

**YEAR 2008/09 SATISFACTION WITH EDUCATION IN ALBERTA:
SELF-IDENTIFIED ABORIGINAL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SURVEY**

I-1 Hi, my name is _____ and I am calling from CCI Research on behalf of Alberta Education and Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. We are conducting a survey that annually gathers opinions of Senior High School Students, including aboriginal High School students, about the education system in Alberta to find out possible areas that can be improved or looked into further.

May I speak to the person in this household who is a parent or guardian of a high school student in the Alberta school system.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. YES, SPEAKING | GO TO I - 2 |
| 2. YES, I'LL GO GET THEM | RE-READ INTRODUCTION |
| 3. NO, NOT AVAILABLE | RECORD CALL BACK INFORMATION |

I-2 For this survey, I need to speak to the aboriginal person in your household who is currently in high school and has had the most recent birthday. We would like to get your permission to conduct this survey with that student.

The information we are collecting is for research purposes only. Any answers given will be completely confidential and will be grouped together with others for reporting purposes.

Do we have your permission to conduct this interview?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. YES - STUDENT IS AVAILABLE NOW | Go to I - 3 |
| 2. YES - STUDENT NOT AVAILABLE NOW | RECORD CALLBACK INFO WITH
STUDENT'S NAME IF GIVEN |
| 3. NO | Okay, thank you very much for your time |

If more information is requested by person who answers telephone read section below.

1. If unsure of what Alberta Education is:

Alberta Education is the Alberta government department that oversees Alberta's education system. The department is responsible for basic learning, including Kindergarten to Grade 12. Alberta Advanced Education and Technology is the Alberta government department that oversees the universities, colleges, technical institutions and apprenticeship programs in the province.

2. If respondent is questioning the survey and the validity of it:

We can provide you with a contact name and phone number if you would like. You can contact Jim Peck of Alberta Education at (780) 422-1963 if you would like to know more about the survey. There is toll-free access to this number within Alberta if you dial 310-0000 first.

3. If respondent wants to know who we are:

We are calling from CCI Research, a survey research firm. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey to gather opinions on the education system in Alberta.

4. If respondent wants to know why we are calling from Ontario.

We are a Canadian company that conducts research for government and education across the country. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey.

5. If respondent wants to know how we know there is a high school student in the household or how we got their phone number:

The Alberta Education Student Information System indicates that you have a child in the K-12 school system. CCI Research has received random samples of contact information from Alberta Education. We do not receive any information other than contact information about the survey participants. We are bound to manage all information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and our contractual obligations to Alberta Education.

6. If respondent wants to know how we know they have a child in the school system that is aboriginal:

The Alberta Education Student Information System indicates that you have a child in the K-12 school system that identified him or herself as an aboriginal student when he or she registered. CCI Research has received random samples of contact information from Alberta Education. We do not receive any information other than contact information about the survey participants. We are bound to manage all information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and our contractual obligations to Alberta Education.

7. If respondent states that they have recently completed a survey questionnaire from Alberta Education:

Alberta Education is currently conducting two separate surveys. The online survey questionnaire you filled out is part of a new survey that collects information about elementary, junior high and high schools in Alberta. This telephone survey collects information about Alberta's education system on a provincial level. In the future, Alberta Education will be working with school jurisdictions to coordinate these activities for greater efficiency and effectiveness. Thank you for your patience. Would you still like to continue?

I-4A <Call back script after permission has been given>

Hi, my name is _____ and I am calling back from CCI Research on behalf of Alberta Education and Alberta Advanced Education and Technology.

We are conducting a survey that annually gathers opinions of Senior High School Students about the education system in Alberta to find out possible areas that can be improved or looked into further.

We contacted your household previously in order to obtain permission from a parent or guardian to conduct this survey with a senior high school student who has had the most recent birthday. Would it be alright if we speak with this student?

<If yes, is he/she insert name available to come to the phone?>

I – 4B Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from CCI Research on behalf of Alberta Education and Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. We are conducting a survey that annually gathers opinions of Senior High School Students about the education system in Alberta to find out possible areas that can be improved or looked into further.

Are you willing to participate in this survey with me? It will take only few minutes of your time.

[Interviewer Prompt: If asked: This survey could take approximately 10 – 15 minutes of your time.]

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. YES | Go to I - 5 |
| 2. NO - LATER | RECORD CALL BACK INFO WITH STUDENT'S NAME IF GIVEN |
| 3. NO - NEVER | Okay, thank you very much for your time. |

I – 5 Please remember your answers are completely confidential and will be grouped together with others for reporting purposes. You are free to refuse to answer any questions at any time.

Please note, this call may be monitored or recorded for quality assurance purposes.

For this survey, we are interested in your opinions about the education you are receiving at your school.

Demographic Questions
[To be completed by 800 Respondents (All)]

1. What grade are you currently in?
 - 1 Grade 10
 - 2 Grade 11
 - 3 Grade 12
 - 8 Refused

2. Are you currently in ...**(Read List)**
 - 1 A Public school
 - 2 A Roman Catholic separate school
 - 3 A Protestant separate school
 - 4 A Private school
 - 5 Other **(Specify)** _____
(eg. Home Study / Charter School / Francophone school)
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION A
[To be completed by 800 Respondents (All)]

3. Overall, is the education you are receiving at school ... **(Read List)**
 - 1 Very Good
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Poor
 - 4 Very poor
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

4. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement?

- a. The highest priority of Alberta's education system is the success of the student
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
5. Is the variety of courses available to you at school very good, good, poor or very poor?
- 1 Very good
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Poor
 - 4 Very poor
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
6. Are the opportunities you have to learn about the following topics very good, good, poor or very poor?
- a. Music
 - 1 Very good
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Poor
 - 4 Very poor
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - b. Drama
 - c. Art
 - d. Computers
 - e. Health
 - e1. Another language
 - f. Career education
7. Are the opportunities you have to participate in physical education at school very good, good, poor or very poor?
- 1 Very good
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Poor

- 4 Very poor
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
8. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following statements. **(Read List)**
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. You are getting better at reading
 - b. You are getting better at writing
 - c. You are getting better at mathematics
 - d. You are getting better at science
 - e. You are getting better at social studies
9. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(ROTATE) (Read List)**
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Your school work is interesting
 - b. Your school work is challenging
 - c. It is clear what you are expected to learn at school
 - d. At school, you are encouraged to get involved in activities that help people in your community
 - e. At school, you are encouraged to try your best
 - f. At school, students follow the rules
 - g. At school, students help each other
 - h. At school, students respect each other
 - i. Other students treat you well
 - j. You feel safe at school
 - k. You feel safe on the way to and from school
 - l. Your teachers care about you
 - m. You are treated fairly by adults at your school
 - n. You volunteer for activities that help others
 - o. Students at your school respect the diversity among people
 - p. Students at your school are encouraged to participate in school services, such as attending special events or helping in the library

- q. Students at your school are encouraged to get involved in global issues, such as the environment, world hunger, disaster relief
 - r. Students at your school take responsibility for their actions
10. Is the quality of teaching at your school very good, good, poor or very poor?
- 1 Very good
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Poor
 - 4 Very poor
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
11. To what extent are you involved in decisions at your school? Would you say...
- 1 Very little
 - 2 Some
 - 3 A lot
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
12. How satisfied are you that your input into decisions at your school is considered? (**Read List**)
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
13. In your opinion, how much is high school helping you **IMPROVE** your computer skills?
- 1 Very little
 - 2 Some
 - 3 A lot
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
14. There are some things that schools may or may not need to teach students before they are done with high school and go out into the real world. For each of the following, please tell

me whether you think it is absolutely essential, important but not essential, or not important for schools to teach?

- 1 Absolutely essential
- 2 Important, but not essential
- 3 Not important
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Understanding advanced sciences like physics
- b. Understanding higher-level math like calculus

15. Overall, would you say your school is mostly succeeding, mostly failing, or somewhere in between when it comes to the following?

- 1 Mostly succeeding
- 2 Mostly failing
- 3 Somewhere in between
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Getting students excited about learning math
- b. Getting students excited about learning science

16. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(Read List)**

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. You generally enjoy learning science topics
- b. You generally enjoy learning math skills
- c. You like reading about science
- d. You like reading about math
- e. Science helps you understand the things around you
- f. The math you are learning has practical applications in the real world.

17. In a typical week how many hours do you spend outside of class studying and doing assignments?

- 1 1 to 3 hours per week
- 2 4 to 6 hours per week

- 3 7 to 9 hours per week
 - 5 10 or more than 10 hours per week
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
18. Thinking about this school year, how often have you done each of the following?
- 1 Very often
 - 2 Often
 - 3 Sometimes
 - 6 Never
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Put together ideas or concepts from different subjects during class discussions
 - b. Enjoyed completing a task that required a lot of thinking/mental efforts
 - c. Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions
19. During this school year, how much has your class work emphasized the following mental activities?
- 1 Very much
 - 2 Quite a bit
 - 3 Some
 - 7 Very little
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Understanding information and explaining ideas in your own words
 - b. Applying information to new situations
20. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Experience at school is contributing to your growth in working well with others
 - b. You have a voice in decisions made at your school
 - c. Experience at school is contributing to your growth in thinking deeply and critically

d. Experience at school is contributing to your growth in developing clear career goals

21. During this school year, how many times have you missed school other than for illness?

- 1 Never
- 2 1 to 3 times
- 3 4 to 6 times
- 4 7 to 9 times
- 5 10 or more than 10 times
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

22. During this school year, how often have you thought about dropping out from school?

- 1 Never
- 2 1 to 3 times
- 3 4 to 6 times
- 4 7 to 9 times
- 5 10 or more than 10 times
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION B

[To be Completed by 400 Respondents, Remainder Go To Section C]

23. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(ROTATE) (Read List)**

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. The core subjects you are learning at school, such as math, language arts, social studies and science, are useful to you
- b. Your school provides the learning resources, such as text books, software, audio and video materials, that meet your needs

24. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(Read List)**

- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - a. Students arrive at school ready to learn
 - b. It is easy to get help with school work at your school if you need it
 - c. You can get help at your school with problems that are not related to school work
 - d. When you need it, teachers at your school are available to help you
25. Thinking about the learning experiences you are having at your school, would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that your teachers give you the individual attention you require.
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
26. How satisfied are you that you have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout your lifetime? Are you... **(READ LIST) (Interviewer prompt: Students who are prepared for learning throughout their lifetime demonstrate literacy, numeracy, computer skills, motivation to learn, adaptability, self confidence and the ability to access learning opportunities.)**
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
27. How satisfied are you that you have attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when you leave school? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied

- 8 Refused
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
28. How satisfied are you that Alberta's education system is contributing to your development of: **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - a. Intellectual skills
 - b. Social skills
 - c. Physical abilities
 - d. Emotional well-being
 - e. Spiritual awareness
29. At school, can you get the help you need with :
- a. Deciding what courses you take
 - 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - b. Planning for a career
 - c. Using the school library
 - d. Reading and writing
30. To what extent are your parents or guardians involved in decisions about your education?
Would you say... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 A lot
 - 2 Some
 - 3 Very little
 - 4 Not at all
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

31. To what extent are your parents or guardians involved in decisions at your school? *Would you say...* **(READ LIST)**
- 1 A lot
 - 2 Some
 - 3 Very little
 - 4 Not at all
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION C
[To be Completed by 400 Respondents]

32. To what extent do you agree that you are proud of your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 6 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
33. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(Read List)**
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. There is mutual respect between teachers and students at your school
 - b. There is mutual trust between teachers and students at your school
34. Thinking about the learning experiences you are having at your school, would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following statements: **(ROTATE) (Read List) Your teachers:**
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 5 Strongly disagree

- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. help students achieve learning expectations
 - b. help students achieve high standards
 - c. are knowledgeable about the subjects they teach
35. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the following:
(Interviewer: Prompt if needed: Facilities are things like science labs, computer labs, art rooms and construction fabrication shops.)
- a. The facilities at your school
 - 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - b. The equipment at your school
36. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the following:
- a. Your school has enough space in the buildings and grounds to meet your learning needs
 - 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - b. Your school building is well-maintained
 - c. Your school building meets your physical needs
37. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement: "Alberta's education system ensures access to quality education to all students regardless of where they live"?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 5 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Refused

9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION D

[To be Completed by 800 Respondents (All)]

Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about your plans for further education.

38. Do you plan to pursue education or training after high school?
- 1 Yes **(Continue through questions)**
 - 2 No **(Skip all AET questions, continue demographic questions Q45 to Q50)**
 - 8 Refused **(Skip all AET questions, continue demographic questions Q45 to Q50)**
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable **(Skip all AET questions, continue demographic questions Q45 to Q50)**
39. Do you plan to pursue a career in the Trades?
- 1 Yes **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 2 No **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 8 Refused **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable **(Go to Q39.i.)**
- Q39i Have you considered the trades as a career option?
- 1 Yes **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 2 No **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 8 Refused **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable **(ask Q40 through to Q44)**
40. Do you plan to pursue your post-secondary education or training in Alberta?
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 8 Refused
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
41. Please indicate whether your decision to pursue education or training was influenced by the following factors:
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree

- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - a. Careers: The Next Generation
 - b. Learning Clicks
 - c. ALIS
 - d. Career fairs
 - e. Mentoring programs (informal/formal)
 - f. An employer
 - g. Teachers, guidance counsellors or career counsellors
 - h. Friends and high school students
 - i. Parents and family members
 - j. Advertisements from post-secondary institutions on television, radio or newspapers
 - k. Information from post-secondary institutions on their websites
 - l. Advertising on the trades from television, radio, newspapers or the internet
 - m. Trade Secrets.gov.ab.ca
 - mi. If yes to trade secres.ab.ca..., "How useful was the information on this site"
 - i. Very Useful
 - ii. Useful
 - iii. Not Very Useful
 - iv. Not Useful at All
 - 8. Refused
 - 9. Don't Know/Not Applicable

42. Are you aware of the RAP program? (Registered Apprenticeship Program)

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

43. How do you plan to cover the costs of pursuing a post-secondary education?
(Do Not Read – Check all that apply)

- 1 Family/Parents
- 2 Work part-time while in school
- 3 Savings
- 4 RESPs
- 5 RRSPs
- 6 Summer earnings
- 7 Scholarships or bursaries

- 8 Bank loan or line of credit
- 9 Government Student Assistance Program
- 10 Other [Specify_____]
- 88 Refused
- 99 Don't Know/Not Applicable

44. Have you ever received information about Alberta's Student Financial Assistance Program?

- 1 Yes Go to 44i
- 2 No Go to Demographics
- 8 Refused Go to Demographics
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable Go to Demographics

44.i. If yes, from where did you receive information? **(Do not Read)**

- 1 School counsellor
- 2 Family member
- 3 Friends
- 4 Federal government website
- 5 Alberta's ALIS website
- 6 Post-secondary institution
- 7 Learning Clicks presentation
- 8 Tradesecretes.org
- 9 Other [Specify_____]
- 88 Refused
- 99 Don't Know/Not Applicable

Demographics Questions
[To be Completed by 800 Respondents (All)]

Finally, I have a few questions for us to use in understanding the data better.

45. Are you a ...**(Read)**

- 1 Full-time student
- 2 Part-time student
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

46. Do you currently hold a full or part time paying job?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No **(GO TO 48)**
- 8 Refused **(GO TO 48)**
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable **(GO TO 48)**

47. On average, how many hours do you work in a week?

- 1 10 hours or less a week
- 2 11 - 20 hours a week
- 3 More than 20 hours a week
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

48. To the best of your knowledge, what is the highest level of education that your: **[ROTATE ITEMS. READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]**

(Interviewer Note: A certificate would include fields such as accounting, marketing, office administration, fashion design, drafting, x-ray technician, and hospitality/tourism management. These programs are almost exclusively 1 year (or less) in length.

An apprenticeship program would include trade/journeyman/designated occupation certificate.

A diploma program – college/technical institute diploma programs are (generally) 2-year programs, often in many of the same fields as the “regular” certificates described above.

It is important to distinguish certificates from trade/journeyman/designated occupation certificates. If the respondent identifies a certificate that may be apprenticeship-related (e.g., “I have a millwright certificate” or “I have a warehousing certificate”), probe by asking “Did you enroll in/complete an apprenticeship training program in the _____ trade occupation?” If the respondent indicates “Yes” (or indicates they wrote an exam to qualify for the certificate) then code as trade/journeyman/designated occupation certificate. All other responses should be coded as certificate.

- a) Mother received
- b) Father received

- 1 Elementary or junior high school
- 2 Some high school
- 3 Completed high school
- 4 Some post-secondary (GO TO 49a)
- 5 Completed college, apprenticeship, or technical institute program (GO TO 49b)
- 6 Completed university degree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't know/Not Applicable

49a. Was it towards . . . **(Read list.)**

- 1 An apprenticeship program
- 2 A certificate from a post-secondary institution (typically up to a 1-year program)
- 3 A post-secondary diploma from a post-secondary institution (typically a 2-year program)
- 4 A degree from a post-secondary institution (typically from a university)
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

49b. Was it . . . (**Read list.**)

- 1 An apprenticeship program
- 2 A certificate from a post-secondary institution (typically up to a 1-year program)
- 3 A post-secondary diploma from a post-secondary institution (typically a 2-year program)
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

50. Gender (**Do not ask**)

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

We've reached the end of the survey. On behalf of Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology, I'd like to thank you very much for your time and cooperation.