

2002 BILL 230

Second Session, 25th Legislature, 51 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 230

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS ACT

DR. MASSEY

First Reading

Second Reading

Committee of the Whole

Third Reading

Royal Assent

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2002

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS ACT

(Assented to _____, 2002)

Preamble WHEREAS schools play a vital role in strengthening Alberta's communities;

WHEREAS the use of existing school facilities for community programs is an efficient use of public resources and an effective way to revitalize inner-city neighbourhoods and rural communities;

WHEREAS there is a need to coordinate and integrate school services with the supports and programs available in communities; and

WHEREAS the creation of partnerships between schools and communities will enhance educational opportunities for all members of the community and will contribute to the establishment of strong, vibrant communities;

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

Interpretation **1** In this Act,

- (a) “board” means a board as defined in the *School Act*;
- (b) “community school” means a school designated under section 4 that offers programs outside school hours to students and other members of the community;
- (c) “community school coordinator” means the person appointed by a board pursuant to section 5;

- (d) “Minister” means the Minister determined under section 16 of the *Government Organization Act* as the Minister responsible for this Act;
- (e) “school building” means a school building as defined in the *School Act*.

Application **2** This Act applies to schools operated by a board.

Community schools **3** The mandate of a community school is to strengthen the community by

- (a) developing partnerships with community groups and agencies,
- (b) delivering programs or services outside regular school hours in the areas of
 - (i) child care,
 - (ii) computer training,
 - (iii) health education,
 - (iv) literacy,
 - (v) sports and recreation, or
 - (vi) any other area approved by the board,
- (c) making existing school facilities available to all members of the community outside regular school hours.

Board **4** A board may designate a community school if it is satisfied that

- (a) a community school would enhance the availability of the programs outlined in section 3(b),
- (b) existing school buildings could be used for the community school, and
- (c) the school would benefit the community.

Community **5(1)** A board must appoint a community schools coordinator.

schools coordinator	<p>(2) A community schools coordinator is responsible for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) coordinating proposals for community schools, (b) advising the board on proposals for community schools, (c) providing ongoing advice to community schools, and (d) serving as a liaison between community schools, community agencies and the board.
Proposals	<p>6(1) A school operated by a board may submit a proposal for a community school on or before January 31 each year.</p> <p>(2) A proposal under this section must include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a mission statement for the community school, (b) a description of the types of programs and community initiatives that would be made available, and (c) a plan outlining the utilization of existing school buildings for the community school. <p>(3) A board must make determinations on proposals for community schools on or before July 31 each year.</p>
School closure	<p>7 A board shall not exercise its authority to close a school pursuant to Alberta Regulation 238/97 if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the school has been designated as a community school under this Act, or (b) the school has submitted a community school proposal under section 6.
Regulations	<p>8 The Minister may make regulations regarding types of activities and programs that may be offered at community schools.</p>
Coming into force	<p>9 This Act comes into force on January 1, 2004.</p>