



10.8 Provincial Outreach Programs

INCLUSION OUTREACH

Inclusion Outreach is an outreach service mandated to assist schools throughout British Columbia in meeting the educational needs of students with multiple severe physical and cognitive disabilities. A team – consisting of a teacher, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, and speech-language pathologist – provides resources through a variety of services.

For more information on this service, please navigate to:

<https://www.inclusionoutreach.ca/>

PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISORDERS (POPARD)

POPARD is a provincial resource that is designed to provide education, strategies and training to teachers, principal, and support staff to increase their knowledge and understanding of autism spectrum disorders. The outreach is done through POPARD's free website which can be found at: <https://autismoutreach.ca/>

Training is also available from regional consultants.

The regional consultant for School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) is available to come to individual schools and work with a student or group of students who have a formal diagnosis on the autism spectrum. This work may be in the form of consultation, workshops, or mentoring, depending on the needs of the students and the school.

A request can be made to access the services of the regional consultant by filling out a five-part referral form and submitting it to the district POPARD representative.

PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (POPFASD)

POPFASD is a provincial resource program whose mandate is to increase educators' capacity to meet the learning needs of students with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Their website can be accessed at: <https://www.fasdoutreach.ca/>

When appropriate and when requested by the school and the parent/guardian, the district partner for POPFASD is willing to participate in discussion regarding a specific student and to assist in ensuring that appropriate plans are in place for that student. This may include assisting with understanding of the disorder, attendance at school-based team (SBT) meetings, and helping to develop support plans (IEPs or SLPs).

The district partner also facilitates liaison with other ministries and community agencies, including FASD key workers. This can be done through discussion regarding general and specific cases, as well as by participating in planning for FASD conferences.



SET-BC

Purpose

SET-BC is a provincial resource program established to assist school districts in educating students whose access to the curriculum is restricted primarily due to the following disabilities:

- physical disabilities or chronic health impairments
- visual impairments
- dependent handicaps
- deafblindness
- autism spectrum disorders
- moderate to profound intellectual disabilities

Services

- To lend assistive technologies (reading, writing, and communication tools) where required to ensure students' access to educational programs, and
- To assist school districts in providing the necessary training for students and educators in the use of these technologies.

Referral Procedures

A teacher may refer a student to the SBT. If the student is recommended by inclusive education staff to receive SET-BC services, the SBT will be required to complete a request for service form and a referral in Clevr. Once the referral is received, a follow-up form will be sent out to the teacher who initiated the referral. On that form, the teacher will briefly describe the educational goals that they believe technology would address for the student. The ministry category the student is in should be provided, and a copy of the student's IEP should be included with the follow-up form. The teacher may be contacted for more information, or an observation of the student may be arranged.

Collaborative Action Plan

The SBT will then take part in developing a collaborative action plan with the SET-BC regional consultant. The meeting should be attended by the IST, the classroom teacher and the school principal. The SET-BC consultant will assist the team to determine what strategies and technology best meet the needs of the student.



PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR EARLY INTERVENTION (POPEI)

The POPEI is a British Columbia Ministry of Education provincial resource program with an outreach focus. The mandate of the program is to increase educator's capacity to teach all learners, particularly diverse and struggling learners. Supports are delivered through in-services, networking, resources, and eLearning opportunities. Please see their website for more information: <https://www.popey.ca/>

PROVINCIAL RESOURCE CENTRE FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (PRCVI)

The PRCVI is a Ministry of Education provincial resource program established to assist school districts in educating students whose access to learning is restricted due to a visual impairment or blindness. PRCVI supports school districts and Group I or II independent schools in British Columbia by providing alternate formats including braille, tactile graphics, digital text, and large print of BC recommended learning resources to meet the instructional needs of these students. Specialized and adapted learning materials are also available. Please see their website for more information: <https://www.prcvi.org/>

PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR DEAF/HARD OF HEARING (POPDHH)

The focus of the POPDHH is to collaborate with school districts in meeting the needs of all deaf and hard of hearing learners. Through collaborative consultation with qualified teachers for the deaf/hard of hearing, POPDHH helps train educational teams to address the unique communication and learning styles of individual deaf and hard of hearing students. A resource library is also available. Please see their website for more information: <https://popdhh.ca/>

PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH DEAFBLINDNESS (POPDB)

POPDB consultants work with school districts and SBTs to ensure that the unique needs of the student with deafblindness are being met, and that each student is receiving an appropriate educational program. The role of the Outreach staff is to bring their experiences with a variety of children to the team and to share knowledge of proven strategies in the field of deafblindness. Their goal is to empower educators to fully understand the impact that deafblindness has on the student's ability to learn and to provide the most effective techniques and strategies that grow with the changing needs of the student. For more information, please go to: <https://www.popdb.ca/>