

2001 Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Session Education Report: For a Greater Vision

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The Seventh-day Adventist school system in Canada exists to provide an education that will prepare the student "...for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." (Ellen G, White, Education p.13). Its vision and mission spring from an enduring conviction of the importance of the eternal, which is reflected in its slogan, Educating Children/Youth for Time and Eternity.

Comments from students and parents:

"Wouldn't you want someone who serves God to be the one who teaches your child?" (Grade 6 student)

"I don't think of providing Christian education for my children in terms of it being a sacrifice. Rather, it is a necessity or basic need, the same as having food to eat and a roof over our heads." (Adventist parent)

"We learn what is right and wrong, to do God's word, to respect others the way they are, and to treat others nice. The teachers are all very nice and kind. We love one another and God very much." (Grade 2 student)

"I believe that God has put me in this school for a reason and with His guidance I will allow Him to work within my life." (Grade 9 student)

"My school is about friendships, education, and Christ." (Grade 12 student)

"We could have had a house at the coast, we could have had a ski cabin... things like that, but you only have your children once. You must try to get it right first time around, because you might not get another chance." (Non-Adventist parent)

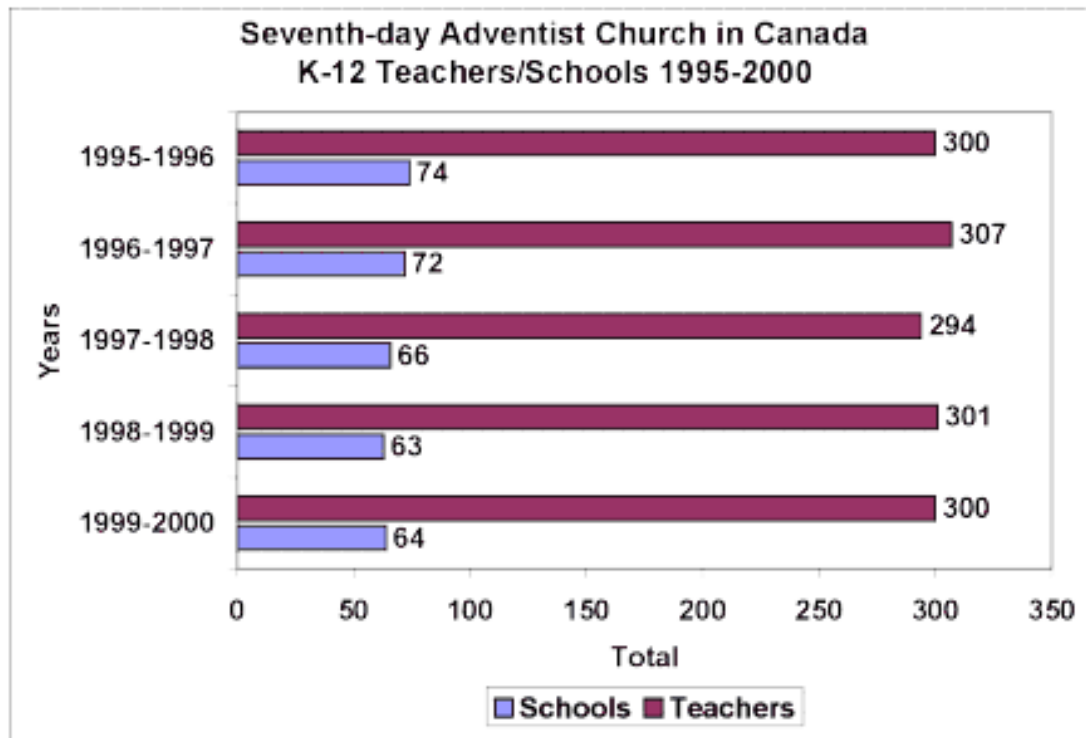
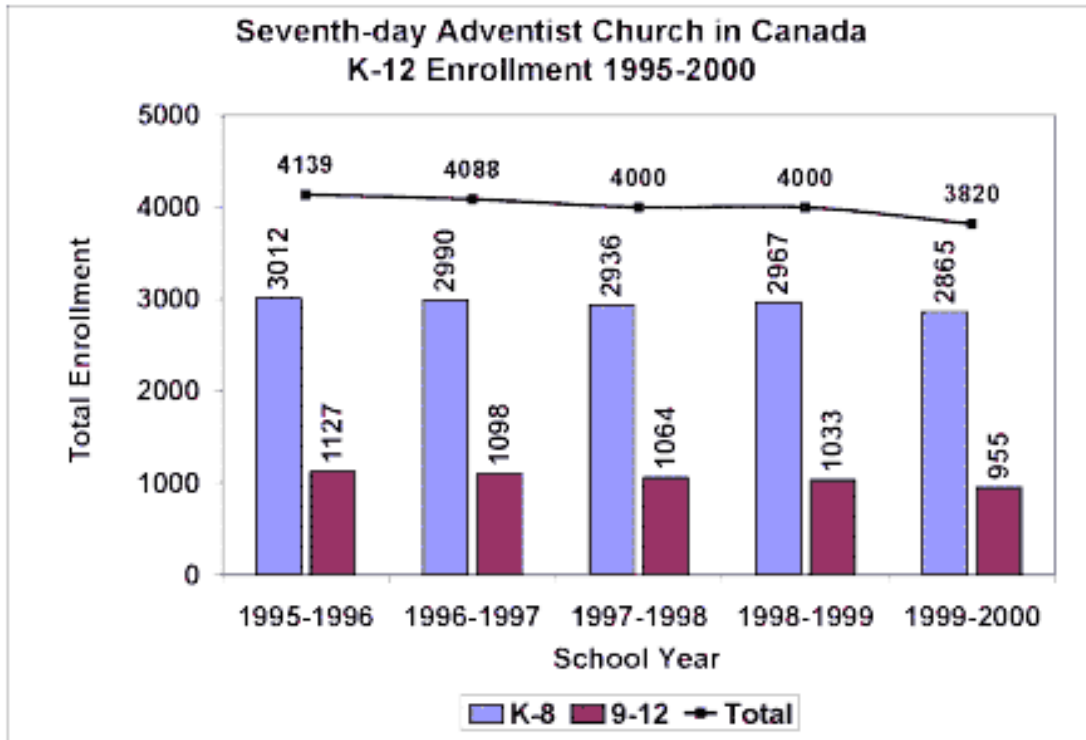
The Office of Education undertook a number of initiatives in an attempt to determine what educational services were needed to better serve our constituency, as well as to discover the cause for declining enrollments. A [master plan](#), a [survey](#) sent to 5000 church members across Canada, and an [education summit](#) were tools used to determine the direction of education in the 21st century.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (SDACC) Board of Directors voted to accept the [recommendations](#) and approved [action plans](#) necessary to implement the recommendations.



The action plans are monitored at all levels of the education program with regular [reports](#) given to the Board of Directors.

The emphasis now has turned from visioning and planning to [action with passion and compassion](#) . Our prayer is that with the Lord's blessing, our schools will exemplify spiritual and academic excellence and that all of our young people will have the opportunity and privilege of a Christian education.



We at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Office of Education endeavor to be quality driven, customer

conscious, and continuously seeking to do better. Service is our passion. Our goal is total customer responsiveness. We aim to provide service better than customer expects. We do our best to listen to others as we all strive to promote excellence in Adventist Christian Education. Beside attending to the practical administrative details of ensuring that our education code is in good shape, our teacher certification program runs smoothly, our curriculum is excellent and co-ordinates well with the North American Division policies and provincial requirements, our schools are accredited, and our teachers' professional growth needs are met, the following are other important initiatives accomplished during the last quinquennium (1996-2001):

- At least two Education Council Executive and one full Education Council meetings are taking place yearly since 1997.



- Regular in-services for the Education Council members are planned. Most recent ones dealt with the use of PowerPoint, administrative and academic records: what school administrators ought to know, and Community Plus assistance program in adolescent development. The next one will deal with marketing Adventist Christian education.
- Canadian Technology in Education Advisory ([CTEA](#)) was established and appropriate terms of reference developed and adopted.



- Provided matching funds for Canadian principals to attend the Association of Seventh-day Adventist School Administrators ([ASDASA](#)) Convention in March of 1997.
- Organized and provided funds for [Teacher Evaluation Seminar for Principals](#) with Dr. Norman Powel of La Sierra University held at Canadian University College May 8-11, 1997.
- Established Canada Connect technology initiative as a Union supported educational program under the direction of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Technology in Education Advisory Committee (1997). This ListServe for Canadian Adventist teachers was moderated by Dr. Jim Jeffery, from the campus of the Canadian University College until he joined the faculty of Andrews University, Michigan in 1999/2000. Dr. June Fiorito of Canadian University College continued that service.
- Made available to all schools free of charge Potentials - the spiritual development and assessment series developed by the North American Division and La Sierra University.

- Federation of Independent Schools of Canada ([FISC](#)) held its annual meeting at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada headquarters for the first time in its history in September 1999.



- Given a grant to Canadian University College in 1999 in support of the development of two web-based courses: Technology in Education and Internet in the Classroom.
- Initiated and supported financially Model Academy Philanthropy (MAP) program at Crawford Adventist Academy in Toronto, Ontario (1996-98), and Fraser Valley Adventist Academy, Aldergrove, British Columbia (2000-2002) on a matching basis with the participating conferences and Philanthropic Services for Institutions of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
- A three year [Technology Integration Plan](#) for Seventh-day Adventist Schools Across Canada was developed by the Canadian Technology in Education Advisory (CTEA) and approved by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Education Council and K-12 Board.
- Published and made available to the conferences an [In-service Manual for School Board Members](#).
- Established, updated, redesigned and currently maintaining the Canadian Adventist Teachers Network ([CAT~net](#)) web site. [Initial development of CAT~net](#).
- Negotiated the North American Division Textbook Equalization Fund for textbooks produced in the USA and purchased by Canadian schools not receiving provincial financial aid.
- Organized and coordinated the work of an Ad Hoc Committee which produced a study on parental involvement in schools, a pre-cursor of parent advisory councils in our schools.
- Establishment and implementation of mentoring and peer coaching programs.
- Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Office of Education Curriculum Resources Manual made available to the conferences yearly beginning in 1999.
- Conference Textbook Lists published by the conference offices of education.
- [Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Excellence in Teaching Award](#) awarded to 8 teachers each year since 1999.
- Video Licensing for all schools including Canadian University College covered by a Canada-wide policy beginning in 1999.

- Established Discipline Specific Scholarship Fund beginning in 1999 in order to motivate students to choose majors at the Canadian University College needed for teaching in Adventist Schools in Canada. Current identified area of need is Math (See Education Code 5526:00).



- Participated in the development and made available to all pastors, teachers and schools the [Safe and Sound video](#). This video is an up front, non-apologetic statement of what we believe and teach. It uses powerful testimonies from non-Adventist parents about why they put their children in Adventist schools.
- Supported the Technology Fund for Excellence in Elementary Schools on a matching basis with Philanthropic Service for Institutions.
- Establishment of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Accreditation and Certification Review Committees, membership being that of the Education Council Executive.
- Development of an Introduction Packet to Adventist Education to be given to parents at child dedications.
- Negotiated a 20% reduction in La Sierra University (LSU) Master's Program charges offered at CUC for our teachers. This is a sponsored program for all Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada teachers: the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada covers airfare and tuition and the local conferences room and board. Acting on our suggestion, La Sierra University has developed an on-campus web-based approach to course offerings, which started in the summer of 2000. This has cut the on-campus time from 3 months to 1 month, making it possible especially for teachers with families to profit from this sponsored program and not being away for a longer period of time.
- Made Journal of Adventist Education available to pastors through the local conference education offices.
- Support of Curriculum and Assessment Materials Writing in Ontario (Crawford Adventist Academy and Kingsway College) 2000 and 2001, and Curriculum Summaries Writing in British Columbia in 2001.
- Organized and co-ordinated the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Educational Administrators training in [Teacher Perceiver Interview](#) from Gallup Organization.
- Organized, coordinated together with the conference offices of education, and supported the participation of all Canadian Adventist Teachers in the first [North-American Division Teachers' Convention](#), August 13-16, 2000.
- Technology Integration in Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Schools Across Canada Survey Results Report. [Results Summary](#). [Results Graphs](#).



- Hosted North-American Division education meetings. Canada has become one of the favorite places to hold NAD education meetings. One took place in Montreal, Quebec (September 1998); another in [Calgary and Red Deer](#) (May 1999); a third one in Niagara Falls, Ontario (September 2000); and the fourth in Victoria, British Columbia (September 2001).



- Supported two New Principal's Workshops: at La Sierra University (1999) and Andrews University (2001).
- Educational promotional materials provided to schools yearly.
- Published the revised edition of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Education Code in book form, on CAT~net and CD.
- Representation of Canadian teachers on every curriculum and other committees, making sure that the materials produced can also be used in Canada.
- Current Reviewing and updating of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Education Master Plan and of the Technology Integration Plan in Adventist Schools Across Canada in order to publish revisions in November 2001 or March 2002.
- Made plans for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada support for Canadian participation in ASDASA/Bible Conference (2003) and the NAD Teachers' Convention (2006).
- Strengthened team spirit.



- [Conference superintendents' and Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada](#) director's quinquennial reflections on one or two major accomplishments, challenges (1996-2001), and one prediction for the new quinquennium (2001-2006):



One Or Two Major Accomplishments Per Entity (1996-2001):

British Columbia Conference

- Implemented a Three-Year Technology Plan.
- Improved the delivery of instruction.

Alberta Conference

- Developed and maintained technology integration plan.
- Developed and implemented policies for a better employee/employer relations.

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference

- Upgrading technology in the schools.
- Development of invitational education document.

Ontario Conference

- Technology integration.
- Crawford Adventist Academy & Kingsway Summer 2000 Workshop (Grade 9/10 Curriculum).

Quebec Conference

- Paying most of Greaves Academy debt (reduced from \$1,000,000 to below \$400,000).
- The service Greaves Academy gives to the surrounding community. 80% of all students are not Adventist.

Maritime Conference

- Upgrading teachers' computers and providing Microsoft Office 2000 for them.
- Addition of a ¼ time superintendent to oversee the Conference's Education program.

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador

- The establishment of St. John's Adventist Academy (SJAA) a K-12 institution.
- SJAA student enrollment has increased by 50% over each of the last two years.

Parkview Adventist Academy

- Teaching technology improvements.
- Student success.

Kingsway College

- Enrollments increase over the last four years (153 to 193 current).
- Positive net worth gain over the past four years, which has enabled us to fund depreciation.

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Office of Education

- Teamwork of SDACC education personnel within Canada and between the NAD and Canada.
- Self-study and planning for the future: Five-year master-plan for Seventh-day Adventist education in Canada, Education Survey, Education Summit, Technology Integration Plan (CAT~net) & Survey.

One or Two Major Challenges Per Entity (1996-2001):

British Columbia Conference

- "Marketing" Seventh-day Adventist Christian Education to the Adventist Church Members.
- How can our schools maintain stability and health in the midst of multiple church conflicts and infighting?

Alberta Conference

- Having enough personnel to provide the attention that each facet of the education office requires.
- Funding for innovative programs and technology.

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference

- Maintaining the number of schools.
- Promoting Adventist Education to parents where a school is available for their children.

Ontario Conference

- The need to have an associate superintendent in the office responsible for curriculum.
- The need to increase enrollment in all our schools.

Quebec Conference

- Closure of the French school and of the Home Correspondent School.
- Motivating the Constituency to send their children to Greaves Adventist Academy.

Maritime Conference

- Declining enrollments.
- Sandy Lake Academy.

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador

- The closure of all Seventh-day Adventist schools in 1997 due to the Newfoundland's Government decision to restructure education in the province.
- Educating our constituency to the concept of a private tuition based school program.

Parkview Adventist Academy

- Declining enrollment.

- Relationship with Canadian University College.

Kingsway College

- Finding the right mixture on campus to help our students develop their Christian walk.
- To expand our development base bringing in more donated funds.

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Office of Education

- The need to have someone responsible for curriculum Canada-wide.

One Prediction for the Next Quinquennium (2001-2006) Per Entity:

British Columbia Conference

- Our schools will have to exemplify academic and spiritual excellence in order to grow and/or survive.

Alberta Conference

- Focussing on teachers' strengths, the Conference will set goals to train personnel in specialty areas, who then in turn will in-service Conference personnel.

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference

- Without the Lord's blessing we could lose "more" schools. We MUST pray for the Lord's blessing and do our best to promote.

Ontario Conference

- That a school in the eastern section of Toronto will be realized.

Quebec Conference

- Increase the number of Seventh-day Adventist students at Greaves Adventist Academy and possibly reopen the French school.

Maritime Conference

- To provide professional development opportunities for our teachers which will assist them in realizing their career goals.

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador

- St. John's Adventist Academy will continue to increase in enrollment, add staffing, and provide a quality K-12 Adventist education for our children.

Parkview Adventist Academy

- Within the next five years, PAA gains its independence as a boarding school, serving the educational needs of the Western conferences.

Kingsway College

- Unless we as an educational institution take action against the indifference shown by our own constituency regarding Adventist education, we will not only see the decline in enrollment again, but we will also see our best teachers and administrators leaving the system for "greener pastures".

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada Office of Education

- As we continue implementing our vision, with God's help and blessing, we will be able to better serve our constituency, resulting in an increased enrollment and renewed constituent support of our schools across Canada.

Teachers Across Canada:

(Click the thumbnail for a larger picture)

- British Columbia Conference



- Alberta Conference



● Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference



● Ontario Conference



- Maritime Conference



- Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador

