



**Alberta  
Music  
Advocacy  
Alliance**



## **An open letter from the Alberta Music Advocacy Alliance to The Honourable Adriana LaGrange**

12 April 2021

Dear The Honourable Adriana LaGrange,

We are writing to express concern over the serious shortcomings of the recently released Kindergarten-Grade 6 music curriculum. Members of the Alberta Music Advocacy Alliance—a consortium of provincial music organizations—have had an opportunity to review the curriculum in detail and wish to highlight the following issues:

1. The overwhelmingly Eurocentric perspectives presented through the approaches, priorities, and examples do not represent the diversity of students or teachers in Alberta classrooms.
2. The “othering” language and tokenistic inclusion will limit students to learning about non-White cultures instead of learning with them.
3. The content is developmentally inappropriate, fails to properly sequence learning processes, and lacks relevance for today’s students.
4. The focus on learning about music rather than engaging in music-making activities deprives students of many of the benefits inherent to a music education.
5. The many blatant errors, inaccuracies, and omissions in the document call into question the validity of the development process undertaken and the expertise of the creators.

Given the complexity of these concerns, the only path forward is to rewrite the Kindergarten-Grade 6 draft music curriculum in its entirety. We implore you not to subject any Alberta student to the draft curriculum in its current state in September 2021. Instead, a comprehensive and transparent curriculum development process that involves Alberta’s music teachers and curriculum experts must be undertaken.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss it with you further and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Alberta Band Association  
Alberta Kodály Association  
Alberta Music Education Foundation  
Alberta Orff Chapter  
Alberta Piano Teachers’ Association  
Representatives of Alberta’s post-secondary  
music (education) programs

Alberta String Association  
Calgary Association for the  
Development of Music Education  
Choir Alberta  
Women Band Directors International,  
Alberta Chapter