



## Straight Talk for Red Deer Public Schools

In the spring of 2008, the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA), of which the Red Deer Public Board of Trustees is a member, agreed to establish a Standing Committee on the PSBAA'S Foundation Program. The Foundation Program seeks to ensure that all discussion and decision-making about public school education is **founded** upon common beliefs and a clear understanding of community desires and commitments.

The Standing Committee is charged with the specific task of producing a written statement outlining what Albertans believe the attributes of our future graduates should be, and what should be provided to accomplish the development of those attributes.

The Standing Committee has created a resource manual, a handbook and a workbook. Our members have undergone training in facilitating sessions and now it is time to move into the community. We need to learn about the public's agenda; about the dreams and aspirations of students, parents and communities; about how public education fits into those dreams.

If public education belongs to the community, then it is our responsibility to ensure that public school education is responsive to the community's needs and is community driven. In essence, our goal is to bring the public back into public education.

You are invited to take the questions on the reverse of this page to your school council, start a conversation and record your responses in the spaces provided. When your school council's response has been completed, please return the document to Eunice Muzsik at our District's Central Services building, located at 4747 53<sup>rd</sup> Street. Eunice can also be reached via email at [emuzsik@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:emuzsik@rdpsd.ab.ca).

### Straight Talk

A booklet entitled "Straight Talk" can also be used to guide your conversation. This discussion, which would be led by one of the members of our Board of Trustees, would be approximately 90 minutes to two hours in length. Please understand that the trustee would serve only as a facilitator, whose role would be to gather the information that your group provides. Please contact your school trustee liaison or our Board chair to make arrangements for one of these conversations.



# Welcome!

Please consider how you would “fill in the blanks” to finish the following sentences:

I value school because...

The graduate of 2020 will need these skills and attributes to be successful...

The stumbling blocks to prevent this are...

Our current strengths in our community are...

Our current needs in our community are...

*Thank you for sharing your perspectives. Please feel free to add any other comments, ideas or input.*