



## Calgary Board of Education Trustee Report

Many of you may have heard conflicting stories about possible budget cuts coming from Alberta Education in 2010. Recognizing this, it seemed timely to inform you about some steps taken to address this issue.

While the Board hopes there will not be significant cuts to public education, we recognize that the current fiscal situation may require the CBE to tighten its belt. With this in mind, the CBE has provided to Alberta Education, as requested, some recommendations on how to reduce spending in a responsible way. Every effort was made to protect the delivery of core programming and resist across the board cuts. Part of the conversation has been the identification of opportunities to improve and reform the ways that education is delivered in Alberta.

As part of this process, I have been involved in discussions organized through the provincial Inspiring Education initiative to identify different ways of learning as well as what a student in Alberta will need to learn in order to be successful twenty years from now. To address the diversity of student needs and the current policy framework for special needs, the province also organized Setting the Direction, an opportunity to gather input from communities, organizations and parents. The Board of Trustees took advantage of this process to provide a CBE perspective.

At the CBE, we believe that public education is an investment in the future that must be managed thoughtfully and responsibly. We are committed to working with Alberta Education and other school boards to come up with solutions that focus on what is best for students. With a collaborative and innovative approach such as this, we are actively pursuing every means possible to maintain a high quality learning environment for CBE students.

If you have any comments or concerns, I'd be happy to speak with you. Feel free to contact me at 403-294-8123 or [pjcochrane@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:pjcochrane@cbe.ab.ca).

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Trustee, Wards 8 and 9



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