



# NEWS RELEASE

## Fraser Institute ranks 274 Alberta high schools in annual Report Card

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For Immediate Release

**CALGARY**—The Fraser Institute today released its Report Card on Alberta high schools, the most easily accessible tool for parents to compare the academic performance of their children’s schools.

The *Report Card on Alberta’s High Schools 2017* rates 274 public, independent, separate and charter schools based on eight academic indicators generated from Grade 12 provincewide testing, grade-to-grade transition and graduation rates.

“Being able to compare school performance helps parents make more informed decisions when choosing their children’s school,” said Peter Cowley, Fraser Institute director of school performance studies.

The Report Card also reveals which schools are improving or falling behind in academics.

The data suggests that every school is capable of improvement regardless of school type, location and proportion of students with special needs or students in English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

For example, Bishop McNally, a Catholic school in Calgary, was one of the fastest improving schools in the province over the past five years, steadily climbing from a rating of 3.6 in 2012 to 5.9 in 2016—despite having more than 50 per cent of its students enrolled in ESL and 12 per cent of students having special needs.

“Principals of low-performing schools, and Alberta’s minister of education, should find out what’s happening at schools like Bishop McNally so they can use that knowledge to help struggling schools improve,” Cowley said.

“Every year, every school in the province should find ways to improve student results—it’s that simple.”

For detailed results of all 274 schools, go to [www.compareschoolrankings.org](http://www.compareschoolrankings.org) where you can quickly see how a school performed over the past five years and how it compares to other schools.

*Peter Cowley is available for media interviews from Calgary on Saturday and Sunday.*

### Schools showing significant improvement in their overall rating out of 10 from 2012 through 2016

SCHOOL	CITY	AFFILIATION
Mallaig	Mallaig	Public
Consort	Consort	Public
Sexsmith	Sexsmith	Public
St. Thomas Aquinas	Provost	Separate
Grimshaw	Grimshaw	Public
Bishop McNally	Calgary	Separate
Daysland	Daysland	Public
High Level	High Level	Public
Olds Koinonia	Olds	Public
Willow Creek	Claresholm	Public

Ernest Manning	Calgary	Public
Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie	Public
Jasper Place	Edmonton	Public
Hilltop	Whitecourt	Public
Archbishop MacDonald	Edmonton	Separate
Didsbury	Didsbury	Public
Frank Maddock	Drayton Valley	Public
Strathmore	Strathmore	Public

(30)

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