

Achieving Excellence in Adventist Schools in Canada Plan



Table of Contents

Achieving Excellence in Adventist Schools Goals	3
Goal 1	5
Goal 2	6
Goal 3	7
Goal 4	8
Goal 5	9
Goal 6	10
Goal 7	11
Goal 8	12
Goal 9	13
Goal 10	14
Appendix A - Attitude Statements Ranking and Response Percentages – Canada (Ranked According to Desired Mean).....	15
Appendix B – Manitoba-Saskatchewan Partners in Education (PIE) Model.....	17

Achieving Excellence in Adventist Schools in Canada Goals*

Goal 1

Launch a vigorous and sustained educational marketing campaign, capitalizing on strengths of Adventist education in Canada.

Goal 2

Reestablish and nurture in church employees, alumni, and constituents the loyalty and passion towards promoting and supporting Adventist education.

Goal 3

Consider means and ways to address the need in many Adventist schools for a variety of learning resources, improvement in the adequacy of school facilities for high quality education, and provision of a variety of extracurricular activities.

Goal 4

Improve affordability of Adventist schools in Canada.

Goal 5

Formulate and implement a “respectful and safe school” policy.

Goal 6

Formulate and implement a policy for dealing with “special needs” students in the regular classroom.

Goal 7

Encourage all conferences/schools to review the findings of the Adventist Education in Canada Parents’ Attitude Survey and to address the realistic needs for school improvement.

Goal 8

Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, the SDACC will determine areas of educational practices in Adventist schools across Canada, where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean at or above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

Goal 9

Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, conferences will determine areas of educational practices where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

Goal 10

Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, schools will determine areas of educational practices where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

* **VOTED** that the Education Council Executive develop action plans to implement the recommendations based on parent's survey and report on implementation across Canada every time the SDACC K-12 Board of Education meets. (SDACC K-12 Board, November 21, 2004)

N.B. The SDACC Office of Education will monitor and evaluate nationwide implementation; conferences and schools will monitor and evaluate local implementation.

Parents' Survey Follow Up

Action Plans

ACTION PLAN

Goal 1: Launch a vigorous and sustained educational marketing campaign, capitalizing on strengths of Adventist education in Canada.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize an education marketing workshop at Canadian University College. • Promote and support the NAD Marketing Convention in Dallas, Texas, USA. Provided matching funds for travel of Canadian participants. • Produce education marketing/promoting materials, including Education Sabbath materials, in cooperation with the North American Division office of education. 	<p>Done: April 19 - 20, 2004</p> <p>Done: Feb 13-16, 2005</p> <p>Beginning in Spring 2005</p>
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the conference findings of the parents' survey, identify strengths of Adventist education in the conference, and formulate a marketing action plan using the information from the education marketing workshop at CUC in April of 2004, and/or Dallas, Texas in February of 2005. 	<p>School Year 2005-2006</p>
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review school findings of the parents' survey, identify school's strengths of Adventist education, and formulate a marketing action plan using the information from the education marketing workshop at CUC in April of 2004, and/or Dallas, Texas in February of 2005. 	<p>School Year 2005-2006</p>

ACTION PLAN

Goal 2: Reestablish and nurture in church employees, alumni, and constituents the loyalty and passion towards promoting and supporting Adventist education.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey parents who are Adventist Church employees (pastors, teachers, and support personnel) to find out why they seem to be least positive in their attitudes toward Adventist education in Canada? 	School year 2005-2006
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the SDACC in the search for ideas in general, and especially among the Adventist Church employees, to determine what in their opinion is hindering their support and level of involvement. 	School year 2005-2006
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact alumni of schools and the local church members to determine how to change any negative perceptions and gain support. 	School year 2005-2006

ACTION PLAN

Goal 3: Consider means and ways to address the need in many Adventist schools for a variety of learning resources, improvement in the adequacy of school facilities for high quality education, and provision of a variety of extracurricular activities.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the SDACC Capital Improvement Appropriation from \$40,000 a year, now shared by two entities, to \$60,000 a year, to be shared by three entities. Also, allow that these funds be used for resources in addition to building and technology projects. 	Beginning with 2006 Budget
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend to match funds provided by the SDACC. 	Beginning with 2006 Budget
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine which areas of identified concerns by the parents' survey are especially true for the school and budget appropriate amounts to address concerns with the help from the conference and the SDACC. 	Beginning with 2006 Budget

ACTION PLAN

Goal 4: Improve affordability of Adventist schools in Canada.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue allocating most of (75%) K-12 Reversion funds from the NAD directly to the conferences. • Based on the equalization model of the Bible in the matters of mutual support and the counsel of Ellen G. White, formulate and adopt a “Partners in Education” plan. 	Ongoing March/Nov. 2005
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended to implement and promote the SDACC “Partners in Education” plan. • Conferences receiving government funding: build a reserve for unexpected future possible losses in government funding. • Negotiate the sharing of educational costs between parents, church and conference. 	School Year 2005/2006 Begin with 2006 Budget
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote “Partners in Education” plan. (i.e. Adopt a School, Project Based Donations and Manitoba-Saskatchewan PIE Model – see Appendix B). 	

ACTION PLAN

Goal 5: Formulate and implement a “respectful and safe school” policy.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate and adopt a “respectful and safe school” policy, which will include the prevention and intervention of bullying, sexual harassment and substance abuse. 	March 2005
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement or adapt the SDACC “respectful and safe school” policy. Formulate and implement a prevention and intervention program. 	Spring 2005
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt and implement the “respectful and safe school” policy and program. 	School Year 2005-2006

ACTION PLAN

Goal 6: Formulate and implement a policy for dealing with “special needs” students in the regular classroom.

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate a policy for dealing with “special needs” students. SDACC Education Code Policy 3008:05: Admission of Students with Special Needs. 	Done: March 2004
Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt and promote the implementation of the SDACC Education Code policy 3008:05: Admission of Students with Special Needs. 	School Year 2004-2005 and Ongoing
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider ways for implementing the SDACC Education Code policy 3008:05: Admission of Students with Special Needs. 	School Year 2004-2005 and Ongoing

ACTION PLAN

Goal 8: Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, the SDACC will determine areas of educational practices in Adventist schools across Canada, where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean at or above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
SDACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite Education Council Executive members to assign a desired mean for each of the items of the survey, designating the areas where excellence is especially desired. <p>Students are helped to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (4.60) Teachers care about students. (4.54) Spiritual growth is fostered in the school. (4.53) School administrators and teachers are committed to the principles of Adventist education. (4.53) Sexual harassment is NOT a problem at the school. (4.53) Teachers are competent in their subject areas. (4.46) The school is a safe and orderly environment for learning. (4.41) The academic program at the school is of high quality. (4.39) Character development is a priority in the school program. (4.36) Discipline problems are handled effectively at the school. (4.36) Bullying is NOT a problem at the school. (4.36) Drug abuse is NOT a problem at the school. (4.35) School administrators' and teachers' lives are consistent with the Adventist beliefs and lifestyle. (4.34) The students and teachers of the school have a positive working relationship. (4.31) Supervision of students at the school is adequate. (4.31) School administrators and teachers are fair when dealing with students. (4.26) A positive self-concept is fostered at the school. (4.25) The program of spiritual activities at the school is excellent. (4.18) Positive social relationships are encouraged at the school. (4.13) A variety of teaching and learning activities are provided to help students learn. (4.13) Conference subsidy to the school should be increased. (4.08) Students have access to a variety of resources to help them succeed in learning. (4.05) The school is conveniently located. (4.03)</p>	Done: Nov. 2004 (See Appendix A)

ACTION PLAN

Goal 9: Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, conferences will determine areas of educational practices where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider ways on how to assist the conferences/schools in raising the quality of education to a desired level of excellence. • Invite all principals to assign a desired mean for each of the items of the survey, designating the areas where excellence is especially desired. • Formulate a plan on how to raise the quality of education in the schools to a desired level of excellence. 	<p>Nov. 2005</p> <p>School Year 2004-2005</p> <p>School Year 2004-2005</p>

ACTION PLAN

Goal 10: Based on Adventist Education in Canada Parents' Attitude Survey findings, schools will determine areas of educational practices where the objective would be to excel (have an agreement of a mean above 4.00 on the continuum between strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)).

PERSON/ENTITY RESPONSIBLE	ACTIVITY	DATE DEADLINE
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite teachers and staff to assign a desired mean for each of the items of the survey, designating the areas where excellence is especially desired at the school. • Consider and adapt conference plan on how to raise the quality of education in the schools to a desired level of excellence. 	<p>School Year 2005-2006</p> <p>School Year 2005-2006</p>

Appendix A

Attitude Statements Ranking and Response Percentages - Canada (Ranked According to Desired Mean)

Attitude Statements Ranking and Response Percentages – Canada (Ranked According to Desired Mean)

Item #	Attitude Statements	Agree %	Not Sure %	Disagree %	Mean	Desired Mean	SD
02.	Students are helped to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.	84.1	10.1	5.8	4.14	4.60	.85
17.	Teachers care about students.	87.1	8.8	4.1	4.15	4.54	.79
15.	Spiritual growth is fostered in the school.	82.7	10.7	6.6	4.03	4.53	.83
20.	School administrators and teachers are committed to the principles of Adventist education.	80.3	14.7	5.0	4.02	4.53	.85
23.	Sexual harassment is NOT a problem at the school.	69.0	25.9	5.1	3.95	4.53	.92
01.	Teachers are competent in their subject areas.	78.2	13.9	7.9	3.93	4.46	.85
26.	The school is a safe and orderly environment for learning.	84.2	9.2	6.6	4.04	4.41	.83
27.	The academic program at the school is of high quality.	69.1	17.8	13.1	3.75	4.39	.98
04.	Character development is a priority in the school program.	75.8	15.6	8.6	3.94	4.36	.92
12.	Discipline problems are handled effectively at the school.	60.6	23.4	16.0	3.57	4.36	1.03
08.	Bullying is NOT a problem at the school.	51.5	25.3	23.2	3.41	4.36	1.13
29.	Drug abuse is NOT a problem at the school.	65.1	23.3	11.6	3.84	4.35	1.06
16.	School administrators' and teachers' lives are consistent with the Adventist beliefs and lifestyle.	65.1	26.4	8.5	3.74	4.34	.92
09.	The students and teachers of the school have a positive working relationship.	76.5	13.6	9.9	3.89	4.31	.91
18.	Supervision of students at the school is adequate.	74.1	15.7	10.2	3.83	4.31	.92
03.	School administrators and teachers are fair when dealing with students.	71.0	16.6	12.4	3.78	4.26	1.00
07.	A positive self-concept is fostered at the school.	69.8	20.7	9.5	3.79	4.25	.90
06.	The program of spiritual activities at the school is excellent.	71.9	17.8	10.3	3.88	4.18	.97
28.	Positive social relationships are encouraged at the school.	79.0	15.6	5.4	3.94	4.13	.78
05.	A variety of teaching and learning activities are provided to help students learn.	74.7	15.5	9.8	3.86	4.13	.89
21.	Conference subsidy to the school should be increased.	64.4	30.8	4.8	3.94	4.08	.94
11.	Students have access to a variety of resources to help them succeed in learning.	57.2	21.7	21.1	3.44	4.05	1.02
24.	The school is conveniently located.	72.8	6.8	20.4	3.72	4.03	1.15
22.	Students feel that the teachers are their friends.	65.6	24.2	10.2	3.72	3.98	.93
25.	Participation in community service projects is encouraged.	64.2	24.1	11.7	3.69	3.97	.94
13.	School administrators and teachers are responsive to parents' suggestions.	58.6	26.6	14.8	3.54	3.97	.98
19.	Local church subsidy to the school should be increased.	47.6	36.2	16.2	3.50	3.94	1.07
14.	School facilities are adequate for high quality education.	58.1	18.5	23.4	3.41	3.84	1.08
31.	The school provides a variety of extracurricular activities.	56.2	19.7	24.1	3.41	3.73	1.11
30.	Adventist schools should accept government funds.	57.0	21.1	21.9	3.55	3.48	1.33
10.	Sending children to the Adventist school is affordable.	52.2	12.8	35.0	3.20	3.25	1.24

N.B. Responses with means of 3.50 (the lower limit of "agree") or higher are considered as positive for this study, and anything below 3.50 as questionable. Lower limit of "agree", a mean of 3.50, is based on means from Strongly Disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (5) continuum. Standard Deviation (SD) is the measure of dispersion around the mean.

Appendix B

Manitoba-Saskatchewan Partners in Education (PIE) Model

STUDENT AID
Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference
Camp Meeting 2004

Taking care of our young people is the responsibility of parents, teachers and church members. In fact each of these groups will be asked to account for the flock under their care.

Parents who have neglected their God-give responsibilities must meet that neglect in the judgment. The Lord will then require: “Where are the children that I gave to you to train for Me? Why are they not at My right hand?” Many parents will then see that unwise love blinded their eyes to their children’s faults and left those children to develop deformed characters, unfit for heaven. Others will see that they did not give their children time and attention, love and tenderness; their own neglect of duty made the children what they are. Teachers will see where they could have worked for the Master by seeking to save the apparently incorrigible cases that they cast off in the youth of tender years. And the members of the church will see that they might have done good service for the Master in seeking to help those who most needed help. While their interest and love were lavished upon their own families, there were many inexperienced youth who might have been taken to their hearts and homes, and whose precious souls could have been saved by interest and kindly care. Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, p. 424.

Adventist education is not just a parent responsibility—it is a church responsibility. It is not only a **responsibility**; it is a **privilege**. The members of the churches that have a school give generously to provide Adventist education for their children. In addition to the regular church subsidy, additional funds to support needy students and fund raising projects are undertaken to provide further assistance. This is particularly true for the Saskatchewan schools since they do not receive provincial grants. **Funding for their school is in addition to donations for Conference Advance.**

If each church in the Conference, that did not operate a church school became Partners In Education, the opportunity for Adventist education could become a reality for many more of our children. The Conference Advance Offering goes toward a variety of Conference projects. Some of the funds go to support education and that does reduce the overall cost to the local church and the parents. It does not, however, address the need of some families that require additional financial assistance to meet their portion of the costs.

Student Aid could be provided in several different ways. Among them are the following:

- Encourage each church to include in the local church budget an amount determined by the church to go for student aid.
- Encourage each church to take an offering following the Children’s Story, taken by the children, for student aid.
- Encourage church members to include in their monthly giving an amount for student aid.

All funds from these churches, identified on the donation envelope as Student Aid, would be sent to the Conference to assist students with financial need, and would be in addition to Conference Advance Offerings. Funds would also be used as matching funds for PAA and CUC students from our Conference. Also, should provincial funding become available in Saskatchewan, the funds could be used to assist new schools during the

waiting period. The exact formula, or plan, would need to be developed. Funds collected during a particular school year would be allocated the following school year. This program would not replace what the churches operating schools are currently doing but it would make it possible for many more students to experience an Adventist education because of the extra funding made available.

The Table below indicates the amount of funds that would be available IF each church member gave an average of \$5.00 per month to the Student Aid Fund.

SUPPORTING/PARTNERSHIP CHURCHES

Church	Membership	Amount/member/month	Total
The Battlefords	98	\$5.00	\$5880
Brandon	38	\$5.00	\$2280
Canora	48	\$5.00	\$2880
Dauphin	22	\$5.00	\$1320
Erickson	23	\$5.00	\$1380
Hudson Bay	71	\$5.00	\$4260
Macrorie	21	\$5.00	\$1260
Maple Creek	18	\$5.00	\$1080
Melville	14	\$5.00	\$840
Moose Jaw	112	\$5.00	\$6720
Nipawin	49	\$5.00	\$2940
Portage la Prairie	34	\$5.00	\$2040
Prince Albert	58	\$5.00	\$3480
Quill Lake	69	\$5.00	\$4140
Rosthern	79	\$5.00	\$4740
St Walburg	29	\$5.00	\$1740
Shelbrook	30	\$5.00	\$1800
Swan River	41	\$5.00	\$2460
Swift Current	24	\$5.00	\$1440
Tugaske	16	\$5.00	\$960
Weyburn	22	\$5.00	\$1320
Winnipegosis	48	\$5.00	\$2880
Yorkton	100	\$5.00	\$6000
Totals	1064	\$5.00	\$63840

Churches and/or members participating in this program would be known as Partners *In Education* (*PIE*) providing additional funds to more adequately meet the financial needs of students in our conference.

RECOMMENDATION: That each pastor share this concept with their church(es) and encourage the members to become Partners in Education by accepting one of the suggested options, or one designed by them. Pastors are requested to report the decision of the church regarding their response to this plan to AdCom by 15 October 2004.