

CONNECTION

Information *for* Teachers

March 2003

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 2003

Career and Life Management (CALM)

Authorized Resources

Recent Resource Authorizations

Review [new resources](#) authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

New CALM Authorized Resource List

The new [Career and Life Management \(CALM\) Alberta Authorized Resource List](#) is available online.

For more information about CALM in the English language, contact [Karen Fetterly](#) at 780-422-5079, fax 780-422-3745. For information about CALM in the French language, contact [Christine Bouchard](#) at 780-422-7989, fax 780-422-1947. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to either of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.

Building Tomorrow Today Conference

The Building Tomorrow Today (BTT) Conference will take place on April 30, May 1 and May 2, 2003 in Edmonton. This is an Alberta conference on career development for educators, counsellors, industry and government. More information regarding this conference is available through the [Career Development Association of Alberta \(CDAA\)](#).

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Career Education by the Book

Have you ever wondered what resources are available to help plan a lesson on résumé writing? Have you wondered what to do with the *Job Seeker's Handbook* in your classroom? Or, have you needed a resource for a specific audience of students, e.g., Aboriginal students or students with disabilities?

Alberta Human Resources and Employment (AHRE) has launched a new feature through the [Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\)](#)—the [Facilitator's Guide to Career Resources](#).

The Facilitator's Guide to Career Resources is an online shortcut to help find career, learning and employment information in AHRE's print career resources. Teachers can search for information by topic, publication name, exercise type or audience; these categories of the guide are growing all the time.

For example, selecting "brainstorming" from the [exercise search list](#) will lead to [brainstorming activities](#) in 17 publications. Clicking on the word "brainstorming" on that page will lead to an [Additional Instructions](#) page that provides step-by-step instructions on facilitating brainstorming activities as well as offering some ideas for debriefing.

Whichever way a search is started, the user will arrive at a chart that identifies the publication, the topic, the exercise and the page number of the specific activity within the AHRE print resource. Clicking on the publication name will lead to a downloadable version of the publication. The user can simply print the pages required. In this way, it is no longer necessary to order a class set of resources, unless that is desired.

Portfolios

Alberta Learning is working with the [Alberta Tech Prep program](#) to highlight the value of student portfolios. Developing a portfolio can help students learn more about themselves and the choices around them, as well as creating new and exciting opportunities.

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Career and Technology Studies (CTS)

Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[Legal Studies](#)

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 information about CTS in the French language, contact [François Lizaire](#) at 780-427-2940, fax 780-422-1947.

To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to any of the contacts above, dial 310-0000 first.

Discussion Draft for Information Processing

A [discussion draft](#) of changes proposed for INF1090: Information Highway 1, INF2200: Information Highway 2, INF3190: Information Highway 3, INF1010: Computer Operations and INF2010: Workstation Operations is now available.

Teachers and other education partners are invited to provide the CTS Unit with feedback on the discussion draft. Comments can be forwarded through the [Evergreening CTS: Survey and Response Form](#), or they can be faxed to the CTS Unit at 780-422-3745.

Inservice and Professional Development Opportunities

Entrepreneurship Education Institute

The Centre for Entrepreneurship Education and Development (CEED) is holding its 11th Annual [Entrepreneurship Education Institute](#) this summer. Educators from Canada and abroad are invited to take part in 5 or 10 days of professional development activities. Sessions will focus on the approach, philosophy and implementation of entrepreneurship education. This training will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia from July 7-11, 2003 (1 week) and/or July 7-18, 2003 (two weeks).

During the Entrepreneurship Education Institute, CEED is also offering a Break into Business Camp, an award-winning entrepreneurship day camp for children aged 9-15. View [more information regarding this day camp](#).

For more information regarding the Entrepreneurship Education Institute, call 902-421-2333 or call 1-800-590-8481 toll free in North America.

CTS Conference 2003: Focus on the Future

The CTS Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association is holding its annual CTS Conference in Edmonton at the Fantasyland Hotel and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) on April 24-26, 2003.

A number of sessions and hands-on workshops are being planned for the conference. While many of the sessions will be offered at the Fantasyland Hotel, NAIT will be the host facility for most of the hands-on workshops. Teachers are encouraged to register early for the conference, as the workshops are open to a limited number of participants.

Online registration procedures and detailed descriptions of the sessions and workshops are available through the [CTS Council](#).

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Programming for Application and Transfer of Learning

The administration of integrating CTS courses with non-CTS courses has caused some confusion for school administrators, students and parents in terms of course requirements, instructional hours and the applicable credit allocations.

As a means of providing clarity in this area, the following sections of the *Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12* will be removed: Access to Instruction for Integrated CTS Courses/Offering a CTS Course with a Non-CTS Course (page 39) and Examples of Practices for Offering a CTS Course with a Non-CTS Course (page 40). A new section, Programming for Application and Transfer of Learning, will be added as follows:

- To enhance student learning, senior high school programming and course timetabling should provide students with the opportunity to transfer learning to other areas.
- Within each course, students have opportunities to apply their learning. As well, student learning may be extended through the application of the outcomes in one course to the outcomes in other courses. Educators are encouraged to use planning and course timetabling to capitalize on opportunities for connections within and across subjects in order to strengthen student learning.
- All senior high school courses offered to students must be appropriately timetabled, taught, assessed and reported to Alberta Learning.
- For funding conditions for grades 10-12, school authorities should consult the current [Funding Manual for School Authorities](#).

The intent of this change to the guide is not to limit programming options for students, but instead to provide clarity and to eliminate confusion around requirements that every course be appropriately timetabled, taught and assessed.

The revised *Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12* for 2003-2004 will be sent to all superintendents and school principals in April 2003 and will be in effect on September 1, 2003. Similar changes will be made to the *CTS Manual for Administrators, Counsellors and Teachers* through the 2003 amendments.

Career Initiatives

Building Tomorrow Today Conference

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English Language Arts

Authorized Resources for Senior High School

Provincial implementation of the new Program of Studies for Senior High School English Language Arts will be completed as of September 2003. Many new senior high school English language arts learning and teaching resources have been approved to support the program. Current authorized learning and teaching resources will be phased-out gradually. There are also over 50 authorized teacher professional resources for use with the new program, available for grades 10 to 12 and covering a variety of topics such as reading and writing poetry, approaches to new information technologies, and teaching film.

A listing of the newly authorized senior high school ELA resources, including the list of authorized teacher professional resources, is found in the [English Language Arts Grades 10 to 12 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#). This listing is complete up to January 30, 2003. Annotations for the resources in the list are available through

the Alberta Learning [Authorized Resources Database](#). Resources can be purchased from the [Learning Resources Centre \(LRC\)](#).

Note: For resources that are identified as AOD (Aggregate Order Discount) in the [LRC Resources Catalogue](#), a discount of 7.5% will be available for orders made between January and April of this year.

Check the following for resources authorized between January 31, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[English Language Arts 10-1](#)

[English Language Arts 20-1](#)

Senior High School Update

Provincial Implementation of ELA 20-1 and ELA 20-2

Provincial implementation of ELA 20-1 and ELA 20-2 occurred in September 2002; ELA 20-1 replaced English 20, and ELA 20-2 replaced English 23. A copy of the [Program of Studies for Senior High School English Language Arts](#), Interim 2002, was distributed to every superintendent and senior high school principal in Alberta in August 2002.

Course codes for these courses are:

- ELA2104 for English Language Arts 20-2
- ELA2105 for English Language Arts 20-1

Provincial Implementation of ELA 30-1 and ELA 30-2

Provincial implementation of ELA 30-1 and ELA 30-2 will occur in September 2003; ELA 30-1 will replace English 30, and ELA 30-2 will replace English 33. A copy of the revised Program of Studies for Senior High School English Language Arts is scheduled to be distributed to every superintendent and senior high school principal in Alberta in June 2003.

Course codes for these courses are:

- ELA3104 for English Language Arts 30-2
- ELA3105 for English Language Arts 30-1

For more information regarding the senior high school program, contact [Janet Hancock](#) at 780-422-0769. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Idea Fair at ELAC

A launch of the new senior high school program of studies will occur at the provincial ELAC (English Language Arts Council) Conference, which will take place on May 2 and 3, 2003 at the Capri Centre Hotel and Conference Centre in Red Deer, Alberta. Approximately 25 teachers who have participated in the grades 10, 11 and 12 program validation committees to pilot the new program of studies with their students will give 15-minute sessions of best practices during the Idea Fair at the conference.

For information about the conference, contact [Audrey Martyn](#) or [Jennifer Agrell-Smith](#).

Consortia Sessions

Orientation sessions on the new program of studies will be offered across Alberta during May 2003 through the Regional Consortia. These sessions are reasonably priced, and registration covers the cost of the meeting room and lunch. Each session will be presented in conjunction with a unit or with teaching ideas shared by a teacher

who was involved in a program validation committee. This year, teachers served on the Grade 12 Program Validation Committee and will be presenting best practices for ELA 30-1 or ELA 30-2.

Contact the [consortium director](#) in your region for more information. The schedule of sessions is as follows:

May 7, Peace River
May 8, Grande Prairie
May 14, Medicine Hat
May 15, Lethbridge
May 22, Red Deer
May 23, Calgary
May 26, Edson
May 28, Edmonton

Diploma Examination Redesign

For information about diploma examination redesign to correspond with the new program of studies, contact [Laurel Sproule](#) (Examination Manager, English 30, ELA 30-1) at 780-422-4645 or [Philip Taranger](#) (Examination Manager, English 33, ELA 30-2) at 780-422-4478. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to either of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.

French as a Second Language

Canadian Parents for French Annual Conference

[Canadian Parents for French](#) will hold its [annual conference](#) for parents and students on Saturday, October 18, 2003 at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton.

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Summer Institute

The eighth annual [summer institute](#), organized by the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers (CAIT), will be held at Faculté Saint-Jean in Edmonton from July 2 to July 16, 2003.

Further information is available through [CAIT](#).

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French Immersion

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Guidance and Counselling

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Health and Life Skills

Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[Grade 6](#)[Grade 7-Grade 8](#)

Support for Implementation

Alberta Learning, the Regional Consortia and Health Canada provided funding to support training for health and life skills curriculum facilitators in Alberta school jurisdictions. The train-the-trainer sessions took place in January 2003, and 90 curriculum facilitators attended. Health and life skills teachers are encouraged to contact their school jurisdiction facilitator to find out about the information shared at the sessions. Contact your Regional Consortium Executive Director listed below for the name of your jurisdiction's curriculum facilitator.

- [Karen Egge](#), Northwest Regional Learning Consortium, Telephone 780-882-7988
- [Earl Choldin](#), Learning Network, East Central Regional Consortium, Telephone 780-492-0234
- [Val Olekshy](#), Edmonton Regional Consortium, Telephone 780-492-5339
- [Shirley Van Eaton](#), Central Alberta Regional Consortium, Telephone 403-357-3626
- [Jean Hoeft](#), Calgary Regional Consortium, Telephone 403-291-0967
- [Gary Heck](#), Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium, Telephone 403-381-5580

For more information about health and life skills in the English language, contact [Karen Fetterly](#) at 780-422-5079, fax 780-422-3745. For information about health and life skills in the French language, contact [Christine Bouchard](#) at 780-422-7989, fax 780-422-1947. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to either of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.

Integrated Occupational Program (IOP)

Authorized Resources

Recent Resource Authorizations

The following areas include new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

Career Development

[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

English Language Arts

[Grade 8-Grade 9](#)[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

Mathematics

[Grade 10-Grade 11](#)

Science

[Grade 10-Grade 11](#)

Social Studies

[Grade 8-Grade 9](#)[Grade 10-Grade 11](#)

Authorized Resource List—December 2002

The December 2002

[Integrated Occupational Program \(IOP\) Grades 8 to 11/12 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#), supporting the implementation of IOP Career Development, IOP English Language Arts, IOP Mathematics, IOP Science, IOP Social Studies and IOP Universal Strategies, is available online.

For more information regarding IOP resources, contact [Jocelyn Lamoureux](#) at 780-427-5406. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Program Update

New Program Manager—IOP Occupations

Don Shaw joined the IOP Team as the Program Manager—IOP Occupations. Don will spearhead the redevelopment of the occupational component of the IOP.

Field Testing of Grade 9 Draft Outcomes

Draft outcomes for Grade 9 IOP English Language Arts and Grade 9 IOP Mathematics are currently being field tested in schools in Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton and St. Albert.

Field Validation, September 2003

Programs of study for IOP academic courses, grades 8-12, will be available for field validation beginning in September 2003. The *Online Resource for Teachers, Students and Parents* to support program implementation will also be available for field validation in September 2003.

Provincial Achievement Tests

Draft provincial achievement tests for Grade 9 IOP English Language Arts and Grade 9 IOP Mathematics are under development and will be administered to **field test schools only** in June 2003.

Draft provincial achievement tests for all IOP academic courses will be administered in June 2004 in schools that become involved in field validating the new curriculum.

Français 16-26-36

Development of integrated resources for the revised Français 16-26-36 Program of Studies is under way. Drafts of some of the resources will be field validated beginning in April 2003.

Contacts

For more information regarding the IOP curriculum in the English language, contact [John Fisher](#) at 780-427-5628. For more information regarding the IOP in the French language, contact [Guylaine Girard](#) at 780-427-2940.

For information regarding achievement tests, contact [Gilbert Guimont](#) at 780-427-0010.

To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to any of the contacts listed above, dial 310-0000 first.

International Languages

Authorized Resources

Recent Resource Authorizations

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

Spanish Bilingual: Mathematics

[Grade 1-Grade 3](#)

Ukrainian Language Arts

[Kindergarten-Grade 3](#)

[Grade 4-Grade 6](#)

[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

New Authorized Resource Lists

The following three authorized resource lists are now available online:

- [German Language and Culture Grades 7 to 9, 10-20-30, 10S-20S-30S Alberta Authorized Resource List](#)
- [Spanish Language Arts Kindergarten to Grade 3 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#)
- [Ukrainian Language Arts Kindergarten to Grade 12 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#)

Learning Resources Centre (LRC)

\$20 Million for Classroom Resources

Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Learning, recently announced that as of May 1, 2003, school boards across the province will receive a [credit](#) to purchase textbooks, reference material, guides for teachers and multimedia resources like CD-ROMs.

88 Years of History at the LRC

[Discover more about the LRC's past and present.](#)

New Resource Highlights

Check out the LRC's [newest resources](#).

Save Money When Purchasing Learning and Teaching Resources

Alberta's [Aggregate Order Discount \(AOD\) Program](#) is back. Order between January 1 and April 30, 2003 and save 2.5% on eligible learning and teaching resources you purchase through the LRC and add an additional 5% discount on selected publisher-sponsored resources.

Online Services

Browse [Learning Resources Online](#) and take advantage of 24-hour access to LRC resources and services.

What's Happening at the LRC?

Check out the LRC's [Bookmark](#) to find out more about the AOD program, online ordering and the latest *Resources Catalogue*.

More Than Just Books ...

The LRC offers services for students with [visual impairments](#) in addition to producing and selling audiotape resources for students with [physical and/or learning disabilities](#).

For more information, e-mail lrcustserv@gov.ab.ca, contact the LRC at 780-427-2767 (dial 310-0000 first to be connected toll free inside Alberta), or visit the [LRC](#) Web site.

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Mathematics

Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[Applied Mathematics 30](#)

Other News

Education Week: April 27-May 3, 2003

This year's theme for Education Week is Discovering Choices, Creating Opportunities. [Find additional information and helpful suggestions regarding Education Week, and add your Education Week activity to our online list.](#)

Focus on Inquiry

Alberta Learning has contracted Dr. Jennifer Branch, University of Alberta, to coordinate a review and update of [Focus on Research: A Guide to Developing Students' Research Skills](#), 1990. Prior to developing a draft document, Dr. Branch is conducting several focus groups throughout the province.

Focus on Inquiry, scheduled to be available online in the 2003-2004 school year, will provide strategies for teachers to use as they work to improve student learning and achievement through the integration of technology with the curriculum and through inquiry-based learning. The proposed document will provide teachers with up-to-date supports that will assist in the implementation of new curricula; e.g., information and communication technology (ICT), English language arts, science, social studies, CALM and health and life skills. A draft document is scheduled to be sent to schools this spring for feedback.

Learning and Teaching Resources Update

Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Learning, recently announced an additional \$20 million in education spending, which will make it possible for school boards to purchase new resources for use in their classrooms. In May 2003, each school board will receive a credit to purchase textbooks, reference materials, teacher guides and multimedia resources through the Learning Resources Centre.

Several new lists of authorized resources are now available on the Alberta Learning Web site, listing authorized basic, student support and teacher resources for the following programs:

- [Aboriginal Studies 10-20-30](#)
- [Senior High English Language Arts](#)
- [Grades 7-9 Science](#)
- [Science 14](#)
- [Integrated Occupational Program, Grades 8-12](#)
- [Senior High English as a Second Language](#)
- [Career and Life Management \(CALM\)](#)
- [K-9 Health and Life Skills](#)

These lists identify authorized resources that support revised programs of study or that better support current programs. The resource lists also include LRC order numbers and prices.

In addition, several new resources have been developed by Alberta Learning and are now available for purchase from the Learning Resources Centre:

- [Career and Life Management: Guide to Implementation](#)
- [Kindergarten to Grade 9 Health and Life Skills: Guide to Implementation](#)
- [Teaching for the Prevention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder \(FASD\), Grades 1-12: A Resource for Teachers of Health and Life Skills, and Career and Life Management](#)
- [Make School Work for You: A Resource for Junior and Senior High Students Who Want to Be More Successful Learners](#)
- [Safe and Caring Schools: Teaching and Learning Resources](#)
- [Supporting the Social Dimension: A Resource Guide for Teachers, Grades 7-12](#)

Physical Education

Kindergarten to Grade 12 Update

Health and Physical Education Council (HPEC) Conference

The Health and Physical Education Council (HPEC) Conference will be held on May 1-3, 2003, in Red Deer, Alberta. [View more information, and access registration forms](#), for this conference.

Physical Activity Guides and Support Resources

[Canada's physical activity guides and support resources for children and youth](#) are now available. They will be distributed to all schools within the next month.

Authorized Resources

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[Grade 4-Grade 6](#)

[Grade 7-Grade 9](#)

[Grade 10-Grade 12](#)

CPR in Physical Education 10

CPR implementation within the Physical Education 10 program continues to grow across the province. A number of training sessions were held in January 2003, and more are being planned for the spring of 2003. The CPR outcomes within the Physical Education 10 program will be mandatory in September 2006.

For more information regarding physical education, contact [Joy Taylor](#) at 403-297-7911. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

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Science

Authorized Resources

Recent Resource Authorizations

Review new resources authorized between January 28, 2003 and March 17, 2003.

[Grade 7-Grade 9 Science 14](#)

New Authorized Resource Lists

The new [Science Grades 7 to 9 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#) and [Science 14 Alberta Authorized Resource List](#) are available online.

Social Studies

Resources Survey

Data collected from the *Social Studies Resources: Informational Survey* is currently being compiled and reviewed. The Social Studies Project Team would like to thank those people who were able to participate in this survey and those who submitted their names to take part in resource field testing and/or contributing to the writing of the social studies guide to implementation. The input and suggestions that have been received are helping to guide planning for upcoming resource development.

Calls for Proposals and Resource Development

Alberta is currently preparing to initiate calls for resource development to support the new Alberta social studies program. A Call for Proposals for development of Kindergarten to Grade 9 resources is scheduled to be issued in May 2003.

In the Call for Proposals, publishers/developers will be provided with criteria and asked to create a proposal demonstrating what they believe they can develop as a resource for a particular grade. Curriculum fit and Recognizing Diversity and Promoting Respect criteria are two of the essential components of the call's criteria. The call will also contain information regarding future calls for proposals for grades 10-12.

Both the Call for Proposals for K-9 and the draft of the new K-9 program of studies will be available on the [Alberta Learning](#) Web site following their official release.

For more information regarding social studies resources, contact [Ann Marie Ruddell](#) at 780-422-0820, fax 780-422-0576. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Special Programs

New Resources

Unlocking Potential: Key Components of Programming for Students with Learning Disabilities (2003), developed by Alberta Learning in collaboration with the Calgary Learning Centre, will be available for purchase from the [Learning Resources Centre](#) (LRC) in April 2003. This resource provides information for developing and monitoring programming for students with learning disabilities. It includes sample strategies and suggested outcomes for each of the following nine components: collaboration, meaningful parent involvement, identification and assessment, ongoing assessment, individualized program plans, transition planning, self-advocacy, accommodations and instruction.

Working Together for Safe and Caring Schools: Resource Manual for Students, Staff and Parents, Grades 7-12 (2003), a companion resource to *Supporting the Social Dimension*, will be available for purchase from the [Learning Resources Centre](#) (LRC) in April 2003. This resource was developed by Alberta Learning in

collaboration with the Calgary Board of Education. It offers ideas for involving secondary students in effecting change in their school environments and taking a leadership role to promote safe and caring schools.

Field Review of *The Journey: A Handbook for Parents of Children Who Are Gifted and Talented*

Teachers and parents are invited to participate in the field review of this new resource for parents of children who are gifted and talented. Alberta Associations for Bright Children (AABC) is collaborating with Alberta Learning in the development of this resource. If you would like to participate in this field review, contact [Fran Schmidt](#) at 780-422-1733. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first. The review will run from April 7 to May 23, 2003. Alberta Learning encourages both parents and teachers of children who are gifted to read the draft document and provide feedback.

Technology Integration

ATACC Conference 2003: Horizons of Change

The Alberta Teachers' Association Computer Council (ATACC) holds an annual conference for division technology specialists, school technology coordinators and classroom teachers interested in integrating technology into the curriculum. ATACC Conference 2003 will be held on May 1-3, 2003 at Jasper Park Lodge in Jasper, Alberta. The theme for the conference, Horizons of Change, will embrace both innovations in technology and new methodologies being used in the classroom. The conference will address the question: How can we use technology as a tool to enhance teaching and learning in Alberta's classrooms?

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Bernie Dodge, creator of [WebQuests](#), inquiry-oriented activities where students focus on using information from the Web.

[Access the conference online registration and view detailed descriptions of the sessions and workshops.](#)

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LearnAlberta.ca Update

Redesign of LearnAlberta.ca

Coming in the spring of 2003, the LearnAlberta.ca Web site will have a new look and logo. The revamped Web site will feature improved navigation to make it easy for students, teachers and parents to find resources. It will contain the same great resources as well as new ones in physics, English language arts and mathematics.

National Geographic Science Centre

The National Geographic Science Centre will soon be available on the [LearnAlberta.ca](#) Web site. The first unit, Planet Earth, is currently being field tested in approximately 10 classrooms within Edmonton Public Schools. This unit is correlated to Alberta's Grade 7 science outcomes and includes images, maps, activities, games, glossaries and streaming videos. An elementary unit, Weather Watch, will be field tested this spring. It is anticipated that the remaining 14 units will be completed by the fall of 2003.

Technology Pilot Aimed at Supporting Students

Alberta Learning has teamed up with Sun Microsystems, Inc. and Chinook's Edge School Division to pilot desktop computing technology. The two-phase pilot project will connect the Sun Ray desktop systems to a central server and will investigate the effectiveness of this "thin client" technology over the Alberta SuperNet. View [more information on this project](#).

Testing

Achievement Testing Program

Nomination of Markers—Achievement Tests

A letter was sent to superintendents in late February, requesting nominations for the marking of the 2003 achievement tests. Any teachers who are interested in marking should ensure that their superintendents are informed of their interest as soon as possible.

For more information, contact [Gilbert Guimont](#) at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Diploma Examinations Program

Released Examinations

The written-response components of the January 2003 humanities diploma examinations were released immediately following the January administration. They are available for purchase from the [Learning Resources Centre](#).

However, the machine-scorable components of the January 2003 humanities examinations, along with all the January 2003 mathematics and sciences diploma examinations, are secured.

For more information, contact [Tom Dunn](#), Director, Humanities Diploma Examinations, or [John Rymer](#), Director, Mathematics/Sciences Diploma Examinations, at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to either of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.

School and School Authority Reports—January 2003

School and school authority reports on the January 2003 diploma examinations results are available to superintendents and senior high school principals on the Extranet.

For more information, contact [Michele Samuel](#) at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Nomination of Markers—Diploma Examinations

A letter was sent to superintendents in late February, requesting nominations for the marking of the June 2003 diploma examinations. Any teachers who are interested in marking should ensure that their superintendents are informed of their interest as soon as possible.

For more information, contact [Tom Dunn](#) or [John Rymer](#) at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to either of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.

Requests for Special Writing Centres

The deadline for receipt of applications for special writing centres for the June 2003 diploma examinations is May 1, 2003. Because the number of these requests continues to increase, it is critical that the requests are submitted by the deadline date. Requests received after the deadline date will not be fulfilled.

For more information, contact [Jo-Anne Hug](#) at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Recent Web Site Postings

The following documents are now available on the Alberta Learning Web site.

- [Science 30 sample examinations](#), with the option of having immediate scoring.
- [Examples of the standards for students' writing](#) in English 30 and English 33, as revealed in the diploma examinations of January 2002 and June 2002.
- [Fee schedule](#) for marking diploma examinations or achievement tests.

For more information, contact [John Rymer](#), Director, Mathematics/Sciences Diploma Examinations, [Tom Dunn](#), Director, Humanities Diploma Examinations, or [Gilbert Guimont](#), Director, Achievement Testing, at 780-427-0010. To be connected toll free, inside Alberta, to any of these contacts, dial 310-0000 first.