



## Canadian Rockies Public Schools' Board Meeting Digest October 17, 2023



### German Delegation Visits CRPS During Weeklong Exploration of Alberta's Education System

On Oct. 5, 2023, Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) warmly welcomed a distinguished group of educational representatives from Germany. The delegation, representing seven regional German ministries, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Wübben Foundation, were in Alberta on a week-long expedition to understand the province's educational framework. Engaging with CRPS' Board of Trustees and Senior Leadership team, the German delegation was eager

to understand CRPS' adherence to Alberta's professional practice standards and its embrace of a Shared Vision of Instructional Excellence. They also expressed keen interest in the influential roles played by community stakeholders, such as the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation and Lake Louise Ski Hill, in enhancing student achievement. Their insightful visit featured a tour of Banff Elementary School and concluded with a dinner at the Juniper Hotel. Special thanks to CRPS' Vice-Chair, **Brian Callaghan**, for orchestrating the memorable visit. ■

### Bespoke to support Lawrence Grassi Lands Project

In a bid to generate additional funds for Canadian Rockies Public Schools' (CRPS) Lawrence Grassi Lands project, the Board of Trustees has partnered with Bespoke Social Profit Solutions, a renowned company specializing in the social profit sector, to further the division's affordable housing initiative. Bespoke's responsibilities will encompass creating a revenue strategy that includes grant management, applications, and a governmental relations plan. Additionally, they will offer advice

*CRPS' Board of Trustees (left to right): Dale Craig, Arlene Rheame, Luke Sunderland, Carol Picard, Brian Callaghan*

based on the revenue strategy and funder specifications throughout the project's lifecycle, and spearhead the creation and execution of funding applications aimed at various governmental bodies, foundations, corporations, and individuals. With a history of collaborating with esteemed clients from diverse sectors in Canada, Bespoke's expertise spans multiple domains. To date, Bespoke Social Profit Solutions has successfully submitted an Affordable Housing Partnership Program application through the Government of Alberta on behalf of CRPS. ■

### CRPS Investigating Energy Savings Consortium

CRPS is reviewing the possibility of joining forces with the Commodity Purchasing Consortium (CPC) to

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negate electricity and natural gas price fluctuations. Through the CPC, member districts can pool resources and harness economies of scale, achieving more competitive electricity rates, as well as tapping into renewable solar energy via a partnership with a dedicated storage facility. The partnership could be

solidified in the new year. In tandem with this new venture, CRPS also reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable energy by upholding its existing contract with the Bull Creek Wind Power Project. This long-standing agreement, initiated in 2014, is set to run its course until 2039, exemplifying CRPS's dedication to

green energy initiatives. ■

## September 29 Count is in!

A tally taken Sept. 29, reveals 2,129 students are enrolled in CRPS, 43 of which are international students. This tally is 81 student over the division's planned budget, which was prepared last May. ■

# CRPS Tidbits

## Important Calendar Date

**November School Board Meeting -** The Board of Trustees' next regular meeting is set for Nov. 22, 2023, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Exshaw School.

## Parental Pulse: Launching CRPS' 2025-2029 Four-Year Plan

Supporting CRPS' strategic roadmap towards the development of its 2025-2029 Four-Year Education Plan, principals are set to involve parents at November's school council meetings to explore their child's academic path. With a focus on obtaining vital insights, parents will be presented with two thoughtfully crafted questions regarding their sentiments, aspirations, and perspectives on their child's academic progression and participatory role. Feedback collected will shape discussions at the board's Nov. 30 Council of Councils meeting. Principals and teachers have been urged to highlight this initiative during the Oct. 25 to 27 student-parent-teacher conferences and to encourage parents to attend their child's school council meeting in

November. Let your voice be heard!

## High School Soccer Excellence

In a riveting match Oct. 11, Canmore Collegiate High Schools (CCHS) Girls Soccer Team clinched the league banner, beating the undefeated Holy Trinity Academy in Okotoks. Having been short-numbered this season, this resilient team has showcased unmatched spirit and versatility, balancing multiple sports including dance, volleyball, and even rotating goalkeeping duties among themselves. Their triumph over HTA is a testament to their sheer determination and unwavering spirit. Behind their victory lies the commendable dedication of their coaches - Joal Borggard, John Wilson, and Alan Feherty, whose positive, informed, and encouraging guidance has been instrumental in drawing out the best from these phenomenal student-athletes.

## Deepening Indigenous Understanding – A Year-Round Engagement

Beyond the observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Sept. 30, CRPS is

steadfast in its commitment to deepen students' understanding of Indigenous Peoples. This day, while significant, marks just the beginning of a broader, year-round dedication to Indigenous education and awareness. CRPS invites parents to read its, "[Building Foundational Knowledge about Indigenous Peoples: A Year Long Guide for Parents](#)," as a means of building a bridge between CRPS classrooms, the living room and the rich tapestry of Indigenous culture and history.

## Extended Stop Arm Piloted in Canmore & Banff



CRPS' Transportation Department has initiated a pilot project to enhance the safety of students, introducing a 6.5-foot extended stop arm. This innovation aims to provide added protection against vehicles and cyclists bypassing stationary buses with flashing red lights. Three extended arms are now operational on routes in Canmore and Banff.

## "Inspiring Hearts and Minds" - CRPS' Board of Trustees

**Arlene Rheaume**  
Chair  
E arlene.rheaume@crps.ca

**Brian Callaghan**  
Vice-Chair  
E brian.callaghan@crps.ca

**Carol Picard**  
Trustee  
E carol.picard@crps.ca

**Luke Sunderland**  
Trustee  
E luke.sunderland@crps.ca

**Dale Craig**  
Trustee  
E dale.craig@crps.ca