



Q & A

GORDON THOMAS,
Executive Secretary

Q: The principal of a nearby school just dealt with a situation in which allegations of sexual misconduct were raised against a teacher. If such allegations arise here, what do I as a principal do?

A: As a principal, you have an obligation to take such allegations seriously. There are certain steps you must take to ensure that a fair process is followed. You will need to check your board policy. It is also advisable to seek advice from the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA). In addition, you will need to notify the teacher and advise him or her to seek advice from the ATA. Do not make assumptions or carry out unqualified investigations, because your involvement with potential witnesses and the handling of evidence may compromise the process.