

NOTICE OF 2025 ATESL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**ATESL will be holding its Annual General Meeting on
Friday, October 17, 2025 – 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM
Aspen Room – Online**

Annual elections of officers will be held and reports from the Board will be received.
There will be a vote to ratify Johnson Kunnel as the 2024-2025 President Elect, who was appointed
by the Board following the 2024 Annual General Meeting.
The 2026-2028 Strategic Plan will be reviewed for member approval.

A vote will be taken on a special resolution to change ATESL's name:

MOTION: To approve that ATESL change its name from the Association of Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language to the Association of Alberta Teachers of English as an Additional Language effective January 1, 2026.

A vote will be taken on a special resolution to make amendments to the ATESL Bylaws to make all language gender neutral and to amend a numbering error. (please see pages 3-4)

If the special resolution to change ATESL's name is passed, another vote will be taken on a special resolution to make amendments to the foundational documents to change the name throughout the bylaws.
(please see pages 4-6)

Per ATESL Bylaw VIII: 1. "In the future the by-laws can only be changed by a special resolution of the members, at any General, Special or Annual Meeting of the Association, and must be adopted by three-quarters majority vote of the members of the Association present at the meeting."

NOMINATIONS FOR ATESL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2025- 2026

In accordance with the by-laws of ATESL, we invite nominations for President Elect.
If you know someone who would be interested in the role, please fill out the information below.
*Please note that the nominee must give consent before a nomination is submitted.

3 Year Term

NOMINATION FOR THE ROLE OF ATESL PRESIDENT-ELECT

POSITION: President Elect

Name of Nominee	
Nominee Email	
Name of Nominator	
Nominator Email	

Only members in good standing are eligible to make nominations, and nominees must have been notified.

Additionally, we are looking for members to step forward and fill the following appointments.

2 Year Term (Appointed Positions)

Central Alberta Local Co-chair (one position)

Southern Alberta Co-chair (two positions)

If you are interested, or know someone who would be a good fit, please contact ATESL at: atesl.admin@atesl.ca

If you wish to attend the AGM, but will not be attending the 2025 Conference,
please email atesl.admin@atesl.ca to be added to the attendee list.

In accordance with our by-laws, nominations may be emailed to atesl.admin@atesl.ca

Please email all nominations by Monday, October 13, 2025.

PROPOSED BYLAW AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT AMENDMENTS
(pages 3-6)

Bylaw	Current	Proposed Amendment
II, 2	A member shall cease to be a member if he fails to pay the annual membership fee on the due date.	A member shall cease to be a member if they fail to pay the annual membership fee on the due date.
IV, 14	The President shall be the presiding director of the Association, the Chairman of the Board and a member, ex-officio, of all committees appointed by the Board of Directors. S/He shall have general supervision of all matters and affairs of the Association. The President shall, as an alternate signer, have the same signing authority as the Secretary as described below in IV.17.	The President shall be the presiding director of the Association, the Chairman of the Board and a member, ex-officio, of all committees appointed by the Board of Directors. They shall have general supervision of all matters and affairs of the Association. The President shall, as an alternate signer, have the same signing authority as the Secretary as described below in IV.17.
IV, 15	The President-Elect shall generally assist the President and shall, in the event of the absence or disability of the President, perform his/her duties and possess his/her authority.	The President-Elect shall generally assist the President and shall, in the event of the absence or disability of the President, perform their duties and possess their authority.
IV, 17	The Secretary shall have charge of all archives of the Association, shall prepare or cause to be prepared and preserved a record of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors and shall sign and execute all instruments in the name of the Association when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. S/He shall be the legal custodian of all property of the Association.	The Secretary shall prepare or cause to be prepared and preserved a record of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors.
IV, 18	The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of all monies of the Association and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, same in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. S/He shall keep or cause to be kept a proper set of books of account of the Association and shall exhibit the same to the Board of Directors when required. S/He shall submit at the Annual Meeting a report of the accounts of the financial condition of the Association and of all monies received and expended by him/her . S/He shall arrange, or cause to be arranged, an annual audit of the Association and file an annual financial report with the Registrar of Companies in compliance with the Societies Act.	The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of all monies of the Association and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, same in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. They shall keep or cause to be kept a proper set of books of account of the Association and shall exhibit the same to the Board of Directors when required. They shall submit at the Annual Meeting a report of the accounts of the financial condition of the Association and of all monies received and expended by them . They shall arrange, or cause to be arranged, an annual audit of the Association and file an annual financial report with the Registrar of Companies in compliance with the Societies Act.
VIII.	VIII ALTERING BYLAWS	VII ALTERING BYLAWS
IX	IX. MAINTENANCE OF MINUTES AND OTHER BOOKS AND RECORDS	VIII MAINTENANCE OF MINUTES AND OTHER BOOKS AND RECORDS
X	X INSPECTION OF RECORDS OF THE ASSOCIATION	IX INSPECTION OF RECORDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

XI	XI BRANCHES OF ATESL	X BRANCHES OF ATESL
XII	XII ATESL BURSARY	XI ATESL BURSARY
XII.	ATESL Conference Co-chairs	ATESL Conference Managers
XII, 1	The Board will recruit and appoint Conference Co-chairs to oversee the planning of the ATESL Conference. The co-chairs are accountable to the Board...	The Board will recruit and appoint Conference Managers to oversee the planning of the ATESL Conference. The managers are accountable to the Board....
If the Motion to change ATESL's name to ATEAL passes, the following Bylaw and foundational documents would need to change:		
Bylaw	Current	Proposed
Title	Bylaws of the Association of Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language (ATESL)	Bylaws of the Association of Alberta Teachers of English as an Additional Language (ATEAL)
I.	Any person interested in English as a Second Language education in Alberta may apply for membership.... The Board has the discretion to accept or reject an application for membership in the Association that fails to meet the objectives of ATESL	Any person interested in English as an Additional Language education in Alberta may apply for membership.... The Board has the discretion to accept or reject an application for membership in the Association that fails to meet the objectives of ATEAL
IV, 1. c)	ATESL Local Chairpersons as per ARTICLE XI	ATEAL Local Chairpersons as per ARTICLE XI
X	BRANCHES OF ATESL	BRANCHES OF ATEAL
X, 1	Provincial members within a given geographical area to be determined by the Board of Directors may apply for local association status within ATESL by making application to the Board of Directors.....	Provincial members within a given geographical area to be determined by the Board of Directors may apply for local association status within ATEAL by making application to the Board of Directors.....
X, 4	Each local association shall have a local Executive, consisting of two Chairpersons, Secretary, Treasurer and whatever other officers are decided upon by the local Association and subject to ratification by the ATESL Board.	Each local association shall have a local Executive, consisting of two Chairpersons, Secretary, Treasurer and whatever other officers are decided upon by the local Association and subject to ratification by the ATEAL Board.
X, 6	In the event that any local association fails to maintain a membership of at least eight (8) members of ATESL , that association shall be deemed to have been dissolved	In the event that any local association fails to maintain a membership of at least eight (8) members of ATEAL , that association shall be deemed to have been dissolved

XI	ATESL Bursary	ATEAL Bursary
XI, 1	The Board of Directors shall have the power to award a bursary or bursaries annually to ATESL members who are interested in pursuing further studies in ESL .	The Board of Directors shall have the power to award a bursary or bursaries annually to ATEAL members who are interested in pursuing further studies in EAL/ESL .
XI, 2	Applications must be made in writing to the Secretary of ATESL . The Board of Directors shall set a deadline for applications and a schedule for determining and announcing results.	Applications must be made in writing to the Secretary of ATEAL . The Board of Directors shall set a closing date for applications and a schedule for determining and announcing results.
XI, 3	Selection of the bursary recipient will be based on the following: a) length of ATESL membership b) involvement with ESL at the local or provincial level c) expected benefit to the ESL profession in Alberta	Selection of the bursary recipient will be based on the following: a) length of ATEAL membership b) involvement with EAL at the local or provincial level c) expected benefit to the EAL profession in Alberta
XI, 4	All members of ATESL are eligible to apply for the bursary, provided that a) they have been a member of ATESL for at least two years b) they have not received a bursary from ATESL in the past two years	All members of ATEAL are eligible to apply for the bursary, provided that a) they have been a member of ATEAL for at least two years b) they have not received a bursary from ATEAL in the past two years
XII.	ATESL Conference Managers	ATEAL Conference Managers
XII, 1	The Board will recruit and appoint Conference Managers to oversee the planning of the ATESL Conference.	The Board will recruit and appoint Conference Managers to oversee the planning of the ATEAL Conference.
Foundational Documents:		
Belief Statement	The Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language (ATESL) believes that it is vital to assist learners whose first language is other than English by providing them with the necessary language training and skills to achieve their goals in an English speaking society. Furthermore, we believe that ESL practitioners act in a manner that maintains the honour and dignity of the profession.	The Alberta Teachers of English as an Additional Language (ATEAL) believes that it is vital to assist learners whose first language is other than English by providing them with the necessary language training and skills to achieve their goals in an English speaking society. Furthermore, we believe that EAL practitioners act in a manner that maintains the honour and dignity of the profession.
Vision	Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language will be regarded as essential and credible professionals duly respected and supported by the society at large.	Alberta Teachers of English as an Additional Language will be regarded as essential and credible professionals duly respected and supported by the society at large.

Mission Statement	As the professional organization Teachers of English as a Second Language in Alberta, ATESL's mission is to promote the highest standards of teaching and provision of English Language programs for learners in Alberta whose first language is other than English. Overseeing an ESL teacher accreditation process which encourages high standards of teacher preparation and performance. • promoting the rights of immigrant learners and their unique identities (backgrounds, sexual orientations, genders, etc.) and by fostering understanding, acceptance, and inclusion by ESL instructors and the larger community	As the professional organization Teachers of English as an Additional Language in Alberta, ATEAL's mission is to promote the highest standards of teaching and provision of English Language programs for learners in Alberta whose first language is other than English. Overseeing an EAL teacher accreditation process which encourages high standards of teacher preparation and performance. • promoting the rights of immigrant learners and their unique identities (backgrounds, sexual orientations, genders, etc.) and by fostering understanding, acceptance, and inclusion by EAL instructors and the larger community
Target	The organization is designed to serve: • Alberta Teachers of English as a Second Language (ATESL) members	The organization is designed to serve: • Alberta Teachers of English as an Additional Language (ATEAL) members
Aim Statements	• Work with government, and community stakeholders to recognize English proficiency as an essential requirement for both basic academic achievement and meaningful social, cultural, political and economic integration of ESL learners into Canadian society. • Gain recognition of the professionalism of ESL teachers in Alberta • Increase the number of ATESL-accredited professionals.	• Work with government, and community stakeholders to recognize English proficiency as an essential requirement for both basic academic achievement and meaningful social, cultural, political and economic integration of EAL learners into Canadian society. • Gain recognition of the professionalism of EAL teachers in Alberta • Increase the number of TESL Canada Certified professionals.