Inclusive Learning Communities Grants

The Alberta Teachers’ Association offers grants of up to $2,000 to help fund projects aimed at creating inclusive school cultures that respect diversity, equity and human rights. To qualify for a grant, applicants must be active or associate members of the ATA.

These grants support projects that promote inclusive learning communities that do the following:

- Advance the goals of public education
- Reflect the principles of respect for diversity, equity and human rights
- Foster and support the intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development of each child
- Build school cultures that reflect a commitment to intercultural education; gender equity; respect for differences in sexual orientation, gender identity, physical characteristics, mental ability or ancestry; First Nations, Métis and Inuit education; poverty issues; peace and global education; violence prevention; and anti-racism education
- Have ongoing impact on students and teachers

For information on how to apply and to review previous projects, go to www.teachers.ab.ca and click on Diversity, Equity & Human Rights under Issues in Education.

Association Workshops That Build Safe and Inclusive Schools

- Building Human Rights Communities
- Classroom Management—What Works
- Dealing with Bullying and Cyberbullying
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit education workshops
- Here Comes Everyone—Responding to Cultural Diversity
- Increasing Student Resilience
- Respecting Diversity—Focus on Racism or Sexism
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity—workshop series
- Teaching Controversial Issues

Other workshops address global education, and faith and legal issues relating to diversity, equity and human rights.

Visit www.teachers.ab.ca and click on Workshops, Courses and Presentations under Professional Development for detailed descriptions of these and other Association workshops.

To find out more about the Diversity, Equity and Human Rights Committee, contact

The Alberta Teachers’ Association
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Edmonton AB
T5N 2R1
Telephone: 780-447-9400
Toll free: 1-800-232-7208
Fax: 780-455-6481
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The Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA)

is committed to advocating for students and public education by supporting policies and programs aimed at teaching democratic values and the principles of social justice, building positive relationships among all members of the education community and addressing issues related to those who are marginalized.

One of the Association’s long-range policies states that a primary role of education in a democratic society is to

- foster the principles of equity, human rights, social responsibility and justice;
- portray diversity as an asset in school communities; and
- eliminate barriers to full participation in education and society while fostering understanding, empathy and compassion.

The ATA’s Code of Professional Conduct

The teacher teaches in a manner that respects the dignity and rights of all persons without prejudice as to race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical characteristics, disability, marital status, family status, age, ancestry or place of origin, place of residence, socioeconomic background or linguistic background.

The Diversity, Equity and Human Rights (DEHR) Committee

studies, advises and makes recommendations on policies that reflect respect for diversity, equity and human rights;

offers Inclusive Learning Communities Grants to teachers and supports activities that promote inclusion;

produces Just in Time, an electronic newsletter;

provides print and Web-based information and resources; and

supports the work of its subcommittees.

The DEHR Subcommittees

Gender Equity
Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
Intercultural Education
Intercultural Education

The subcommittees’ responsibilities are to

- provide advice and input on policy and programs,
- facilitate local and provincial projects,
- oversee the development of resources for teachers, and
- assist in the implementation of approved activities.

The ATA Website

Teachers can find resources to help them develop schools as inclusive learning communities at www.teachers.ab.ca/diversity/index.html.

Topics of Focus

- Anti-Racism
- Inclusive Learning Communities
- Gender Equity
- Human Rights
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The website provides

- downloadable grant applications,
- hotlinks to diversity education partners,
- hotlinks to professional development workshops,
- information about upcoming events,
- downloadable issues of Just in Time—the DEHR Committee newsletter,
- teaching ideas and strategies, and
- Web-based resources.