

News You Can Use from the TAAPCS Executive Director December 2024

After starting with October I found November a crazy time and this is only my second note...I'll do better in 2025!

As TAAPCS, we've had 2 major events over the last few weeks...our Annual General Meeting hosted at the Calgary Charter Hub Building AND a webinar with our Minister of Education the Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides.

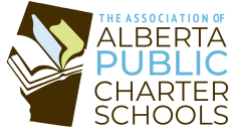
As members we gathered on November 1st to tour several Calgary Charter School facilities: STEM IAs Jr. High, the Calgary Girls School, Connect Charter School and Alberta Classical Academies Currie Barracks School. The tours highlighted for me the energy and enthusiasm of those schools and the uniqueness of the programs offered.

Our AGM on November 2nd began with a tour of the 3 schools in the Hub building: STEM IA, Almadina and Fusion Collegiate. Fusion also hosted the formal AGM itself. The AGM featured presentations from 2 new member schools Footprints for Learning and WISE. They gave a great overview of their programs and philosophy. We had a few reports presented and discussed our priorities for the year. We had the opportunity to review the Deloitte report in-camera. We did set the next AGM for the Capital Region for 15 November 2025 but have since realized that conflicts with CASS and we will be recommending a change in date at the next TAAPCS Board meeting.

Our 2024 Bylaws came into effect at this AGM, so the election of the Executive now takes place immediately following the AGM at the first Board meeting. We had 4 of the 5 positions filled by acclamation: Dee-Ann Evans is our new President, Adam Koziak is now Vice President, Terry-Ann Robertson is our Secretary, Joanne Higgins becomes the Superintendent Representative. Although we did not elect a Treasurer, we have had an expression of interest and hope to filling that role shortly.

The second big event to highlight just took place on December 2nd where TAAPCS hosted the Minister as part of a Zoom Webinar. Thanks to Lisa Davis for the idea, Dee-Ann Evans for learning the ins and outs of Zoom, Sadiq Valliani for hosting the Q&A and making the Minister comfortable...and of course the Minister and his team for their time and effort to make this happen.

We had about 700 registrations and about 400 people at any time during the webinar. While there were no surprise questions, the Minister came well briefed and presented a very supportive agenda and showed knowledge of issues related to public charter schools. A short summary has been developed.



As I have mentioned before I serve as the TAAPCS representative to the Calgary Charter Hub Society. This position was created at the request of the government when the society was created. In terms of progress since my last report I am happy to share that the design and funding for the gymnasium has been approved by Alberta Education and Infrastructure. Although timelines are extremely tight, I remain hopeful decisions can be made to have the gym available to tenants for September 2026. Government has also now confirmed Alberta Infrastructure will be leading the renovations for floors 4 & 5 which is likely a positive step as the approvals should be sped up.

I have continued to have routine meetings with the Minister's Chief of Staff, the Deputy Minister and ADMs Willan & Joseph. Please reach out if there are any issues, I can help you with as part of these meetings.

I want to share I have met with 4 potential charters and have 3 more meetings prior to Christmas. It is a signal that your schools have been showing great results and enabling choice for parents and students!

Chat soon,

-Kelley Charlebois-
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