

# Why I Belong to CAP

By George Tucker, CAP President  
and Gordon Crook, CAP Director from Manitoba

## and what I get for my \$10.

The CAP Board of Directors is currently considering how CAP can take the next step in its evolution as a national voice for school-based administrators. The CAP Directors have just completed a strategic planning exercise and have recognized that in order for CAP to play a proper role, one that is equivalent to that played by national teacher, trustees and other organizations, additional resources will be required.

Currently, the \$10 CAP fee does not even fully fund an office, Executive Assistant and three board meetings per year. The CAP Journal, School Leaders Listserve, Student Awards and most publications are funded through external means.

The CAP Directors also noted that CAP members will have to be better informed about what CAP has accomplished for them and for education before they will support an increase in fees. The challenge for Directors is to answer the question; Why do we belong to CAP? And what do we get for the current fee of \$10?

CAP is unique, with focus on kids and education. CAP helps school leaders deal with the clutter. CAP offers a pan-Canadian professional development opportunity. CAP offers a sense of belonging to Canada. CAP influence curriculum initiatives and alleviates political influence. CAP has an impact on an ever-growing "national education agenda" that is having an increasing impact on schools and the role of school leaders. CAP has evolved since 1976 to a level that will allow it to perform effectively. Continued success is dependent on improving communications with individual members and the general public, strengthening its relationship with its affiliates and national organizations and finding additional funding.

### Benefits of Belonging to CAP

#### Individual members:

- A unique professional voice for children and educators
- Sense of belonging in a Canadian, international profession
- Pan-Canadian professional development
- Regular, reliable information
- Opportunity to influence national educational agenda
- Political lobbying and input regarding education policy
- Networking regarding national trends and issues
- Advocacy for education and for students
- National professional development
- National monitoring of curriculum development issues
- List serve and website
- Information from CAP affiliates on the status of administrators

#### Affiliates:

- Profile at national level
- Member development
- Influence/contacts/access
- Timely information
- Resources
- Presence at national education tables by CAP benefits provincial members.
- Opportunity to profile affiliates' activities in the CAP Journal
- Acting as the gatekeeper for provincial affiliates regarding the national education agenda
- Communication, timeliness, national information to provincial group, two way deal. –
- National dissemination of provincial information
- Consistent and continuing contact with members
- Ability to survey members on issues
- Serve as clearinghouse for affiliate common issues
- Expanded network of two-way communications

#### For students and educators:

- Constructive influence on federal programs, initiatives and legislation
- Indirect influence on education ministers and ministry officials through forums and consultations organized by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada.
- Variety of educational resources and research produced through projects and activities

# The Roles that CAP Plays for Us

This brief overview is on the role that CAP is playing and could play in supporting the goals of Affiliates, serving the professional needs of their individual members and, ultimately, serving our students.

In the face of increasing coordination a

m **Advocacy**  
on g provincial education ministries in curriculum, accountability measures, and other activities, CAP has been able to:

- Have all of its affiliates represented at national consultations undertaken by the Council of Ministers of Education.
- Have school administrators recognized as equals in any CMEC sponsored dialogues at the same level as CTF, CSBA, etc.
- Co-sponsor with CMEC, a project that is leading to better, broader stats on youth social behaviour. This project involves over eight federal departments.
- Enter into a dialogue with Statistics Canada about streamlining the number and duplication of surveys that approach school principals.
- Present school administrators' views at a CMEC-Stats Canada-HRDC research meeting that examined projections of staffing needs for teachers and school administrators.

CAP has been able to influence the direction of major federal initiatives that provide professional information, advice, planning resources and other tools to schools. These include examples such as:

- Being represented (Brent Wilson) at key committees within Schoolnet that guided the development of Internet projects and activities that are now available to schools. One example of this activity that has led to a significant professional development tool for administrators is SATIR, an interactive web site that has a number of PD elements.
- Being represented (Ian McLellan) at the National Crime Prevention Council that is managing a huge federal initiative to prevent crime. This initiative has produced a number of professional development tools for school administrators, including a web site co-published by CAP and other organizations on safe and healthy schools.
- Being represented (Hugh Fraser) at a national consultation that is developing a major initiative from Canadian Heritage. This process will create a number of professional development tools and learning resources for schools, including a CAP-CTF project to create a lesson plan gateway on preventing racism that will catalogue over 2000 lesson plans and learning activities.

## Professional Development

### Canada's Most Read Professional Journal for School Administrators

With scant funding and largely through external sources, CAP now publishes The CAP Journal, reaching 15,000 school-based administrators with articles on selected educational topics, collections of web sites and leadership advice.

### An E-Mail List to Over 22,000 people

CAP now publishes a email list that reaches over 44,000 people with "clippings" of educational news, journal contents, educational resources, research studies and other information. The over 2000 subscribers regularly use it to pass along news to an average of 22 people.

### An Annual Conference

CAP's annual conference is the only opportunity for school administrators to meet colleagues from across the country.

### Traveling Workshops

CAP has organized "traveling workshops" on topics such as technology and school dropouts. An upcoming meeting of Principals' associations in March will examine how provincially developed workshops could be offered across the country.

### On Line Professional Development

CAP is currently negotiating with an Internet provider to publish online courses/modules. That platform will be offered to CAP Affiliates who are not in a position to offer such online courses due to costs.

**CAP...**

**a great value at \$10...**

**a greater voice with your support.**



# Educational Projects and Services

Through a variety of externally funded projects and activities, CAP has been able to create an extensive number of educational and professional development resources for school administrators, school staffs and their students. Over one million dollars of such activities have been generated through CAP's activities.

## CAP-CAHPERD-CASH Diabetes Prevention Project

CAP is helping two national health education organizations disseminate educational resources and tools to schools that will be produced in a large-scale project in 2002-03.

## CAP-CMEC Consultation on Social Behaviour Statistics

CAP is working with CMEC and several federal departments to find ways to collect regular statistics on youth social behaviours, their social environments and relevant school and agency policies and practices. Currently, there is no reliable, timely, method of monitoring antisocial and pro-social behaviours and, consequently, school incidents can be sensationalized or not assessed properly. A follow-up project will test and promote the use of a student information monitoring system (EBIS) that many schools across the country are considering.

## CAP-CTF Racism Lesson Gateway

CAP and CTF are publishing an online catalogue of over 2000 lesson plans and learning activities for social studies, health/social development, ESL, native studies, science, math, international languages and other subjects. Funding is being provided by Canadian Heritage, Multiculturalism Branch.

## Statistics Canada Health Lesson Plans

CAP is helping Statistics Canada create lesson plans that use local and national health statistics and research information to promote health and well-being.

## Oceans Education Lesson Plans

CAP is publishing an online catalogue of lesson plans and learning activities on Oceans education and environmental studies with funding provided by private sources.

## Youth/Student Health Concerns

CAP is working with Health Canada and several other national organizations to prepare an innovative, online student health/concerns survey instrument that will automatically generate a profile of student concerns for the school. The site is in beta testing now and will be launched in 2002.

## Review of Zero Tolerance Policies

The Youth Justice Policy Division of Justice Canada funded CAP to conduct a review of "zero tolerance" policies in schools. The project included a research review, focus groups with school principals, a report in the CAP Journal, and recommendations for action.

## Safe and Healthy Schools Gateway

With funding from Health Canada, CAP is working with several other national organizations to build and maintain an Internet Gateway web site on safe and healthy schools. This web site identifies and links to hundreds of selected online resource, research and planning documents.

## Consensus Statement on Safe Schools

CAP is working with several national organizations to advocate for a comprehensive school and community approach to safety in schools. This project is funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre and includes a national meeting, consensus statement, research review and advocacy activities.

## Student Forum on Education

CAP received funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage and acted in partnership with the Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada (SEVEC) and the Canadian Association of Student Activity Advisors (CASAA) to organize a national student forum that developed a student consensus statement on education from participating students. CAP is currently seeking funding to present this statement to educational authorities and to continue to facilitate the development of a nationally recognized student organization.

## Safe Schools Inventory of Resources and Research

The National Crime Prevention Centre funded CAP to undertake a review of the resources and research available on safe schools and student antisocial behaviours.

## Mental Health and Schools

Funded by Health Canada, this project included the development of a resources listing for schools and a research review. A brief planning guide was published in the CAP Journal. Copies are available from the CAP national office.

## School Readiness/Readiness to Learn

This project was funded by Human Resource Development Canada. The project activities included a research review, article in The CAP Journal, and the preparation of an "Internet Essay" (Gateway) that links selected online documents to a summary of the issues and best practices.

## Staff Development in Technologies

This project was funded by the Office of Learning Technologies. The project activities included a research review, listing of online information and resources and consultations with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) and other organizations and the development of a CAP statement on educational leadership and technology.

**Support CAP....to serve your interests, your association and your students.**