

1973 Bill 216

Second Session, 17th Legislature, 21 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 216

The Education Council of Alberta Act

MR. CLARK

First Reading

Second Reading

Third Reading

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THE EDUCATION COUNCIL OF ALBERTA ACT

(Assented to , 1973)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. (1) There is hereby created a corporation with the name "The Education Council of Alberta", hereinafter called the "Council".

(2) The Council shall consist of not more than 20 persons appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a term of no longer than three years.

(3) No member of the Alberta Legislature shall be appointed a member of the Council.

(4) Members of the Council shall represent a broad cross section of Albertans from a variety of occupations, cultural and economic backgrounds and geographic areas.

(5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council

(a) shall appoint a Chairman of the Council from among the members of the Council who shall hold office as the chief executive officer of the Council,

(b) may make regulations prescribing conditions of service of members of the Council, including rules for eligibility for re-appointment, conditions under which membership is vacated and procedures for filling vacancies,

(c) shall determine the salary or remuneration the Chairman receives as the chief executive officer of the Council.

(6) In accordance with *The Public Service Act* there may be appointed such employees as are necessary to act as a secretariat of the Council.

2. The Council may appoint one or more experts or persons having special technical knowledge to enquire into and report in respect of any matter which the corporation considers necessary to have information for the proper carrying out of its duties under this Act and the Lieutenant

Governor in Council may order payment of such remuneration as is considered suitable by him.

3. (1) The Council shall meet

- (a) at least twice each year in the City of Edmonton on such days as may be fixed by the Chairman, and
 - (b) at such other times and places as the Council considers necessary.
- (2) The Council may make by-laws respecting
- (a) the calling of meetings of the Council,
 - (b) the conduct of business thereat, including the fixing of a quorum,
 - (c) the duties and conduct of the members of the Council, and
 - (d) generally as to the conduct of the business and affairs of the Council.

4. The objects of the Council are to undertake educational policy evaluations and further to make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in Council on the general quality of Alberta education and, in particular but without affecting the generality of the foregoing:

- (a) to act as a monitoring group, closely and systematically examining the performance of the educational system and the public awareness of that performance in relation to the desired goals of the system;
- (b) to develop, revise and assess programs, plans, materials and procedures — whether short term or long term — relating to or affecting education in the Province, and to disseminate the results of and assist in the implementation of the findings of such development, revisions and assessments;
- (c) to facilitate and assist all efforts throughout the Province to gather, analyze, co-ordinate and distribute, a thorough public evaluation of the total educational system, whether on a local or provincial basis;
- (d) to aid in the general public evaluation of the educational system, from a perspective external to the government and its two education departments;
- (e) to act as an ombudsman, providing an avenue apart from the Legislature, whereby the lay public may directly voice their legitimate grievance with the educational system.

5. In addition to the powers vested in the Council by section 14 of *The Interpretation Act* and this Act, the Council has power to:

- (a) recommend policies and programs which, in the opinion of the Council, would best help to realize the stated objectives of educational systems to meet short term and long term needs of Alberta citizens;
- (b) hold public hearings to assist the Council in its evaluation of any matters raised by a member of the Council;
- (c) undertake special research projects on a contract basis when no equivalent project is being conducted by the Department of Education or the Department of Advanced Education;
- (d) publicize findings of any public hearing, conducted by the Council, or the results of any research project authorized by the Council without the prior concurrence of the Executive Council;
- (e) appoint, delegate or commission any person or agency, upon such terms and conditions as are agreeable to the Council, to perform any or all of the objects of the Council;
- (f) make arrangements for the use by the Council of any publicly supported institution for demonstration or experimental purposes or for the services of one or more persons in any such institution in the conduct of any demonstration or experimental purposes or for the services of one or more persons in any such institution in the conduct of any demonstration or experiment or other research study;
- (g) generally to do such other things as are necessary to carry out the objects of the Council.

6. (1) At the beginning of each year the Council shall make a report to the Lieutenant Governor in Council on the work of the Council during the preceding year.

(2) A copy of the annual report of the Council shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.

7. The Provincial Auditor or his nominee shall from time to time and at least once a year audit the receipts and expenditures of the Council.

8. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.