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EDUCATION PRIORITIES - ALBERTA

The Rick Hansen Foundation School Program (RHFSP) offers educators free resources to help youth (grades K-12) learn more about improving accessibility and inclusion in their schools and communities. These comprehensive materials correspond to curriculum and education priorities in Alberta.



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EDUCATION POLICIES: ALBERTA

The Rick Hansen Foundation School Program supports key Alberta education priorities.

The 2013 **Ministerial Order** on goals and standards applicable to the provision of education in Alberta, as well as the results of the **Inspiring Education** consultation, highlight that the fundamental goal of education in Alberta is to inspire all students to achieve success and fulfillment, and reach their full potential by developing the competencies of Engaged Thinkers and Ethical Citizens with an Entrepreneurial Spirit. The Rick Hansen Foundation School Program (RHFSP) has the same fundamental goal, and supports each of these competencies as follows:

- Engaged Thinkers: through project-based learning, RHFSP resources teach students to think critically and creatively, and to make discoveries through inquiry, reflection, exploration and experimentation. Students are required to gather, analyze, and evaluate information; think critically; and work as a team to integrate and present ideas into a coherent whole. Students are encouraged to consider multiple perspectives, and to develop practical solutions to problems within their school, community, and society.
- Ethical Citizens: RHFSP's Abilities in Motion lessons help RHFSP students to value diversity, and to develop respect, empathy, and compassion. The Difference Maker lessons use project-based, hands-on learning to help RHFSP students appreciate difference makers in their communities and across Canada, to look beyond themselves to develop innovative solutions to community needs, and in doing so, to seek support for themselves and advocate for others in achieving a fair and just society.
- Entrepreneurial Spirit: using the example of Rick Hansen, RHFSP's educational resources focus on developing motivation, resourcefulness, self-reliance, and tenacity. Lessons and activities teach goal-setting strategies and perseverance and inspirational materials encourage students to pursue their dreams.
- In achieving these goals, **literacy and numeracy** are key components of all RHFSP resources, as are the fundamental values of **fairness**, **citizenship**, **and diversity**.

Through individual and team projects to address school or community needs, the RHFSP resources build **opportunities for local decision making and greater depth of study**. These student-led projects also reflect Alberta's move to a more student-focused curriculum.

Program materials include both **formative and summative assessments** (e.g. multiple activities with feedback opportunities in a unit that builds towards a final project).

Prezis and videos, as well as online materials and resources, encourage the use of technology and digital media.

The Rick Hansen School Program is easily incorporated into Alberta curriculum.

Social Studies K–12

Key goals for the curriculum are to encourage and enable students to value the diversity, respect the dignity and support the equality of all human beings. It will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate social compassion, fairness, and justice while developing skills in critical and creative thinking. Students will recognize and responsibly address injustices as they occur in their schools, communities, Canada, and the world.

RHFSP aligns with these goals by teaching understanding of diversity and focusing on community involvement and difference making. Students gain skills to undertake social-action projects within their school or community. Lessons on access, equity, and inclusion are available for all levels, encouraging students to engage in higher-level thinking about how all people deserve respect and equality in our society.

Social Studies 9

Grade 9 students will analyze the relationship between Canada's political and legislative processes and their impact on issues pertaining to governance, rights, citizenship, and identity. RHFSP's lessons on equity and inclusion help support this aim by allowing students to use critical thinking to identify reasons for exclusion in society and the kinds of policies that will help in realizing a truly inclusive and equitable world. The RHFSP *Personal Leadership* unit sheds light on types of leadership, allowing students to develop their own leadership style while improving communication skills.

Science K–8

The aim of this curriculum is to engage students in a process of inquiry, problem solving, in which they develop knowledge and skills. RHFSP supports these aims and the specific curriculum expectations for Seasonal Changes (Grade 1), Structures (Grade 3), Wheels and Levers (Grade 4), Weather (Grade 5), and Body Systems (Grade 8).

Health and Career Education K–9

The aim of these curricula is to provide opportunities for students to plan and set goals, employ critical reflection, recognize and expand personal skills, and explore service learning/volunteerism.

All of these aims are also a core part of RHFSP resources, which support specific objectives such as appreciating diversity and the uniqueness of self and others; developing friendship skills; and goal setting, prioritizing, and developing decision-making skills. The lessons allow students to develop effective interpersonal skills that demonstrate responsibility, respect and caring. Engagement in RHFSP empowers students to create and implement a Difference Maker campaign, giving students the opportunity for meaningful contributions to their families, schools and communities.

CALM Senior High (9–12)

The aim of this curriculum is for students to work towards becoming "responsible, caring, creative, self-reliant and contributing members of a knowledge-based and prosperous society" (Alberta Learning Mission statement, Business Plan 2002–2005). Students learn that goals are part of a series of strategies that address potential barriers or challenges in life. Support from others is important in identifying realistic targets and providing ongoing assistance. As students develop their ability to self-lead, they can mentor and become supportive role models for peers and others.

RHFSP secondary units support these aims by teaching effective communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, and by encouraging students to seek out postsecondary paths that align with their personal interests, strengths and values. The materials underscore students' agency in creating and maintaining equitable and inclusive environments. Lessons respond to the need for leadership materials by providing teachers with units on Personal Leadership and Difference Making that have been developed specifically for a secondary school audience.

English Language Arts K–12

RHFSP resources support English Language Arts curriculum by providing opportunities for students to listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences; comprehend and respond personally and critically to media texts; manage ideas and information; enhance the clarity and artistry of communication; and respect, support, and collaborate with others. From responding to a story in Kindergarten to developing presentations at the secondary level, RHFSP resources support the development of literacy skills across all grades.

Senior High School Programs of Study

Lessons for senior high school courses are supported by RHFSP resources. The Equity and Inclusion Unit includes lessons that support outcomes for Marketing and Management (MAM1010, 2010, 3010), Quality Customer Service (MAM1020), Public Law (LGS 1020), The Tourism Sector (TOU1010), The Accommodation Industry (TOU1050), TOU Project (TOU1910), and Travel Planning (TOU2080)

ABILITIES IN MOTION (AIM) Secondary

This new toolkit of resources raises awareness of disabilities, accessibility and inclusion to teach key skills such as teamwork, communication, and leadership using innovation, inquiry, and problem-solving. The toolkit includes lessons and hands-on projects in the curriculum areas of Design and Technology, Science, English Language Arts\Media Literacy, Physical Education and Social Studies. Students are presented with lessons, challenges, and projects that require divergent-, critical-, and creative-thinking skills.



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School Program

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS: ALBERTA

Alberta Elementary Curriculum	Connection to Rick Hansen Foundation School Program (RHFSP) Materials
English Language Arts, Grades K-8	
Comprehend and respond personally and critically to media and texts and improve literacy skills.	 RHFSP books (Elementary): Roll On: Rick Hansen Wheels Around the World Boy in Motion: Rick Hansen's Story Rick Hansen: Canadian Hero
Listen, speak, read, write to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences; and respect, support, and collaborate with others.	 Difference Maker. (All lessons). The Rick Hansen Story. (All lessons). Abilities in Motion. (All lessons).
Grades 1-3: Use language prediction skills to identify unknown words within the context of a sentence.	 The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 5. Setting Goals: Rick Hansen: Canadian Hero.
Grades 1-3: Use a variety of strategies, such as making predictions, rereading and reading on.	 The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 6. Making Connections: Boy in Motion: Rick Hansen's Story.
Grades 1-3: Identify the main idea or topic and supporting details of simple narrative and expository texts.	The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 7. Overcoming Challenges: Roll On: Rick Hansen Wheels Around the World.
Grades 1-3: Apply a variety of strategies, such as asking questions, making predictions, recognizing relationships among story elements and drawing conclusions.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson K. Accessible Classroom.

Grades 1-3: Construct meaning from text	 Difference Maker. (All lessons). The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 6. Making Connections: Boy in Motion: Rick Hansen's Story.
Grades 1-3: Vocabulary development	 Difference Maker. (All lessons). The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 7. Overcoming Challenges: Roll On: Rick Hansen Wheels Around the World.
Grades 4-9: Listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print, and other media texts. Manage ideas and information.	 Difference Maker. (All lessons). The Rick Hansen Story. (All lessons). Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 6. Accessible or Not?
Respect, support, and collaborate with others. Develop skills to work cooperatively in a group.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 7. First Impressions and Stereotypes. Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 8. Assumptions.
	 Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Picture This. Abilities in Motion. Project. Social Media Connects. Abilities in Motion. (All activities).

Social Studies, Grades K-9	
 Value the diversity, respect the dignity and support the equality of all human beings. Honour and value symbols that are the expression of Canadian identity. Engage in active inquiry and critical and creative thinking. Recognize and responsibly address injustices as they occur in their schools, communities, Canada and the order. 	 Difference Maker (All lessons). Abilities in Motion (All lessons and activities). The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 4. Anything is Possible. The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 5. Setting Goals. The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 6. Making Connections. The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 7. Overcoming Challenges.
the world.	
K, Grade 1: Value self and others as unique individuals	 <i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 1: What is a Difference Maker? <i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 4: Making a Difference for our Community. <i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson K. We Are Like Snowflakes. <i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson K. Accessible Classroom. <i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson Grade 1. Everyone Has Abilities.
Grades 2 - 9: Mapping	<i>The Rick Hansen Story.</i> Lesson 1. Mapping Rick's Route [Lesson may have to be adapted for younger students.]

Grade 3: Appreciate similarities and differences among people; demonstrate cooperative behaviour to ensure that all members of the group have an opportunity to participate.	 Difference Maker. Lesson 1. What is a Difference Maker? The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 1. Mapping Rick's Route [Lesson may have to be adapted
Grade 3: Correctly apply terms related to time, including past, present, future.	 for younger students] Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 3. Let's Play: Accessible Playgrounds.
Grade 5: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the people and the stories of Canada.	The Rick Hansen Story. (All lessons).
Grade 6: Charter of Rights and Freedoms, recognize and respect the democratic rights of all citizens in Canada.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson Grade 6. Accessible or Not?
Grade 7: Support and participate in activities and projects that promote the well-being and meet the particular needs of their community.	<i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 4. Making a Difference for our Community.
Grades 7, 8, 9: Develop leadership skills by assuming specific roles and responsibilities in events within the community.	<i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 4. Making a Difference for our Community and Difference Maker campaign.
Grade 9: Appreciate the impact of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms on rights and governance in Canada.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson. Inclusive Society.

Health and Life Skills, Grades K-9	
Grade 2: Develop strategies to show respect for others.Grade 2: Demonstrate ways to show appreciation to friends and others.	 <i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 1: What is a Difference Maker? <i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 4. Making a Difference for Our Community. <i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson Grade 2. School Inspectors.
Grade 3: Demonstrate inclusive behaviours regardless of individual differences or circumstance.	 The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 6. Making Connections. Difference Maker. Lesson 3. Leadership for Positive Change.
Grade 3: Develop skills to work cooperatively in a group.	 Abilities in Motion: Lesson Grade 3. Let's Play Accessible Playgrounds.
Grade 4 and 5 : Roles and responsibilities within a group.	 <i>Rick Hansen Story.</i> Lesson 7. Overcoming Challenges
Grade 4 and 5: Essential group skills such as conflict management, cooperation and effective decision-making.	 <i>Rick Hansen Story.</i> Lesson 6. Making Connections. <i>Difference Maker</i> (All lessons).
Science, Grades K-9	
Grade 1: Senses: Identify each of the senses, and explain how we use our senses in interpreting the world.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 1. Everyone Has Abilities. The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson
Grade 1: Seasonal changes. Identify human preparations for season changes.	2. Wheeling Against the World's Weather.
Grade 3: Structures-building with a variety of materials.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 3. Let's Play Accessible Playgrounds.
Grade 3: Structures-building with a variety of materials.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 3. Let's Play Accessible Playgrounds.

Grade 3: Hearing and Sound.Abilities in Motion. Activities.Grade 4: Wheels and Levers- building devices and vehicles thatAbilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 4/2	5
building devices and vehicles that Abilities in Motion. Lesson Grade 4/	5
move. On The Move.	0.
Grade 4: Testing materials and designs.	
Grade 5: Observe, describe and interpret weather phenomena.	
Grade 5: Investigate relationships between weather phenomena and human activity.The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 2. Wheeling Against the World's Weat	her.
Grade 5: Appreciate how important it is to be able to forecast weather and to have suitable clothing or shelter to endure various types of weather.	
Mathematics, Grades 4-7	
Multiplication, division and problem solving.The Rick Hansen Story. Lesson 3. Calculating the Distance.	
Alberta Secondary Curriculum	
Social Studies 10, 20, 30	
 Personal Leadership. Lesson 3. Presenting for Impact. Personal Leadership. Lesson 4. In- class presentations. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Abilities in Motion. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process 	

Demonstrate leadership in groups to achieve consensus, solve problems, formulate positions and take action, if appropriate, on important issues. Demonstrate leadership by engaging in actions that enhance personal and community well- being.	 Difference Maker. Lesson 2. Overcoming Obstacles. Difference Maker. Lesson 3. The Power of Teamwork. Difference Maker Lesson 4. Difference Maker Campaign. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Investigating Accessibility. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement.
Level 10: Accept political, social and environmental responsibilities associated with global citizenship.	 Difference Maker. Lesson 4. Difference Maker Campaign. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Inclusive Society. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Investigating Accessibility. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Abilities in Motion. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process
Level 10: Recognize and appreciate the importance of human rights in determining quality of life.	 Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Abilities in Motion. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process
Level 20: Explore multiple perspectives on national identity in Canada. Level 20: Analyze impacts of the pursuit of internationalism in addressing contemporary global issues.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Inclusive Society. Secondary-level book: Rick Hansen: Man in Motion. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement.

Level 30: Appreciate the relationship between citizenship and leadership.	 Personal Leadership. Lesson 1. Definitions of Leadership. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process.
Level 30: Explore opportunities to demonstrate active and responsible citizenship through individual and collective action.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Investigating Accessibility. Abilities in Motion: Lesson. Investigating Inclusion. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Accessibility to Vote. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Planning Accessible Businesses. Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Abilities in Motion. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process
Level 30: Analyze perspectives on the rights, roles and responsibilities of the individual in a democratic society (respect for law, order, dissent, civility, political participation, advocacy).	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Disability Rights Movement. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Education for All. Abilities in Motion. Project. Accessibility to the Political Process.
English Language Arts 10, 20, 30	
Listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences; comprehend and respond personally and critically to media texts; manage ideas and information; enhance the clarity and artistry of communication; and respect, support and collaborate with others.	 Abilities in Motion. Case Studies. Personal Leadership (All Lessons). Secondary-level book: Rick Hansen: Man in Motion. Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Picture This. Abilities in Motion. Project. Social Media Connects.

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Biology 20: Explain the role of the motor system in the function of other body systems.

Biology 20: Explain that the goal of technology is to provide solutions to practical problems.

Biology 20: Identify specific pathologies of the motor system, and identify technologies used.

Physics 20/30: Kinematics.

Biology 30: Identify the principal structures of the central and peripheral nervous systems.

Biology 30: Analyze the contribution of technological developments and physiological knowledge to quality of life.

Biology 30: Explain that the goal of technology is to provide solutions to practical problems.

CALM Senior High, Grades 9 –12

Assess personal assets, such as interests, competencies—including skills, abilities, aptitudes and talents— personality traits, limitations and strengths, to expand a personal profile.

- *Abilities in Motion.* Lesson. What is Spinal Cord Injury?
- Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Bionic Man. Using Technology to Improve People's Lives.
- *Abilities in Motion.* Challenge. Science Solutions.
- Abilities in Motion. Project. Wheelchairs.

- Difference Maker. Lesson 1. Identifying Personal Passions.
- Personal Leadership. Lesson 1. Definitions of Leadership.
- *Personal Leadership. Lesson 2.* Providing and Seeking Guidance.

Assess existing opportunities for work experience, cooperative education, and volunteer and paid part-time work.	 Personal Leadership. Lesson 3. Presenting for Impact. Difference Maker. Lesson 4. Difference Maker campaign.
Use the community in a search for information and experience through career mentoring, job shadowing, investigative interviewing, networking and personal research.	 Personal Leadership. Lesson 2. Providing and Seeking Guidance.
Develop ability to self-lead, [and] in turn, mentor and become supportive role models for peers and others in a variety of cross-age groups.	 <i>Difference Maker.</i> Lesson 2. Overcoming Obstacles.
Explain how decision making, goal setting and planning are ongoing, integrated actions.	Difference Maker. Lesson 3. The Power of Teamwork
Apply creative thinking strategies.	Difference Maker. Lesson 3. The Power of Teamwork.
Demonstrate and apply effective communication, conflict resolution and team-building skills.	 Difference Maker. Lesson 2. Overcoming Obstacles. Difference Maker. Lesson 3. The Power of Teamwork
Describe various factors that can affect opportunities for education and careers.	Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Inclusive Society.
Investigate employer and employee ethics, rights and responsibilities.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Planning Accessible Businesses.
Law	
Public Law (LGS 1020): Explore various sources of protection for group and individual rights and responsibilities.	 Abilities in Motion. Lesson. Accessibility to Vote.

Public Law (LGS 1020):Describe the relationship betweenrights and responsibilities.Controversy & Change (LGS3060):Research at least one area of interestto investigate (e.g., discrimination).	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson. Accessibility to Vote.	
Physical Education 10, 20, 30		
Communication, fair play, leadership and team work.		
Adapt and improve activity-specific skills in a variety of environments and games.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Project. Let's Get Physical.	
Create a cooperative game or challenge with a partner or small group that focuses upon the application of specific strategies.		
Physical Education 10, 20, 30		
Select, plan and create games that incorporate simple and more challenging strategies and tactics.		
Assume leadership responsibilities, such as working with working with students who have disabilities.	Abilities in Motion. Project. Let's Get	
Work with other students to design, perform and evaluate fitness plans, incorporating the principles of training.	Physical.	
Plan, assess and maintain a fitness plan, using the principles of training: frequency, intensity, duration.		

Acknowledge and analyze the media and peer influences on body image. Find examples of media influence on body image, and identify a positive and negative influence.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Challenge. Picture This
Recreation	
Various courses in recreation leadership, group recreation, fitness training and training/ movement principles applicable to a variety of populations including adapted sport and fitness.	 Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Sports for Everyone. Abilities in Motion. Project. Get Outdoors. Abilities in Motion. Project. Let's Get Physical.
Career and Technology Studies	
The trades, manufacturing and transportation cluster focuses on skills and knowledge related to the design, construction, fabrication and maintenance of a product.	 Abilities in Motion. Challenge. Breakthroughs. Abilities in Motion. Project. Get Outdoors.
Travel and Tourism	
The Tourism Sector (TOU1010), 2.6: List and explain various societal and political factors that influence tourism activity.	
The Accommodation Industry (TOU1050): Research accommodation options available, basic principles of the accommodations industry and service strategies for guest requirements.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson. Accessible Travel Planning.
The Accommodation Industry (TOU1050): 4.6: Plan appropriate travel itineraries to accommodate a range of visitor requirements, transportation and accommodation options.	

TOU Project (TOU1910), 2.1: identify the project and/or performance by: preparing a plan; clarifying the purposes; defining the deliverables; specifying time lines; explaining terminology, tools and processes; defining resources.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson. Accessible Travel Planning.
Travel Planning (TOU2080), Intermediate Level: Create and evaluate an Alberta or Canada tour package and/or an international travel package, including itinerary, tour and attractions information, and traveller information.	
Marketing and Management (MAM1010, 2010,3010)	
Analyze and show example of service merchandising strategies.	<i>Abilities in Motion.</i> Lesson. Planning Accessible Businesses.
Identify a current challenge facing managers in today's society.	
Analyze and show examples of place merchandising strategies.	
Quality Customer Service (MAM1020): Demonstrate quality customer service skills.	
Quality Customer Service	

The Rick Hansen Foundation School Program (RHFSP) raises awareness and changes attitudes about accessibility and inclusion, and empowers youth to take action on issues that matter to them. Our free educational materials are user-friendly and incorporate Universal Design principles, are developed by educators for educators, and are connected to provincial curriculum.

Our materials support Alberta's Français langue première M à 12 curriculum. All materials are available in French, and our team includes francophone staff who can assist you.

Sign up for your free resources today and visit rickhansen.com/schools!

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