

UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network

Expectations for Membership in the Canadian Network

Preamble

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was established in 1946 with the purpose of contributing to world peace and security. UNESCO's mission is to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

Canadian schools that join the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) make a commitment to support the ideals of UNESCO, through four *pillars of learning* and four *themes of study*, in order to contribute to a local, national and global culture of peace.

Pillars of Learning*	Themes of Study
<i>Learning to know</i>	<i>ASPnet and UN priorities</i>
<i>Learning to do</i>	<i>Education for Sustainable Development</i>
<i>Learning to be</i>	<i>Peace and human rights</i>
<i>Learning to live together</i>	<i>Intercultural learning</i>

*Established by the UNESCO International Commission on Education for the 21st Century.

Expectations for membership in the Canadian Associated Schools network have been established by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and include two levels: *Candidate Schools* and *Member Schools*. Candidate Schools are interested in joining the network and are working towards the deep cultural shift that signifies a UNESCO school. Member schools have demonstrated a sustained commitment to the ideals, values, work and principles of UNESCO. Specific standards for each level follow below.

Candidate School Goals

1. Build support and commitment to the values, work and principles of UNESCO from the school administration, the school district administration, the staff, the student body and parents/community. This includes designating a key contact for UNESCO activities at the school level, and where possible, at the student level.
2. Ensure that UNESCO Theme 1 "ASPnet and UN priorities" provides a focus for curricular and extracurricular programming leading to an informed student body.
3. Staff are engaged in professional development in pursuit of the school's UNESCO themes and pillars.
4. Pursue project opportunities with other UNESCO Associated Schools.
5. Explore connections with at least one other school in the Canadian network.
6. Establish partnerships in the community to work toward UNESCO ideals.*
7. Begin to integrate UNESCO pillars and themes into curricular and extracurricular programs, and into school policies and practices.
8. Highlight international days, weeks, years or decades as designated by the United Nations and UNESCO.

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9. Attend regularly scheduled network meetings.
10. Regularly produce a UNESCO school plan which reports on past achievements and describes future goals. Submit, via the provincial/territorial coordinator, the UNESCO school plan to the national coordinator.

* These partnerships may be with other UNESCO networks, postsecondary institutions, non-governmental organizations, community service organizations, businesses or government agencies.

Member School Expectations

When a school feels ready to request full membership in the network, the following expectations need to be demonstrated:

1. Provide evidence of sustained commitment to the values, work and principles of UNESCO from the school administration, the school district administration, the staff, the student body and parents/community in order to build a culture of peace. This includes designating a key contact for UNESCO activities at the school level, in addition to an administrator, and where possible, at the student level.
2. Provide evidence that UNESCO Theme 1 “ASPnet and UN priorities” provides a focus for curricular and extracurricular programming leading to an informed student body.
3. Staff are engaged in professional development in pursuit of the school’s UNESCO goals and/or projects.
4. Sustain projects with at least one other school in the Canadian network and at least one other school in the international network.
5. Provide evidence over a sustained period of time of collaboration with the community, organizations or agencies to realize UNESCO ideals.
6. Provide evidence that the school has linked UNESCO pillars and themes with curricular and extracurricular programs and integrated them into school policies and practices.
7. Provide evidence over a sustained period of time of successful action taken to incorporate within the school a culture that reflects UNESCO ideals.
8. Highlight international days, weeks, years or decades as designated by the United Nations and UNESCO.
9. Attend network meetings at the provincial level and where possible at the national level.
10. Regularly produce a UNESCO school plan which reports on past achievements and describes future goals. Submit, via the provincial/territorial coordinator, the UNESCO school plan to the national coordinator.

Network membership may be revoked if annual reports are not submitted in a timely fashion or if report information indicates that a school is no longer maintaining the expectations related to membership.