

# Government of Alberta News Release

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**November 3, 1997**  
**For Immediate Release**

## **Public presentations are planned for the Calgary Board of Education Review**

Calgarians will have an opportunity to present their views on how the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and its schools operate. Public hearings will be held from 1 - 9 p.m. on December 3 and 4, 1997.

The CBE Review Team is looking at issues like the implementation of school-based decision-making, CBE policies on student fees and funding for textbooks, school fundraising activities, the allocation of instructional funding, and special needs programming in the Calgary public school system.

Leading up to the public meetings, the review team will send a questionnaire to all principals and school council chairs. In mid-November, focus groups of parents, principals, teachers, students and support staff will provide further input.

The CBE Review Team was established in June 1997 to perform a comprehensive review of the Calgary Board of Education's operations and management. The scope of the review includes:

- how the board's three-year plan for education fits with the province's plan and direction for education;
- CBE's relationship with other public and separate boards, charter schools and private schools in providing educational services to resident students;
- how well the board's decisions meet the requirements of Alberta's funding framework; and
- how CBE provides for long-term planning and future financial needs.

In addition to the public input, Arthur Anderson & Co., an independent consulting and management firm in Calgary, has been hired to collect and analyze data from CBE's financial statements and records for the team's review.

The review team is expected to submit a final report to the Minister of Education in January 1998.

Calgarians who wish to make presentations to the review team on December 3 or 4 are asked to book a time in advance by calling toll free 310-0000, then dialing 427-2952. Each presenter is required to provide a copy of their presentation. In addition, written submissions can be sent to: the Calgary Board of Education Review Team c/o Calgary Regional Office, Room 1200, 615 Macleod Trail, S.E., Calgary, Alberta, T2G 4T8 or to Steve Cymbol, Chair, at 3W, 11160 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 0L2.

The CBE Review Team is comprised of a CBE representative, two members of the Calgary community, three members with experience in the education field, and a Calgary M.L.A.

The review team members are:

- Steve Cymbol, Chair (former Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Services, Alberta Education)
- Greg Melchin (M.L.A. Calgary North West and a Chartered Accountant)
- Howie Shikaze (VP Finance and CFO of Seventh Energy Ltd.)
- Cindy Ady (community volunteer and former executive member of a school council)

- Thomas Olson (Associate Superintendent of Parkland School Division #70)
  - Judy Tilston (Vice-Chair of the Calgary Board of Education)
  - Betty Evans (Assistant Principal at Connaught Community School in Calgary).
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**For more information, contact:**

Steve Cymbol - Chair, Calgary Board of Education Review Team - (403) 427-2952

To call toll-free outside of Edmonton, dial 310-0000

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Comments regarding presentation should be forwarded to [WebEditor@gov.ab.ca](mailto:WebEditor@gov.ab.ca)

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