



**MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CALGARY'S FIRST PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL JUST FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING  
DISABILITIES OPENS SEPTEMBER 2016**

Calgary, September 14, 2015 - Children are back at school, and educators are thinking about how best to teach their students. With approximately 19000 students in Alberta with learning disabilities, there are often children who are left behind. Parents of these children are anxious and can only hope this year will be better. With the introduction of a new school with new learning strategies, these children now have the opportunity to excel in learning and life.

ReThink Charter Academy is an Alberta Public Charter School designed to meet the needs of students in Grade 3 through 9 with documented learning disabilities. This will be accomplished by a whole school implementation of the *TriOptimal Learning Model*. This model sets out a holistic system of supports that includes parents, health care professionals and others within the child's community. The neuroscience based environment promotes building of new neural pathways to facilitate learning in individual ways. This innovative model is embedded in the school's organization, its teaching approaches and in the learning partnership with its students and parents. ReThink will be the first school to fully implement the TriOptimal model in Canada.

ReThink will be a professional development center for educators and other professionals working with LD students. Integrated professional development programming and research partnerships are at the heart of ReThink's mandate. The centre will build capacity for others seeking to create optimal learning environments for LD students and their families.

ReThink envisions students who are not only able to learn but who increase their capacity to *learn without limits*. Students with learning disabilities will have **THEIR** needs put front and centre at ReThink Charter Academy.

ReThink Charter Academy welcomes students in Grades 3-9 with a diagnosed learning disability. The school will open September 2016 and is currently accepting applications for students in Grades 3-6.

Parent Information Meetings are planned as follows:

September 19, 2015	1:00 pm	Calgary Public Library, Judith Umbach Branch
September 26, 2015	1:00 pm	Calgary Public Library, Saddletowne Branch
October 3, 2015	1:00 pm	Calgary Public Library, Fish Creek Branch
October 10, 2015	1:00 pm	Calgary Public Library, Signal Hill Branch

**Be one of the first 100 to fill out an application for your child! Please visit the ReThink website for more information at [www.rethinkcharteracademy.ca](http://www.rethinkcharteracademy.ca). Register for the information meetings by sending an email to [rethink.calgary@gmail.com](mailto:rethink.calgary@gmail.com).**

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