓ Summary of responses posted



Developing

- Curriculum Working Groups
 - comprised of K-12 classroom teachers, post-secondary professors and instructors, and Education staff;
 - were nominated by Alberta school authorities (public, separate, charter and private), First Nations Education Directors, the Alberta Teachers' Association, and by post-secondary institutions
 - Balanced representative of Alberta's geographic and demographic diversity; and also include representation from Francophone and First Nations, Métis and Inuit teachers; and
 - developing draft curriculum in six subjects K–12 for Education's consideration

Developing

- Validation process includes numerous opportunities for the review of draft programs of study:
 - by focus groups of teachers and educators who have in-depth knowledge, experience and education related to curriculum subject areas;
 - by focus groups of stakeholders who have knowledge, experience and education related to curriculum subject areas;
 - through online provincial curriculum surveys supported by face-to-face meetings of teachers and educators, stakeholders and Albertans; and
 - through field testing activities in schools and classrooms commencing in spring 2018 and continuing until 2022.

Developing – Engagement Opportunities

- Albertans will be asked to provide feedback on the draft subject introductions and draft scope and sequences (essential understandings, guiding questions, concepts and procedures), in French and English, in each K-12 subject areas by:
 - completing an online provincial curriculum survey;
 - attending face-to-face engagement sessions hosted by the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia in each region of the province; and
 - organizing and hosting their own session for their group to complete the survey.

Implementing

Planning – Starting Fall 2017

- Timelines
- Roles and responsibilities of professional learning providers
- Supports, and readiness of school authorities for provincial curriculum implementation

Current curriculum remains in effect until new curriculum is implemented.

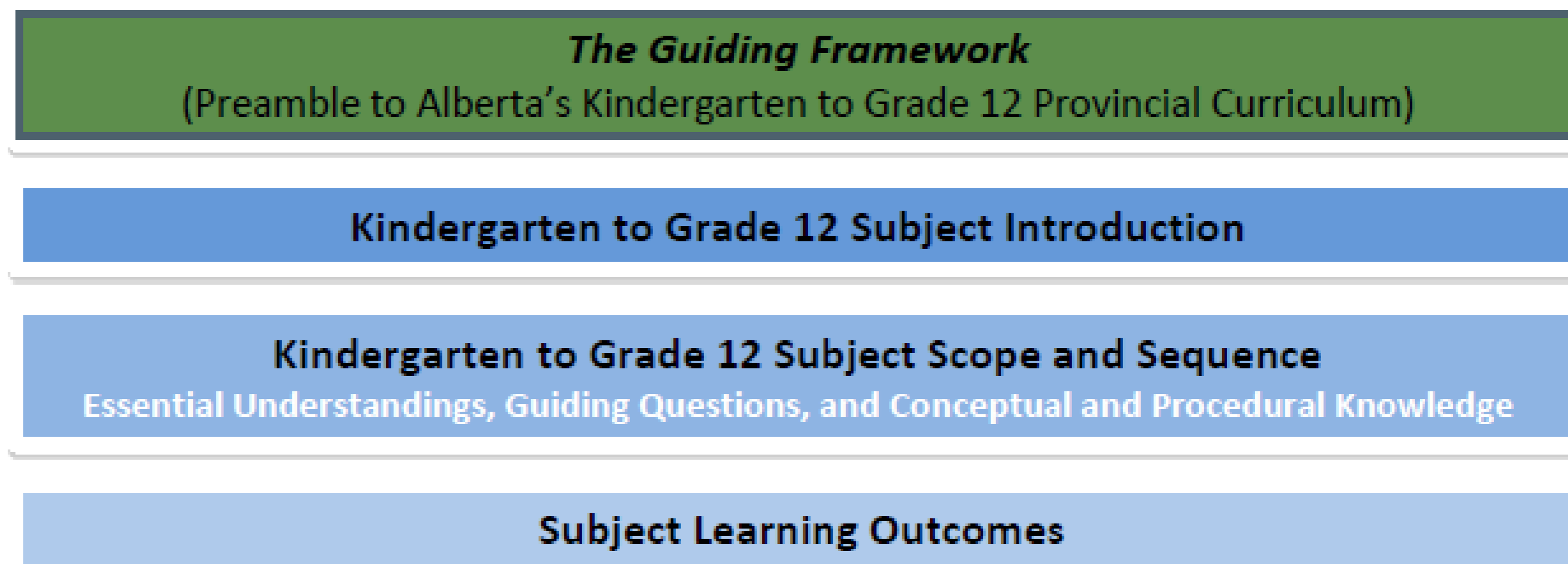
Scope and Sequence Activity

Purpose: To understand the components of a scope and sequence.

Provincial Curriculum: Architecture and Design

The architecture and design is the systematic and logical arrangement of the common components of all future Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K–12) provincial programs of study in all subjects.

The following visual illustrates the arrangement of the common components.



Scope and Sequence Activity

- continuum of learning from one grade to next;
- scope refers to what students will learn;
- sequence refers to when they will learn it; and
- includes the essential understandings (big ideas), guiding questions, concepts and procedures.

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THANK YOU

[https://education.alberta.ca/
curriculum-development/](https://education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development/)

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