

**Selected Participants' Comments
about the ALTIS Group leading edge workshop**

**Education & Information Technology Planning:
A How-To-Workshop**

Updated February 2009

Thank you, Wayne! I really enjoyed the workshop and found it to be immensely inspiring!
Cheers!

**One to One Computer Project
Education Consultant
Prairie Land School Division
Hanna, Alberta**

It was very reassuring to me to read the pre-reading resources you sent out. It has been a suspicion of mine that this entire subject 'ICT' has become a sacred cow. That there are knowledgeable people examining the possibilities and directions, dispassionately and reasonably, has given me hope for education: which after all should be about free and open inquiry in a scientific way. I have been interested in the possible applications of ICT for a number of years, it is my experience that people are either techno-luddites or techno-lusters: until this workshop, the number of people who understood ICT as a tool rather than a goal seemed to be very small. It was also good to see that there seem to be more people than I thought who care about the foundations of public education and the directions that we are being lead do not seem quite so willy-nilly. I enjoyed the workshop, Wayne, and I am still processing the things I learned. I think you're doing good work."

**School Board Trustee
Prairie Rose School Division
Carman, Manitoba**

The best for me were the handouts, materials, and opportunity to dialogue around topics of common interest. I really appreciated that as part of your presentation style, you allowed for participants to dialogue around issues of common interest and allowed us to learn not only from you, but from our colleagues across Canada. Thanks for that. I saw that as a real strength in your approach that allowed us all to learn in our individual learning styles. I personally need an opportunity to dialogue to process and internalize information. You provided that opportunity. Thanks again for a great workshop — 5 out of 5.

**Superintendent of Schools
Seine River School Division
Lorette, Manitoba**

Your workshop has made me re-think how we are doing things in this school division and now I am in the process of putting a number of ideas into action, particularly the idea of a — PLAN FOR A PLAN. I have a better understanding of what a tech review and plan entails. It will help me move our school division towards a BIG PICTURE understanding of educational technology. Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Director Cyber and Learning Technology Services
Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools
St. Albert, Alberta**

For me, the best of the workshop were some of the discussions that took place around some of the topics. It was helpful to gage the direction that our school board is taking and some of our initiatives against what others are doing. Wayne, I know that you put a lot of information together for us that will be very useful for us in the future. Thanks for the workshop, it was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Technology Coordinator
Yellowknife Catholic Schools
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories**

What I liked best about the workshop was the technology planning workbook and the process that it outlined... Wayne, you basically did my job for me. The variety of individuals attending gave me a good opportunity to make some contacts and compare notes. A job well done, I rate this workshop as excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Technology Director
Grasslands Regional School Division
Brooks, Alberta**

The best aspects of the workshop were the quality of the resources, an excellent presenter and a relaxed atmosphere. The most useful aspect of the workshop were the take home resources that will enable me to develop an ICT Survey. Thank you for sharing your expertise with us, the workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Information and Communications Technologies
District School Board of Niagara
Allanburg, Ontario**

Our staff will be looking at this material. I liked the actual steps in creating a tech plan the best and the most useful were the handouts. Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Board Member
Treaty Six Education Authority
Edmonton, Alberta**

Thanks Wayne. I felt that I gained a lot of valuable information that will assist me as I continue to work on the Technology Committee within our school division. I appreciated the knowledge shared about the physical set-up and equipment to be used to make your network efficient. Particularly useful was how to evaluate where we are with our current plan and how we can fine tune it, re-visit the material and plan for the future.

**Principal
Thunder Creek School Division
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan**

The best part of the workshop was learning about the resources available. I also enjoyed the opportunity to hear from others about what was happening in different parts of Canada. Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Division Team Leader- Education Technology
Seven Oaks School Division
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

I now have access to lots of resource material. I left with many ideas which I can implement.”

**Teacher
Evergreen Catholic Separate School Division
Spruce Grove, Alberta**

I did find the information and resources to be very interesting and I know they will be very useful when we set out to complete the full scale tech plan in the future. Your workshop provided us with an opportunity to assess our current state... and get to the nuts and bolts, or the Rams and Bytes of the matter... and that is to focus on the students... thank you for that... we appreciate the clarification of goals... a plan is not just buying stuff... it's about using the stuff... Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Principal
Pembina Hills Regional School School Division
Ft. Assiniboine, Alberta**

The best part of the Workshop for me was learning how to develop baseline data for Technology Integration in the district and the resource materials provided.

**Principal and District Technology Committee Chairman
Ft. Vermillion School Division
Ft. Vermillion, Alberta**

Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5. I am working on my Plan and feeling good about it. I never could have got this far without the workshop and resources you provided. Most useful was the wealth of information and different perspectives

**District Manager, Information Technology
Qualicum School District No. 69
Parksville, British Columbia**

Overall, I considered it to be an extremely valuable workshop, 5 out of 5. Highlights were — the opportunity to network with professionals who have had experience developing tech plans, the abundant materials provided, and the review of actual plans. It was so valuable for me to get direction from a person such as your self with your experience in IT plans.

**Manager, Business Services
Thunder Bay Catholic School District
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Great Workshop!!! I have assumed new responsibilities for technology in the District and this was perfect for my situation.

**Principal of Information Technology
Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board
Windsor, Ontario**

Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5.

**Information and Communications Technology Implementation Consultant
Calgary Public School District
Calgary, Alberta**

Your workshop has made me re-think how we are doing things in this division and now I am in the process of putting a number of ideas into action.

**Computer Education Coordinator
Rolling River School Division No. 39
Minnedosa, Manitoba**

Evaluation comments from the Brandon workshop — I liked: the opportunity to look at a variety of existing technology plans; ideas from peers; assessment instruments; quality, currency and diversity of resources; breadth and depth of topics; expertise, knowledge and experience of presenter; and well organized.

**MERLIN
Manitoba Department of Education
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Your workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5. I want to compliment and thank you for the helpful materials, links to great sites, your common sense approach and not being tied to your agenda. The workshop allowed us to forge some interesting contacts as well as discuss issues that were specific to our district.”

**Coordinator of Learning Resources
Cowichan Valley School District No. 79
Duncan, British Columbia**

Excellent workshop — 5 out of 5. Most useful were the handouts that we could take back with us.

**Principal of Information Technology
Avon Maitland School District
Seaforth, Ontario**

Thank you for the content and tone of the workshop. It really was an enjoyable experience, you have an excellent manner in facilitating and giving us what we need.

**Computer Resource Teacher
Cowichan Valley School District No. 79
Duncan, B.C.**

On my return I reported to our regional technology group. They have expressed an interest in bringing you in to work on planning for school divisions across Manitoba.

**Director, Technology Services
Brandon School Division
Brandon, Manitoba**

Glad we came. The workshop was a 5 out of 5 and very useful to us. Thanks very much.

**Consultant, Technology Studies
and
Manager, Business Services
Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

The workshop gets a 5 out of 5. Though we all were of varying backgrounds and mandates, we were all looking at a lot of the same issues. It was very useful to be part of that group and to look at the resources available. I was impressed with the workshop and will recommend it to others up here.

**Manager, Information Technology
Beaufort Delta Education Council
Inuvik, North West Territories**

Excellent — 5 out of 5, very worthwhile. The hardware review and comments were useful. The resources from other schools and districts gave an insight into direction and thinking. A great deal of time and effort has been put into gathering these resources. Thank you.

**Coordinator, Academic Technology
Strathcona - Tweedsmuir School
Okotoks, Alberta**

The workshop was excellent — 5 out of 5. The diversity of the group kept the workshop interesting. It was refreshing to hear and discuss comments with educators from across the country.

**Technology Teacher
Hillside Jr/Sr High School School
Valleyview, Alberta**

Lots of actions and resources that I can confidently begin using within my District as a result of material presented and discussed. The techie — hardware discussions, were especially relevant to my situation.

**Director, Resource Centre
Vernon School District
Vernon, British Columbia**

I found the workshop extremely useful on a couple of levels. One, I can use the technology planning process ideas in my own technology planning, and on a second level, educating me on the state of technology in schools currently and where it is heading is very helpful in us pursuing our education Internet outreach project. The presenters were very knowledgeable in his subject area and very good at sharing the subject matter with the audience.

**Manager, Information Systems
Calgary Zoo
Calgary, Alberta**

Appreciated taking the time to discuss our current situations, this proved to be invaluable.

**Director, Technology Services
Peace River School Division No. 10
Peace River, Alberta**

I came seeking ideas and resources. I was very satisfied with the outcome. Outstanding workshop leader.

**Superintendent of Schools
Yellowknife Education District No. 1
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories**

Very informative and a big help.

**Assistant Director of Instructional Services
Prince Albert Catholic Schools
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan**

Top marks across the board. What I was looking for.

**Deputy Superintendent
Medicine Hat Catholic Board
Medicine Hat, Alberta**

Excellent overview of a very difficult process.

**Principal
Lee Ridge School
Edmonton Public Schools
Edmonton, Alberta**

Excellent organization and handout material.

**Teacher
Suzuki Charter School
Edmonton, Alberta**

I would recommend this workshop to colleagues.

**Superintendent of Technology and Communications
Saskatoon Public School Division
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

Useful in dealing with a massive topic and large responsibility.

**Teacher
New Sarepta High School
Black Gold School Division
Beaumont, Alberta**

I would recommend this workshop to colleagues planning a technology plan. Should repeat this workshop next year for an update."

**Teacher
Summitview School
Yellowhead School Division
Grande Cache, Alberta**

I would strongly recommend this workshop for each of the District Superintendents and the Principals.

**Teacher
Dr. K.A. Clark School
Fort McMurray Public Schools
Fort McMurray, Alberta**