

# SCHOOL FUNDING MODELS

*in Alberta and British Columbia*

## ALBERTA

### 1. ACCREDITED PRIVATE SCHOOLS

#### Elementary

- ↗ Early Childhood Services (ECS), ages 3-5: \$2640 – for Kindergarten year
- ↗ Grades 1-9, approximately \$3500 per student (+/-40% of public per student costs)
- ↗ Special needs students
  - » Mild to moderate disability \$9,727
  - » Severe disability \$15,292

#### Secondary

- ↗ Grades 10-12, approximately \$3600 per student (+/- 60% of public school rate)

#### Conditions

- ↗ must follow Alberta Program of Studies
- ↗ must employ certified teachers
- ↗ normal regulatory and administrative reporting requirements

### 2. ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FUNDING

Each public board defines its own alternative program and determines contractual arrangements. For example, in Edmonton there has been no difficulty offering faith-based alternative programs, while in Calgary there has been strong resistance to faith-based programs.

#### Arrangements

- ↗ full funding for all students
- ↗ open admissions
- ↗ program may be offered in buildings leased to public board (e.g., ECS)
- ↗ must follow Alberta Program of Studies
- ↗ all teachers must be certified
- ↗ all teachers must be members of Alberta Teachers Association
- ↗ teachers seeking work apply through public board's HR pool
- ↗ principals appointed by public board, but different degrees of involvement by "Christian school board" in different jurisdictions

Source: AISCA, 2007

# BRITISH COLUMBIA

## CLASSIFICATION AND GRANTS TO INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

### Basic requirements for all schools

- ✚ minimum enrolment of 10 students
- ✚ must be operated under Independent School Act
- ✚ must provide statistics to Ministry
- ✚ compliance with zoning, health and safety enactments
- ✚ may not promote hatred, racism, ethnic or religious superiority

### Category 1:

50% of basic per student grant in local public school district (+/- \$3000), entitled to offer official B.C. Graduation Certificate, "Certified by B.C."

- ✚ program complies with School Act requirements
- ✚ all teachers BC certified
- ✚ inspected every two years
- ✚ external evaluation every four years
- ✚ per student operating cost same or less than local public district
- ✚ operated by non-profit authority

### Category 2:

35% of basic per student grant in local public school district (+/- \$2100), entitled to offer official B.C. Graduation Certificate, "Certified by B.C."

- ✚ program complies with School Act requirements
- ✚ all teachers certified
- ✚ inspected every two years
- ✚ external evaluation every four years
- ✚ operated by non-profit authority

### Category 3:

10% of basic per student grant in local public school district (+/- \$600)

- ✚ inspected every two years

### Category 4:

no grants

- ✚ must comply with bonding requirements
- ✚ program, fees, accommodation, and refund policy must be consistent with school's promotional materials

Source: FISABC, 2007