FOOTPRINTS FOR LEARNING CHARTER ACADEMY
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DOCUMENT 1.0 Programming at FLCA
Authority: Footprints for Learning Society
School: Footprints for Learning Charter Academy (FLCA)
Effective Date: September 2026
Document Ref: The FLCA Charter and The Alberta Program of Studies and The 2024 Ministerial Order on Student Learning

The Ministerial Order on Student Learning: The Framework and it Applications at FLCA

The Ministerial Order dictates the overriding philosophy, values, and pedagogical expectations for all K-12 education in Alberta. It acts as the ideological blueprint that the curriculum must execute.

- **Vision and Foundations:** The Order mandates a return to foundational learning. It explicitly identifies **Literacy and Numeracy** as the pervasive building blocks across all subjects, requiring the use of "developmentally appropriate texts of high quality" and "standard algorithms in mathematics."
- **Objectivity and Impartiality:** A major theme of the Order is the objective presentation of facts. It emphasizes teaching without editorialization or personal bias, allowing students to strengthen critical thinking by exploring diverse viewpoints in a neutral environment.
- **Key Outcomes:** The Order outlines several mandatory outcomes:

    - *Communication & Critical Thinking:* Intellectual rigor, evidence-based viewpoints, and recognizing fact from fiction.
    - *Knowledge Development:* Mastery of foundational, subject-specific content, preparing students for STEM careers, and integrating the arts.
    - *Practical Life & Career Skills:* Financial literacy (debt, credit, taxes), hands-on experiential learning, apprenticeships in skilled trades, and health/character development.
    - *Civic & Global Engagement:* Understanding Canada's political institutions (parliamentary democracy, constitutional monarchy), Indigenous reconciliation, military history, and the global significance of Alberta’s natural resources (specifically noting Alberta's oil reserves and ethical production).:

Mathematics

- **Ministerial Order Mandate:** Explicit instruction in standard algorithms, computational fluency, financial literacy, and practical problem-solving.
- **Alignment with the Order:** The curriculum directly addresses the Ministerial Order's mandate to explicitly teach "standard algorithms."
- **Subject Focus:** The K-12 math curriculum is designed around number sense, patterns, and spatial reasoning. In early grades, the focus is heavily on fact families, memorization of addition/subtraction facts, and standard algorithms for computation.
- **Application:** As students progress into Junior and Senior High (e.g., Math 10C, 10-3), the curriculum fulfills the Order's requirement for practical life skills and financial literacy. Students apply mathematics to unit pricing, currency exchange, income problems, and measurement, ensuring computational fluency connects to everyday life and the workplace.

    - **FLCA Programming Alignment:**

        - **Scope & Sequence:** FLCA's Numeracy map builds systematically from K–3 Number Sense and Manipulatives to Grades 4–9 Problem Solving and Constructs, culminating in Advanced Algebra, Geometry, Calculus, and Statistics in High School.
        - **Application Component:** Mathematical concepts transition directly into practical application through FLCA's Entrepreneurship and CTS/CTF streams. Students apply algorithms and statistics to real-world scenarios such as unit pricing, budgeting, market analysis, debt/interest calculations, and financial modeling for venture designs in Grades 7–12.

Sciences

- **Ministerial Order Mandate:** Objective, evidence-based inquiry, preparation for STEM pathways, and an understanding of Alberta's natural resources and environmental stewardship.
- **Alignment with the Order:** The science curriculum fulfills the mandate for "Knowledge Development" to prepare students for STEM careers and global competitiveness, while also addressing environmental stewardship and natural resources.
- **Subject Focus:** From K-6 through High School, the science curriculum emphasizes objective methods for observing, collecting, and analyzing data (mirroring the Order's demand for objectivity and evidence-based viewpoints). It spans physics, chemistry, biology, Earth sciences, and computer science (coding).
- **Application:** The curriculum incorporates the impact of technology and science on society. In higher grades, it integrates Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and emphasizes hands-on prototype building and troubleshooting. It also grounds environmental science in real-world contexts, aligning with the Order's directive for students to understand Alberta's natural resources, energy sectors, and the balance of sustainability.

- **FLCA Programming Alignment:**

    - **Scope & Sequence:** Science progresses from sensory explorations (K) and physical properties (Grades 1–3) to Earth systems, ecosystems, biological diversity, and space exploration (Grades 4–9), leading into specialized High School Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Ecology.
    - **Application Component:** Scientific learning is applied through hands-on experimental design, technology-driven inquiry, and applied STEM projects. Students utilize Universal Design for Learning (UDL) frameworks to test hypotheses, build prototypes, collect and analyze environmental data, and evaluate local energy and natural resource models.

English Language Arts and Literature (ELAL)

- **Ministerial Order Mandate:** Early assessment and targeted intervention, structured phonics, grammar, high-quality texts, and superior written/oral communication skills.
- **Alignment with the Order:** ELAL carries the heaviest burden for the "Literacy" foundation. The curriculum embodies the Order's requirement for high-quality literature and superior written/verbal communication skills.
- **Subject Focus:** In early grades (K-6), there is a highly structured focus on phonics (vowels, digraphs, diphthongs), fluency, vocabulary building (Tier 2 and Tier 3 words), and grammar.
- **Application:** Students explore a diverse range of genres (myths, historical fiction, poetry). The curriculum actively develops active listening, oral presentations, and non-verbal communication, fulfilling the Order's demand that students learn to communicate ideas with precision, intellectual rigor, and confidence for post-secondary and workplace environments.

    - **FLCA Programming Alignment:**

        - **Scope & Sequence:** Early literacy stresses phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and handwriting (K–3), transitioning into Writer's Workshop, Novel Studies, Essay Composition, and Literary Devices (Grades 4–12).
        - **Application Component:** Literacy skills are applied through active composition, public speaking, and digital communication across all subjects. Students demonstrate learning by producing structured essays, literary analyses, and oral presentations delivered via Google Classroom and Moodle platforms. This ensures consistent communication skills whether learning in class or through individualized, remote programming.

Social Studies

- **Ministerial Order Mandate:** Objective presentation of facts, understanding Canadian democratic institutions, military heritage, Indigenous reconciliation, and global perspectives.
- **Alignment with the Order:** Social Studies is deeply intertwined with the "Community and civic engagement" and "Alberta, Canada and the world" sections of the Ministerial Order.

- **Subject Focus:** The curriculum is heavily focused on historical and geographic literacy. It introduces students to the foundations of Canadian society, democracy, and citizenship.
- **Application:** In direct response to the Order, the curriculum requires students to understand Canada's political institutions, military history, and the sacrifices of previous generations. Furthermore, it embeds a strong commitment to Indigenous reconciliation, ensuring students understand treaties, residential schools, and the historical and contemporary contributions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples to Alberta's prosperity.

    - **FLCA Programming Alignment:**

        - **Scope & Sequence:** Focuses on community and belonging (K–3), Alberta and Canadian history/land (Grades 4–5), Democracy and Worldviews (Grades 6–8), and high school perspectives on Globalization, Nationalism, and Ideologies (Grades 10–12).
        - **Application Component:** Social Studies concepts are applied through integrated **Global Awareness**, **Leadership**, and **FNMI Holistic Modules**. Students engage in participatory projects, community enhancement initiatives, civil discourse, and case-study analyses of local and Indigenous entrepreneurs, directly applying historical and civic knowledge to active community engagement.

Here is the analysis for **Physical Education and Wellness**, formatted in the exact same structure to align the Ministerial Order on Student Learning with the FLCA Programming Overview:

Physical Education and Wellness

- **Ministerial Order Mandate:** Development of physical fitness, balance, spatial awareness, teamwork, sportsmanship, proactive health practices, nutritional literacy, mental health awareness, and lifelong healthy habits.
- **Alignment with the Order:** The Physical Education and Wellness curriculum directly fulfills the Order's "Health for life" and "Character development" mandates by instilling physical literacy, personal responsibility, resilience, and proactive well-being strategies to prepare students for fulfilling lives.
- **Subject Focus:** From K-12, the curriculum focuses on active living, movement skill refinement (locomotor, non-locomotor, and manipulative skills), personal safety, emotional regulation, and mental health literacy. It emphasizes healthy decision-making, nutrition, self-care, and understanding the factors that influence overall wellness.
- **Application:** Students apply movement skills through varied physical activities, recreational sports, and team tasks that emphasize collaboration and sportsmanship. Health concepts are applied through setting personal fitness goals, monitoring health indicators, practicing stress management, and making informed choices regarding nutrition, safety, and personal well-being.

    - **FLCA Programming Alignment:**
        - **Scope & Sequence:** Physical Education builds sequentially from developing fundamental movement skills (K–5) to skill refinement, analysis, and adaptation

(Grades 6–9), leading into specialized High School CTS modules focused on Recreational Sport, Community Volunteering, and Leadership.
    - **Application Component:** Wellness learning is applied through activity-based tasks, participatory projects, and community engagement. Students apply leadership and health habits through programs like *Leader in Me*, CTF/CTS options in Sport Leadership, and active community outreach initiatives.

The Ministerial Order provides the provincial standard for what students must learn, while the FLCA Programming Overview creates the operational ecosystem—linking standardized scope, digital delivery, and targeted assessment weights—to give teachers the structural clarity needed to deliver personalized, authentic, and applied entrepreneurial learning.

Provincial Alignment & Principles of Practice for Curricular Development:

In summary compliance with Alberta Education Ministerial Order #005/2024, Footprints for Learning Charter Academy (FLCA) programming will examine the development of these core principles across all subject areas:

- **Objectivity & Neutrality:** Instruction is delivered in a fair, neutral, and objective manner, encouraging evidence-based inquiry, critical thinking, and respect for diverse viewpoints without personal bias.

- **Foundational Rigor:** Literacy and Numeracy are pervasively reinforced using high-quality texts, early diagnostic assessments and targeted interventions.

- **Practical Life & Career Readiness:** Financial literacy—including credit, interest rates, debt management, budgeting, taxes, and investing—as well as career education pathways, work placements, and skilled trades apprenticeships, are embedded into core and elective programming.

- **Civic & Historical Literacy:** Students study Canadian political institutions, parliamentary democracy, constitutional monarchy, military heritage and national service, Indigenous reconciliation, Alberta's Francophone history, and the economic role of Alberta's natural resources and environmental stewardship.

- **Comprehensive Wellness:** Health and physical education programming includes physical literacy, active living, proactive self-care, nutritional literacy, mental health literacy, stigma reduction, and early identification of learning challenges.