MEDIA RELEASE



For immediate release

Date: Sept. 18, 2023 **Contact:** Allison Purcell,

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Lethbridge School Division:

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New Social Studies curriculum

Lethbridge School Division is eagerly anticipating the release of the draft Kindergarten to Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum.

Earlier today, Alberta Education announced a series of new engagement opportunities to assist in the process of redrafting the curriculum. Alberta Education added the goal of the redraft is to ensure content builds students' critical thinking and communication skills, enhances Indigenous, multicultural and francophone perspectives and is age and developmentally appropriate. Alberta Education's commitment to seek input from a wide cross section of Albertans is encouraging, according to the Division's Board Chair, Allison Purcell.

"I am very excited to see the government is undertaking what looks to be a robust engagement process," she said. "The fact the government is also considering the feedback collected over the last two years is another positive step in the process."

A survey and online discussion guide will be available until **Oct. 16** and afterwards, Alberta Education will meet with education partners, including teachers, and a variety of other groups and specialists.

"It is very important to have teachers at the table, along with specialists in Indigenous education," said Purcell. "Hearing many different perspectives will help shape the Social Studies curriculum and put the process on the right track."

Public engagement is expected to begin in early 2024, after the draft K-6 curriculum is released. "As a Board, we certainly encourage members of the public to take advantage of these engagement opportunities," said Purcell. "Take the time to review the draft and add your valuable feedback to the equation."

Lethbridge School Division

Communications Officer, Garrett Simmons: 403-380-7396, garrett.simmons@lethsd.ab.ca Learners are innovative thinkers who are successful, confident, respectful and caring