

# CONNECTION

Information *for* Teachers

**March 2002**

**Note:** All links in the articles of this edition of *Connection: Information for Teachers* were active and accurate at the time of publication. This may no longer be the case.



March 2002

## Aboriginal Studies

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### Authorized Resources

#### Cree Language and Culture

Review new resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)

## Career and Life Management (CALM)

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### Authorized Resources

Review [new resources](#) authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

For a listing of resource authorizations for CALM, refer to the [Career and Life Management \(CALM\) Authorized Alberta Resource List](#), February 2002 (Draft).

## Career and Technology Studies (CTS)

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### Amendments to the *Career & Technology Studies Manual for Administrators, Counsellors and Teachers*

A 2002 amendment package for the *Career & Technology Studies Manual for Administrators, Counsellors and Teachers* (ACT Manual) has been prepared. The amendment package provides replacement pages for the 1998 ACT Manual that include:

- updates to the CTS Backgrounder and CTS strand brochures (Appendix 1)
- clarification of policies and guidelines for implementing CTS courses in senior high schools (Appendix 6).

The 2002 amendments to the ACT Manual are available through the [CTS section](#) of the Alberta Learning Web site. The amendments are also available for purchase from the [Learning Resources Centre](#), either as a stand-alone item (product #465147) or as part of the 1998 ACT Manual (product #465155).

## CTS Contacts

For more information about CTS in the English language, contact [Jan Mills](#) in Edmonton at 780-422-3275, fax 780-422-3745; or [Gary Bertrand](#) in Calgary at 403-297-5022, fax 403-297-3842.

For more information about CTS in the French language, contact [Paul Pelchat](#) at 780-422-1987, fax 780-422-1947.

## CTS Credit Completion Statistics

Alberta Learning provides statistics on credit completions in CTS that are updated several times each school year. [View the most recent statistics for each CTS strand.](#) The summary also provides statistics regarding CTS credit completions by course level.

During the 2000-2001 school year, students awarded an Alberta High School Diploma earned an average of 116 credits in total with 18 credits in CTS courses.

## Evergreening CTS: Survey and Response Form

Teachers and other education partners are encouraged to use the online [Evergreening CTS: Survey and Response Form](#) to provide the CTS unit with strand-specific feedback on curriculum needs and general feedback on the implementation of CTS programs.

Information on priorities for evergreening CTS in 2001-2002 has been available during the past year through the [CTS Program Update](#) section of the Alberta Learning Web site. Priorities for evergreening CTS in 2002-2003 are currently being established and will be posted in this same section by the spring of 2002.

## Field Validation of New CTS Courses

In response to input received from education stakeholders, CTS courses are being developed in the strands identified below. Further information about procedures for participating in the field validation of these courses, scheduled from September 2002 to January 2003, will be provided in the May 2002 edition of *Connection*.

### Electro-Technologies

Ten new computer networking courses are being developed to address vendor-neutral standards established for the computer networking industry. Once the new courses have been field validated, they could be packaged with five existing CTS courses to enable schools to deliver a 15-credit computer networking program. A major thrust of the new courses will be to provide students with the knowledge and skills required for obtaining certifications that have recognition across the computer networking industry.

Draft curriculum for the new computer networking courses is scheduled to be posted, for input and validation, at the [CTS Field Test Documents](#) section of the Alberta Learning Web site by the spring of 2002.

### Fabrication Studies

Three new welding courses have been developed to enable students to extend their understanding of semi-automated and automated welding processes in both personal use and commercial applications. The new courses reflect changes occurring in the apprenticeship training program for the Welder trade and are intended

to ensure that the competency profiles acquired by Fabrication Studies students continue to be recognized by the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Division and the Welder trade.

Draft curriculum for the new welding courses is available, for input and validation, through the [CTS Field Test Documents](#) section of the Alberta Learning Web site.

### Financial Management

Two new courses are being developed to address personal financial planning and investment. The new courses will provide opportunities for students to extend and expand upon introductory learnings included in the Resource Choices component of the new CALM course. The new CTS courses on personal financial planning and investment will be consistent with the CALM delivery structure, thus enabling students to broaden their perspective and understanding in this life skills area.

Draft curriculum for the new financial management courses is scheduled to be posted, for input and validation, at the [CTS Field Test Documents](#) section of the Alberta Learning Web site by the spring of 2002.

### **Inservice and Professional Development**

Information on CTS inservice and professional development opportunities scheduled for the coming months is available through the January 2002 edition of [Connection](#).

### **Other Potential CTS Resources and Contact Information**

#### **NAIT Offers Welding Theory Courses through the Internet**

Of potential interest to CTS Fabrication Studies teachers are three self-paced welding theory courses offered by NAIT through the Internet. The courses are:

- WLD111 Beginners Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (theory only)
- WLD151 Beginners Gas Metal Arc Welding (theory only)
- WLD152 Beginners Flux Core Arc Welding (theory only)

Each of the courses has been designed for beginners and includes a full print supplement. Two of the three welding courses—WLD111 and WLD151—include videotapes, also developed by NAIT, that illustrate the welding process with clarity and precision. The videotapes use special magnification to show detailed welds and welding procedures at a close range, and they allow for freeze-frames for further study and enlargement of specific views.

NAIT allows students three months to complete each welding course. Although the actual classroom instruction equivalent of each course varies from 5 to 10 hours, additional learning time may be required for homework, reflection and review. For those students who wish to continue their study of welding processes through hands-on training, NAIT also offers welding labs for the completion of practical projects that accompany each of the welding theory courses.

For more information about the NAIT welding theory courses, contact [Freeman Thompson](#) at 780-471-8803 or [Terry Rowley](#) at 780-471-7877.

## Provincial Implementation of New CTS Courses

The CTS courses identified below were successfully field validated from September 2001 to January 2002. These courses are scheduled for provincial implementation in September 2002.

### Communication Technology

- Digital Imaging 1 (Introductory Level)
- Digital Imaging 2 (Intermediate Level)
- Digital Imaging 3 (Advanced Level)

The new digital imaging courses will enable students to apply recent developments in digital imaging technology to their communication projects. Designed to reflect emerging trends in the workplace, the new courses provide opportunities for students to acquire, edit, compose and manipulate digital images obtained from a camera and other sources. The courses provide an extension to competencies defined in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) curriculum.

### Information Processing

- Computer Science 1 (Introductory Level)
- Computer Science 2 (Intermediate Level)
- Computer Science 3 (Advanced Level)

The new computer science courses will enable students to develop skills relevant to a high growth area of our economy. With the implementation of computer science courses provincially, rather than as locally developed courses, students will have more equitable access to opportunities to develop these skill sets. The new courses address a need identified by post-secondary partners for more consistent standards of literacy in computer science.

- Object-oriented Programming 1 (Intermediate Level)
- Object-oriented Programming 2 (Advanced Level)
- Dynamic Data Structures 1 (Advanced Level)
- Dynamic Data Structures 2 (Advanced Level)

The new programming courses address the need for additional courses that reflect the programming practices and competencies currently required in the Information Processing strand. The field validation of these courses began in September 2000 and was extended to the following year to address any possible overlap and linkages with the new computer science courses.

## Distance Learning

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### Overview

The Learning Technologies Branch (LTB) of Alberta Learning produces print and electronic learning resources for all Alberta students. Pricing is very reasonable and licensing arrangements are attractive. All of the resources are provincially authorized so they can be used by distance learners or virtual schools, as well as in traditional classrooms.

Visit the LTB Web site to see the [electronic products available](#) and the [print products available](#).

All LTB products are available from the [Learning Resources Centre](#).

## What's New

### New Learning Resources from the Learning Technologies Branch

#### Elementary

- Grade 1 Mathematics: The electronic Teacher's Guide on CD-ROM will be available in May 2002.
- Grade 2 Mathematics: The Student Module Booklets and Assignment Booklets are now available; answer keys are available on the [Tools4Teachers](#) database. The electronic Teacher's Guide on CD-ROM will be available in April 2002.
- Grade 4 Mathematics: The electronic Teacher's Guide on CD-ROM will be available in April 2002.
- Grade 5 Mathematics: The Student Module Booklets and Assignment Booklets are now available; answer keys are available on the [Tools4Teachers](#) database. The electronic Teacher's Guide on CD-ROM will be available in April 2002.

#### Junior High School

- English Language Arts 9: All Student Module Booklets and Assignment Booklets are now available; answer keys for the modules are available on the [Tools4Teachers](#) database. The electronic Teacher's Guide on CD-ROM will be available in April 2002.

#### Senior High School

- Applied Mathematics 20 and Pure Mathematics 20: The electronic Teacher's Guides for these courses are now available.
- Community Health: The Student Module Booklets, Assignment Booklets and electronic Teacher's Guides for CMH1010, CMH3010, CMH3020, CMH3030, CMH3040 and CMH3140 are now available.
- Design Studies: The electronic Teacher's Guide for DES2010 is now available.

**Note:** Teacher's Guide material for the above courses will be available at no charge on the [Tools4Teachers](#) database.

### New Development at the Learning Technologies Branch

The LTB currently has the following courses in production. View an [up-to-date listing of all learning resources in production](#).

#### Elementary

- English Language Arts 4, developed with Weigl Educational Publishers (September 2002)
- Grade 1 Thematic Program (September 2002)
- Grade 3 Mathematics (September 2002)
- Grade 6 Mathematics (September 2002)
- Grades 4-6 Special Interest Module: Handwriting (September 2002)
- Science 4, developed with Weigl Educational Publishers (September 2002)

### Junior High School

- Health 7 (September 2002)
- Science 8 (September 2002)

### Senior High School

- Applied Mathematics 30 (September 2002)
- Community Health 1050 (September 2002)
- Community Health 1060 (April 2002)
- English Language Arts 10-1 (September 2002)
- English Language Arts 10-2 (September 2002)
- English Language Arts 20-1 (September 2002)
- Social Studies 20 (May 2002)

**Note:** The *Junior High English Language Arts Handbook*, 2001, recommended for use with the LTB's English Language Arts 9 learning resources, is also recommended for use with English Language Arts 10-1 and 20-1. The next printing of the handbook will reflect this by having the more generic title *English Language Arts Handbook for Secondary Students*. If you or your students already have the current handbook, be aware that it can be used for any senior high school English language arts course too.

### Electronic Resources

- Construction Technologies 2040 (March 2002)
- CTS Multimedia Segment Collection (English) (September 2002)
- Information Processing Multimedia Segments (Vol. 2 English) (April 2002)
- Information Processing 1030, 1050 and 3060 (developed with Northern Lakes College) (September 2002)
- Mechanics 1040 (April 2002)

## English Language Arts

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### Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

#### [Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

### French as a Second Language

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#### Summer Courses

Bursaries are still available for the current school year. Two courses to consider for the Individual Teacher Bursary Program are described below.

The Faculté Saint-Jean is offering a unique French language and cultural experience for five weeks in La Pocatière, Québec, from July 1 to August 2, 2002. View [information about this immersion experience](#) or contact the Centre d'enseignement et de recherche en français at 780-465-8600.

If you are looking for a unique French language experience this summer from August 12-16, 2002, consider the summer institute *Francophonie sans frontières*, organized by McGill University. This year's theme is "Exploring Diversity in Francophone Culture." View information about the [institute's objectives, program, prerequisites and registration](#).

### Orientation Sessions—Revised Secondary Program

These sessions have been cancelled for now and are being scheduled for the late fall of 2002.

### Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)  
[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

For more information regarding the French as a second language program, contact [Lisa Caouette](#) at 780-427-2940.

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

## French Immersion

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### 7th Immersion National Institute

The seventh national institute organized by the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers will be held from July 2 to July 12, 2002 at Faculté Saint-Jean in Edmonton, Alberta. It is intended for all French immersion teachers, consultants and administrators.

[Bursaries](#) are available to help meet the costs of approximately \$1250. This includes registration, lodging, lunch and cultural activities.

For more information regarding these bursaries, contact [Carole Pelé](#) at 780-427-2940.

[View more information on the institute.](#)

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

### Consortia and Professional Development

An agreement has been reached with all [six regional consortia](#) to offer professional development activities for French immersion teachers. The [Edmonton Regional Consortium](#) has agreed to coordinate the services that could be offered by any one of the consortia.

Please contact your regional consortium to make known your French immersion teachers' professional development needs.

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

## French Language Arts

### Workshops

In cooperation with the [Edmonton Regional Consortium](#), Alberta Learning still offers [workshops](#) to support the implementation of the French language arts program.

### Authorized Resources

Review new French language arts resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002:

[Kindergarten-Grade 3](#)

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)

[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

For more information regarding the French language arts program, contact [Guylaine Girard](#) at 780-427-2940.

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

## October 2002 Leadership Conference

Plan now to attend the [third and concluding conference](#) in a series dedicated to effective decision making for French immersion programs. It will be held at The Lodge at Kananaskis on October 6 to 8, 2002.

This conference is specifically designed for education leaders: trustees, superintendents and school administrators. Sessions, all of which are in English, will focus on the potential of French immersion for all Alberta students, within several dimensions, such as the development of French language skills, the learning of additional languages, personal development and preparation for lifelong learning and the global economy.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet with your peers and learn from the experiences of other jurisdictions.

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## Science—Secondary

### Junior High School Resources

The resources authorized for the new [Grades 7-8 French science program](#) are *Convergence 7* and *Convergence 8*, the French versions of the *ScienceFocus* resources published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

The Grades 7 and 8 student textbooks as well as the Grade 7 teacher guide are now available for purchase from the [Learning Resources Centre](#). The Grade 8 teacher guide is scheduled to be available in May 2002.

For more information regarding the French science program, contact [François Lizaire](#) at 780-427-2940.

## Teacher Bursaries

Bursaries to meet part or all of the expenses incurred to attend conferences or take evening or summer courses are available to all teachers who teach French as a first or second language in Alberta.

[View information regarding these bursaries.](#)

For more information regarding these bursaries, contact [Carole Pelé](#) at 780-427-2940.

## Health and Life Skills

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### Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

[Grade 4-Grade 6](#)

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)

For a listing of resource authorizations for Health and Life Skills, refer to the [Health and Life Skills Kindergarten to Grade 9 Authorized Alberta Resource List](#), February 2002 (Draft).

## Learning Resources Centre (LRC)

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### Visit Our New Web Site

Our new [Web site](#), launched on March 18, provides enhanced, user-friendly, web-based access to the products and services available through the LRC.

### Save Money with Aggregate Order Discount until April 30, 2002

Plan now to save money on learning resources. Order between January 1, 2002 and April 30, 2002 for the next school year and save 7.5% on selected products. Participating publishers include:

- Pearson Education Canada
- Irwin Publishing
- McGraw Hill Ryerson
- Resource Development Services—Edmonton Public Schools
- Oxford University Press
- Scholastic Education
- Nelson Thomson Learning
- Harcourt Canada
- Gage Learning Corp.

Visit our Web site for more details on the [Aggregate Order Discount Program](#).

For more information, contact the LRC at 780-427-2767, e-mail [lrcustserv@gov.ab.ca](mailto:lrcustserv@gov.ab.ca) or visit the [LRC](#) Web site.

## Mathematics

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### Revisions to Pure Mathematics 30

Alberta Learning has used an extensive consultation process to determine the changes needed to Pure Mathematics 30. The following committees were consulted in this process:

- December 2001 teacher committees
- Post-secondary Institutions Ad Hoc Committee on Pure Mathematics 30
- Alberta Learning Mathematics Interbranch Committee
- Mathematics Advisory Committee (Curriculum Branch, Alberta Learning).

The consensus of these committees was that there needed to be approximately 12 hours of material cut from the course and that most of the cuts needed to be made in the area of statistics. The statistics cuts will result in the saving of approximately 10 hours, with cuts in the areas of absolute value functions and infinite geometric series saving the other 2 hours. Unlike in the case of Pure Mathematics 10 and Pure Mathematics 20, no outcomes were deleted because of the material being too difficult. All of the outcomes were deleted or modified to reduce the length of the course, while maintaining the course integrity.

The general outcomes for Pure Mathematics 30 were deemed to be clear and appropriate for the course. The order and numbering of the outcomes in the program of studies will be changed to reflect the order of topics found in the standards statements and the approved resources. Seven specific outcomes will be deleted, and eight will be modified.

The revised program of studies for Pure Mathematics 30 will be submitted for Ministerial approval this spring, and a summary of the changes will be posted on the Alberta Learning Web site once this approval has been obtained. These changes will be in effect for the 2002-2003 school year.

For more information, contact [Katie Pallos-Haden](#) at 780-422-3220.

### The Learning Equation

The Learning Equation (TLE) is a computer software program that helps students learn mathematics. Introduced in Alberta in 1997-1998 at the Grade 9 level, its use was extended to grades 7, 8 and 10 in 1998-1999. While some teachers use TLE as the main delivery method, entirely replacing textbooks, others use it as a supplementary resource for selected units or as a remedial resource.

In 2000, Alberta Learning initiated a study to examine the impact of TLE on students and teachers. Results from the study, released earlier this year, indicated that TLE offers an innovative way for students to learn and teachers to teach mathematics. Overall, teachers who participated in focus groups were very positive about their TLE experiences and thought their students benefited from this new form of instructional delivery. The study also suggests that TLE may positively influence provincial achievement test results for some students. On average, study participants who used TLE in their Grade 9 Mathematics program performed 2.4% better on the 1999-2000 Grade 9 Mathematics Provincial Achievement Test than a control group that did not use TLE.

[View more information on TLE](#), including the executive summary of the TLE study.

## Other News

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### Canada Book Day—Tuesday, April 23, 2002

#### Popular Canadian authors pen new stories for Canada Book Day

Canada Book Day 2002, presented by The Writers' Trust of Canada, highlights the importance of libraries in our society. A new High School and Library Booklet will be distributed to all senior high school and public libraries for their patrons. An Elementary School Booklet will also be published and distributed to elementary school teachers. Both booklets will include the following never-before-published stories about libraries:

- "A Librarian and a Mouse" by Roch Carrier
- "The Marvellous Magnificent Mellifluous Ms. Millicent-Librarian!" by Sheree Fitch
- "Brian and the Librarian" by Robert Munsch
- "Saturday at the Library" by Anita Rau Badami
- "His Last Wishes" by Bill Richardson
- "Had Danger Come to River Heights?" by Eric Wilson

Schools and public libraries will receive a package of \$2-off coupons/bookmarks for distribution to their students and patrons. The coupon is worth \$2-off a book purchase of \$10 or more and is redeemable at participating bookstores.

Now in its 7th year, Canada Book Day coincides with UNESCO-declared World Book Day. The celebration takes place on April 23 each year, a symbolic date for world literature when prominent authors including Shakespeare, Cervantes and Nabokov were either born or died.

The Writers' Trust of Canada encourages libraries, booksellers, schools, Members of Parliament and other community members to work together in organizing book-related events, in an effort to nurture reading and celebrate Canadian books and authors.

Visit the [Canada Book Day](#) Web site to find out more details about the following:

- a book cover contest (open to students who are 19 years of age and under)
- a copyright essay contest (open to individuals who are 13 to 25 years of age)
- online draw to win a set of The Writers' Trust of Canada's award-winning titles (open to individuals who are 18 years of age and over)
- online national poll to find Canadians' favourite books
- ideas for use in the classroom
- listing of Canada Book Day events in your region
- listing of bookstores accepting the \$2-off coupon/bookmark.

For more information, contact [Heather Wiley](#), The Writers' Trust of Canada, at 416-504-8222 ext. 241, fax 416-504-9090.

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

## Education Week

Education Week 2002 will be celebrated from April 28 to May 4, 2002. This year's theme is Reaching New Heights. [View more information on Education Week 2002.](#)

## Educational Leadership Academy August 5 to 10, 2002

The 2002 Educational Leadership Academy (ELA), sponsored by the Alberta Teachers' Association Council on School Administration, will be held from Monday, August 5 to Saturday, August 10, at Westridge Park Lodge in Devon, Alberta. This year's theme is *Leadership: The Heart of the School*. The application deadline is May 31, 2002 or a conference capacity of 50 participants.

For registration information, please contact Val Riewe or [Leslie Kaun](#) at 780-447-9400 (dial 1-800-232-7208 toll free in Alberta), fax 780-455-6481.

## Physical Education

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### Kindergarten to Grade 12 Update

#### Physical Education Online

Alberta Learning has recently updated and expanded the [Physical Education Online](#) Web site. This innovative site provides a wealth of information to support student learning as well as implementation of the Physical Education Kindergarten to Grade 12 Program of Studies.

The site is organized into three major sections.

- [Program of Studies](#)—This section includes the general outcomes and the specific outcomes for Kindergarten to Grade 12.
- [Teacher Resources](#)—This section includes:
  - [links to authorized resources](#), searchable by outcome
  - a [database of teacher developed lessons](#) that align with the outcomes
  - a link to the [guide to implementation](#)
  - a link to the [2learn](#) Web site
  - [teaching tools](#) including information and templates related to assessing the general outcomes, icons, warm-ups, and lesson and unit planning. To further support teachers with implementation, there are a number of interactives that provide video clips of a variety of basic skills. The skills are illustrated through digital video technology so teachers can see and hear a breakdown of the learning components of each skill. Both mature and developing levels of each skill are illustrated with tips to enhance student performance
  - activities and lessons that address the outcomes for [General Outcome A - Activity](#), [General Outcome B - Benefits Health](#), [General Outcome C - Cooperation](#) and [General Outcome D - Do it Daily ... for Life!](#)
- [Home Education](#)—This section of the site is designed for teachers and parents to use with grades 7-10 students who may be enrolled in an online or home education physical education course. The site could also be used to support additional involvement in physical activity, or it could be used by teachers who want to incorporate Information and Communication Technology (ICT) outcomes into their regular program. This section of the site is written in language to engage secondary students. The site features a [downloadable tracking device](#) that can be used in a variety of ways, including assisting students and teachers in organizing and keeping track of student activity time.

## Physical Education Resource Guide

A resource guide that lists agencies and authorized resources to support physical education program implementation, developed by Alberta Learning in partnership with [Schools Come Alive](#), has been distributed to all schools in Alberta. Additional copies of the resource guide are available from Schools Come Alive—telephone 780-454-4745.

## ATA Health and Physical Education Council Conference

The [ATA Health and Physical Education Council \(HPEC\) Conference](#), to be held in partnership with the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD), will be held in Banff on May 9-11, 2002. The preconference topics include: assessment and evaluation strategies for physical education, health education, new to teaching physical education, research and school athletics. Agendas for the preconference workshops, as well as the conference program, are posted at the conference Web site.

## Support for Implementation of CPR into Physical Education 10

Alberta Learning will continue to assist school jurisdictions throughout the province in the coordination of teacher training, to support the implementation of CPR into the Physical Education 10 program. Ongoing work with the Advanced Cardiac Treatment (ACT) Foundation will assist with this support.

For more information on the implementation of CPR, contact [Joy Taylor](#) at 403-297-7911.

## World Health Day

World Health Day is celebrated each year on April 7 by the 191 member countries of the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO established this important observance to provide a forum for discussion regarding various health challenges worldwide. This year's theme is Move to Health, which focuses on the beneficial effects of physical activity.

The Foundation for Active Healthy Kids; The Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD); and Alberta Community Development have developed Activ8 the Nation's Schools—World Record "Hokey Pokey Challenge," an initiative to celebrate World Health Day and promote physical activity for health.

The challenge will take place on Tuesday, April 9, 2002 at 11:15 a.m. At that time, students from across the country will participate in the Hokey Pokey Challenge and attempt to break the current record in the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest number of participants performing the hokey pokey at the same time. For more information, visit the [CAHPERD](#) Web site or contact the [Ever Active Schools Program](#) at 780-454-4745.

## Program Contacts

For more information on the K-12 physical education program, contact [Val Olekshy](#) at 780-415-8191 or [Joy Taylor](#) at 403-297-7911.

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## Professional Development and Certification

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### Professional Development

The [six regional professional development consortia](#) continue to offer a variety of professional development initiatives for teachers and administrators in all the curricular areas. In addition, there are programs offered for parents and support staff. For more information about the programs offered in your area, please contact your regional consortium.

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

### Science

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#### Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 21, 2002 and March 15, 2002.

[Kindergarten-Grade 3](#)

[Grade 4-Grade 6](#)

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)

### Social Studies

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#### New Alberta Social Studies K-12 Program of Studies

Alberta Learning is currently developing a new program of studies for Kindergarten to Grade 12 social studies. The last revisions to the current program of studies for Kindergarten to Grade 9 were in 1990, and minor revisions were made to grades 10 to 12 in 2000. Alberta is ready for a new program that reflects the needs of students throughout the province and takes into consideration research on teaching and learning in social studies for the 21st century. Alberta Learning will be completing the draft Alberta Program of Studies for K-9 and inviting schools, teachers and educational stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft this spring.

During the months of October 2001 to February 2002, Alberta Learning held consultations on the senior high school program with students, teachers, administrators, and post-secondary and university partners throughout the province. During these consultations, individuals completed a needs assessment questionnaire and provided feedback to Alberta Learning on directions for the senior high school social studies program. The questionnaire was posted on the Alberta Learning Web site and was also distributed to school jurisdictions throughout the province, to educational partners and to the membership of the Alberta Teachers' Association Social Studies Specialist Council. The results of the questionnaire will be available in April 2002 and will be used in developing recommendations for topics and themes to be included in the program of studies for grades 10 to 12. Alberta Learning wishes to thank all who submitted the questionnaire and provided feedback.

For more information on K-12 social studies, contact [Pat Lychak](#) at 780-422-3217.

#### Related Curriculum Links

- [Alberta Teachers' Association Social Studies Council](#)
- [Alberta Heritage Online](#)
- [Canadian Council for Geographic Education](#)

- [Historica](#)
- [Petroleum Communication Foundation](#)

**Note:** Links are provided to other sites as a service only to identify potentially useful ideas for teaching and learning. The responsibility to evaluate these sites rests with the user.

## Technology Integration

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### Tools4Teachers Database

The Tools4Teachers database, developed by the Learning Technologies Branch (LTB) and the Alberta Online Consortium, is a secure online repository of course content and learning objects. Currently, the database contains print-based course content and multimedia segments for core subjects in grades 7 to 12. The answer keys for the LTB's Grade 2 Mathematics and Grade 5 Mathematics Assignment Booklets are also available on the database. All content included in the database is approved by Alberta Learning for use in Alberta classrooms and is provided at no charge for use by Alberta teachers developing and delivering educational material to their students.

To apply for access to the database, go to [Tools4Teachers](#) and click on Apply for Access.

## Testing

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### Accommodations for Students Writing the June 2002 Diploma Examinations

Teachers and school principals should note the March 22, 2002 deadline for submitting the Application for Accommodations for Students with Special Diploma Examination Writing Needs. If a request with official documentation was submitted for the student for a previous administration, only a completed application is required for the June 2002 administration. However, if no request for accommodations has been submitted previously, then the completed application must be accompanied with appropriate documentation, including the IPP or a description of accommodations provided in the school.

For more information, contact [Ann Fraser](#) at 780-427-0010.

### Deadlines Related to the June 2002 Provincial Achievement Tests

Schools are encouraged to submit the completed *Special Format Materials Request Form*, the *Language of Instruction Checklist*, and the *Ungraded Students List* as soon as possible, even though the published deadline for these items has passed.

For more information, contact [Ann Fraser](#) (special format materials) or [Ross Newton](#) (lists) at 780-427-0010.

## Examiners' Reports

The Examiners' Reports on the January 2002 diploma examinations will be available to teachers on the extranet by the end of March 2002.

For more information, contact [Phill Campbell](#) (mathematics/sciences diploma examinations) or [Jo-Anne Hug](#) (humanities diploma examinations) at 780-427-0010.

## Request for Markers—Diploma Examinations and Achievement Tests

A letter has been sent to superintendents of schools requesting the nomination and approval of markers for the June 2002 diploma examinations and achievement tests. School authorities are asked to respond with their nominations through an extranet application called ProMIS (Provincial Marker Information System). ProMIS will facilitate Alberta Learning's efforts to provide timely and accurate data to school authorities about the participation of their teachers in the marking.

Superintendents are asked to submit the nominations by April 15, 2002.

For more information, contact [Phill Campbell](#) (mathematics/sciences diploma examinations), [Jo-Anne Hug](#) (humanities diploma examinations) or [Gilbert Guimont](#) (achievement tests) at 780-427-0010.

## School Achievement Indicators Program (SAIP) Writing Assessment

The third SAIP writing assessment will be administered in selected schools across the province during April and May 2002. Samples of students aged 13 and 16 have been randomly selected to participate. This assessment is part of the third cycle of SAIP assessments that are administered in consecutive years in mathematics, reading/writing and science. SAIP is sponsored by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC). Alberta Learning staff members appreciate the cooperation of school system staff in the administration of these assessments.

For more information, contact [Phill Campbell](#) at 780-427-0010.