

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From March 13, 2018 Meeting

For Immediate Release

Alberta Caribou Plans

The Alberta Government has been holding open house engagement sessions to discuss the DRAFT Provincial Woodland Caribou Range Plan. Provinces must develop caribou range plans in response to the federal government's caribou recovery strategy – a requirement under the Species at Risk Act (SARA).

What's at Stake?

Restricting industrial access in caribou ranges will affect the productivity of key sectors of our regional economy, such as forestry and oil and gas. This will have implications not just for direct and indirect industry employment but also for local businesses, property values, municipal tax bases, and community services. This uncertainty will dampen the investment climate in our province, putting jobs and economic prosperity at further risk.

For further information:

- Alberta's Action Plan on Caribou: <https://talkep.alberta.ca/caribou-program>
- FPAC Caribou Facts: <http://www.cariboufacts.ca/>
- fRI Research Caribou Program: <https://friresearch.ca/program/caribou-program>
- Montreal Economic Institute Caribou News Release: <https://www.iedm.org/74547-boreal-caribou-preservation-plan-could-cost-over-740-million-year>

Policy

As part of the regular cyclical review of policies, the Board reviewed/amended the following policies:

Board Policy 1 – Divisional Identity and Foundational Statements
Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board
Board Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee
Board Policy 4 – Trustee Code of Conduct
Board Policy 5 – Role of the Board Chair
Board Policy 6 – Role of the Vice-Chair
Board Policy 8 – Committees of the Board

Full Day Every Day Kindergarten

The Board, after much discussion and review has decided to continue current practice in the provision of full day every day kindergarten in Northern Gateway Public Schools.

Proposal for Fox Creek-Iceland Exchange

Ian Baxter, Principal of Fox Creek School presented to the Board the following information:

Fox Creek School has been invited to expand the network that began in 2011 with Alberta and Finland that has now grown to include Norway, Ontario and New Zealand along with Iceland on the horizon.

The Alberta Teachers' Association has asked Fox Creek School to join this international work.

The partner schools will be in Iceland and the project is based upon the same guidelines as FINAL whereby students and staff were engaged in an international exchange.

The Board of Trustees approved the Exchange program in principle so planning can commence.

Collaborative Response Model and NGPS Quality Learning Environments

Presented by Leslee Jodry – Assistant Superintendent and Kurtis Hewson – Jigsaw Learning

The mission of Jigsaw Learning is to work with schools, districts and leaders to establish collaborative learning structures that ensure success for all students. By ensuring the development of effective structures and supports that meet and honour the needs of each unique school context, we can help in establishing, extending and sustaining powerful collaborative learning communities.

All schools will identify a team that will participate in a series of Leadership Networking sessions focused on examining and enhancing the critical role of leadership in the Collaborative Response Model across the division. In addition to the networking sessions, schools will be provided the opportunity to work directly with Kurtis Hewson (Jigsaw Learning) in a school-based coaching capacity. Through this work, divisional leadership supports and resources will be collectively developed to support schools, focused on sustaining and deepening Collaborative Response Model practices.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will take place **Tuesday, March 27, 2018** commencing at **5:00 p.m.** at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 780-778-2800 or 1-800-262-8674.

Box 840
4816 – 49 Avenue
Whitcourt AB T7S 1N8
www.ngps.ca
learn@ngps.ca

