

2025 SCHOOL FOR NEW TRUSTEES

Sheraton Cavalier – Saskatoon



THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 12:30 p.m. Registration Desk Opens (Foyer)
- 1:00 p.m. Welcome and SSBA President's Address (Center)
- 1:15 p.m. Rules of Order and the Common Sense Factor
Eli Mina (Center)
- 2:45 p.m. Break
- 3:00 p.m. Surviving Contentious Meetings
Eli Mina (Center)
- 4:30 p.m. Meeting Adjourn until Evening
- 6:00 p.m. Registration Desk re-opens (Foyer)
- 6:00 p.m. Cash bar
- 7:00 p.m. Supper Buffet (Foyer)
- 8:00 p.m. Advice for New Board Members: Reflections
from Former Trustees and a Retired Director of
Education
- 9:00 p.m. Adjourn

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet (Foyer)
- 8:45 a.m. Education Partner Panel
- 9:30 a.m. **Choice of Session:**
- SSBA Legal Services: Overview, Privacy and Code of Conduct (East)
 - Communications and Advocacy (West)
 - Cyber Risk and Governance (South)
 - Indigenous Education – Indigenous Education Responsibility Framework (Canadian)
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. **Choice of Session:**
- Introduction to the Collective Bargaining Process (East)
 - Overview of the SSBA General Insurance Plan and Employee Benefits Plan (West)
 - What Board Members need to know about Financial Governance (South)
 - SSBA Governance Handbook Overview (Canadian)
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon Buffet (Foyer)
- 1:00 p.m. Achieving Informed Decisions
Eli Mina (Center)
- 2:30 p.m. School for New Trustees Concludes /
Refreshments to go

Meeting Rules & Responsible Governance Segment Descriptions:
Led by Eli Mina – Board Effective Consultant & Registered Parliamentarian

Rules of Order and the Common Sense Factor - Common sense tools and ideas to earn the trust, respect and confidence of your stakeholders. You will also learn how to avoid the unintended damage that can be inflicted by common but destructive habits.

Surviving Contentious Meetings - In this segment Eli Mina will share the OFEEDS acronym and the 6 imbedded core principles (Order, Focus, Efficiency, Equality, Decorum, and a Safe Meeting Environment) to help your Board deal calmly and confidently with moderately or extremely contentious issues.

Achieving Informed Decisions - Tools and ideas on promoting learning around the Boardroom table. Such measures should enable your Board to make judicious and thoughtful decisions, and to earn the trust and respect of your Community and the Management Team.

Session Descriptions:

January 31 - 9:30 am – 10:30 am

1. **SSBA Legal Services: Overview, Privacy, and Code of Conduct** - This session will provide an overview of SSBA Legal Services, help board members understand privacy legislation and what it means for boards and board members, explain fiduciary duty, and discuss ethical conduct. (Jolene Horejda/Monica Couture/Ted Amendt)
2. **Communications and Advocacy** - This session introduces school board communications and advocacy from the collective provincial perspective to the local community level. (Jill Welke/Joe Couture)
3. **Cyber Risk and Governance** - This session will review the report developed by the 2023 Cyber Risk Working Advisory Group, focusing on governance and risk management of cyber vulnerabilities commonly faced by school divisions. (Jeff McNaughton)
4. **Indigenous Education – Indigenous Education Responsibility Framework Implementation** - This session will also provide an overview of Indigenous education in the provincial system and how the Indigenous Education Responsibility Framework can help boards monitor Indigenous education within their school division. (Felice McKay)

January 31 - 10:45 am – 12:00 pm

1. **Introduction to the Collective Bargaining Process** - This session will provide an awareness of the collective bargaining process, insight into bi-level bargaining in Saskatchewan's education sector, and outline the board's role. (Linnea Olson)
2. **Overview of the SSBA General Insurance Plan and Employee Benefits Plan** - This session will provide a general overview of why and how the SSBA provides these services to school divisions, including the value for money proposition that is achieved. (Jeff McNaughton)
3. **What Board Members need to know about Financial Governance** - This session explains the difference between financial governance and financial management. Attendees will learn more about the role and responsibilities of board members for overseeing the budget process, financial performance, and fiscal reporting including the annual audit. (Catherine Vu)
4. **SSBA Governance Handbook Overview** - This session will set the context for corporate governance and provide an overview of the SSBA Governance Handbook. (Ted Amendt)