

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September 30, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism (CATT)

ORIGINATOR: Bob Holt, Executive Director, Instructional and Curricular Support Services

RESOURCE

STAFF: Ray Cimolini, Glenn Iriye, Stuart Wachowicz, Stephen Wright

RECOMMENDATION

That a Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism be piloted in Edmonton Public Schools at Centre High

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Background

The Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism (CATT) (Appendix I) program gives high school students the opportunity to build the foundation of a tourism career while staying in school to complete a high school diploma and acquire the skills necessary for post-secondary education, life-long learning and employability.

Centre High began exploring the possibility of delivering the CATT program for 4th and 5th year high school students. The school continued work on this program, including developing the Alberta Template (Appendix II) because of the possible contribution of including this program offering of:

- improved Centre High high school completion rates
- career awareness for students
- possible accreditation for students
- stronger interactions with industry and post-secondary institutions

The Academy program consists of provincially approved courses structured to meet both the high school diploma requirements and career-focused courses.

The requirement for a student to earn the Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism Certificate are the ten national learning outcomes (Appendix III) and requirements such as high school diploma, Tourism Studies courses including Service Best, Information Processing, Career Transitions (Safety, First Aid), a minimum of 240 hours of Work Experience and Tourism and Careers Service Workshop.

The commitments of Edmonton Public Schools for offering the CATT program are the following:

- local academies (Centre High pilot) will provide for the school’s CATT coordinator to attend an annual professional development conference
- local academies will provide a certificated teacher qualified to grant “Service Best” certification for students (estimated training cost for teacher is \$250)
- reasonable notice (during school year) if not continuing with CATT program in subsequent years. Initial commitment is for a 3-year term to enable students starting the program to complete and earn the CATT certificate.

The cost to students for involvement in the CATT program will be comparable to other high school course fees (e.g. textbook rentals, school supplies). There is no additional fee for the CATT program or for the certificate. The registration fee for Service Best is \$25 per student, which is a pre-requisite for the CATT program.

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| APPENDIX I: | What is the Canadian Academy of Travel & Tourism? |
| APPENDIX II: | Edmonton Public Schools – Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism Program |
| APPENDIX III: | National Learning Outcomes |