

Leaders & Learners

The official magazine of the Canadian
Association of School System Administrators

Association canadienne des
gestionnaires de commissions scolaires

MEMO

DATE: August 21, 2025

FROM: Reg Klassen, Executive Director, CASSA

SUBJECT: CASSA Magazine – Request for Abstracts

After discussions with Matrix Group Publishing Inc. and the CASSA Board, we are excited to begin working on the Winter 2025 issue of *Leaders & Learners*. We would like to share stories about how your schools, districts, and community partners are supporting each student through programs, partnerships, and professional development. Articles may highlight new technologies, curricula, PD opportunities, outdoor learning lessons, Reconciliation, learning for new Canadians, recovery learning after the pandemic, etc.

The Winter 2025 edition will be mailed to readers across Canada in January 2026.

FEATURES

If you have an article idea that you wish to submit, please send an abstract to Jenna Collignon, editor of the magazine, at jcollignon@matrixgroupinc.net, and copy reg_klassen@cassa-acgcs.ca. We are looking for features and success stories from each region of Canada: Eastern Canada, Quebec, Ontario, Western Canada, and Northern Canada.

- Proposals are due **October 6, 2025**. Please include a 25 to 50-word description as well as contact information for the author(s). The FINAL article deadline for the Winter 2025 issue will be **November 10, 2025**.
- You will be notified if your abstract is chosen.
- If your abstract is chosen, you will be given a word count to stick to. (Note: If your article is over word count, it will be edited down.)
- Photos are welcome. They must be high resolution, 300 DPI, and are subject to approval.
- At the end of the article, include 25 to 50 words about each author that is on the byline.
- Articles proposals may have been written previously by a member in the jurisdiction, or you may provide a new article by someone with an expertise or experience in this area or someone developing a program for a district or province.

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In Addition to Articles on The Main Theme, We Are Looking For “Insider Insight” Stories

The Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA) would like to invite members and education leaders from across Canada to share their stories of success in upcoming issues of its magazine *Leaders & Learners*. CASSA believes strongly that it is essential to communicate and collaborate with educational and community partners to ensure excellence and equity in publicly funded education across Canada.

CASSA would like to feature “real life stories” from Canadian schools that showcase:

- **The importance of field trips:** Where have your students travelled locally, within Canada, and abroad? How did your school make this happen (fundraising, grants, etc.)? What lessons did students learn about history, culture, geography, etc.? How do experiences like this compliment in-class learning?
 - **New and interesting technologies:** What new technologies has your school and / or region used with success, or with failure? What problem(s) was the technology addressing? What was the result? What lessons were learned? Were partnerships with suppliers involved? Examples might include software to help with student placement in classrooms, virtual dissections for science class, tablets for all students, etc.
 - **Outdoor learning:** How does outdoor learning look at your school / in your region? What benefits have the students experienced? How do you fit outdoor learning into your curriculum? What is the impact of outdoor learning on mental health?
 - **STEM:** How is your school / region implementing STEM practices to ensure that students are developing hands-on skills for the real world. How do programs look? What have the results been? How does technology intersect with STEM learning?
 - **School access:** As student populations grow and change, and physical access to all areas of a school’s grounds becomes the norm, how is your school / region changing to ensure that all students, no matter their abilities, are able to participate in classroom, physical education, and outdoor activities? What upgrades (for example, hallway size, playground equipment, wheelchair ramps) have been made? What is the importance of these upgrades?
 - **School maintenance:** Many of Canada’s schools are several decades (or even a century!) old, and in desperate need of maintenance. How has your school upgraded, who was involved in the upgrade’s success, and what has the result been? Examples could be new wiring for technology, upgraded cooling and heating systems, new or upgraded air purification systems, etc.
 - **Physical education:** According to the Government of Canada, Canadian children and youth spend approximately 8.4 hours of their day sedentary, including 3.8 hours of leisure screen time. How are you ensuring students are getting movement during their school days, are learning important skills, and are being taught vital details that will help them lead healthy lives for their entire lives?
- We would like to feature stories on these topics in all upcoming issues of *Leaders & Learners*.

These “insider insights” into Canadian schools will be an invaluable resource for education leaders across the country.

CASSA is accepting abstracts for these stories now!

Articles will be 500 words and include space for one to two images. If you’re interested in writing something more in-depth, please ask and it may be possible.

This is an excellent way to showcase the hard work your school leaders and staff are doing to ensure the success of all students! We look forward to hearing from you.