

SSBA Award of Distinction



Chinook Board of Education submits

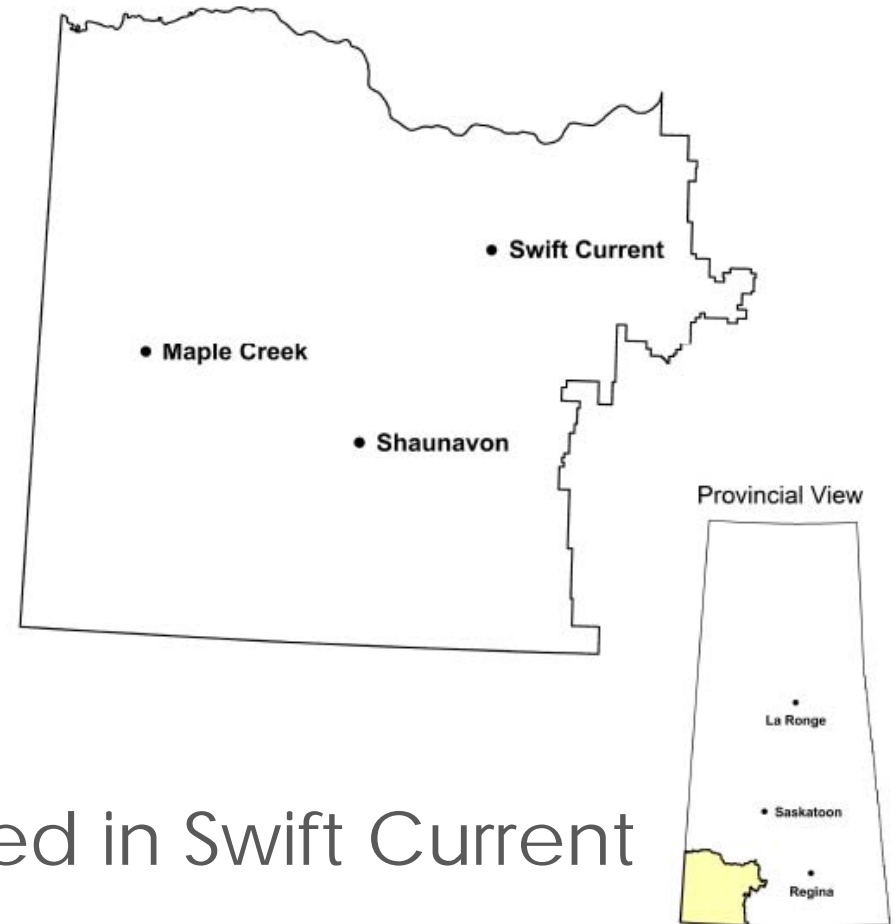
Larry Caswell for his outstanding service and significant contribution to the youth of the Southwest and the province of Saskatchewan over the past 40 years.

Context - Chinook School Division

- Chinook formed through Amalgamation in 2005 from 9 pre-existing Boards
- Located in SW SK (40 000 sq. kms)...most dispersed school division in the province
- Most rural schools (45) under 100 students
- Leaders in Hutterian Education
 - 32 Colony Schools
 - ~50% of all Colony Schools in the Province

Context - Chinook School Division

- 63 Schools in total
- 24 Communities
- ~6000 Students
- ~900 Staff
- ~85M Budget
- 142 Bus Routes
- Central Office located in Swift Current



School Board Service

Larry has been a Trustee over 40 years

- Local Board – Success, SK
- Division Board – Prairie West
- Division Board – Chinook
- SSTA and SSBA - Provincial



School Board Service

Larry has been a Trustee over 40 years

- SSBA Service
 - Nominee for President
 - Member's Council
 - Board Chair Council
 - Communications Committee
 - Public Section
- Board Service
 - Board Chair
 - Board Vice Chair
 - Committee Member and Chair
 - Transportation
 - Technology
 - Finance

Activities

As a board member, Larry has lead or helped design a number of different initiatives of the Board:

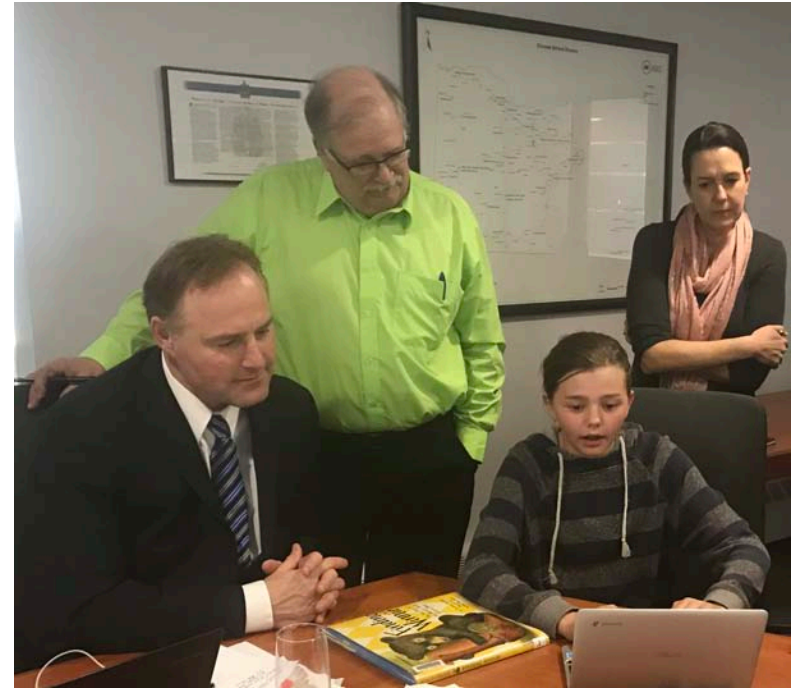
- New Facilities
 - Planning, Design, Construction, Opening and operation
- Public Consultations
 - Ongoing SCC feedback, School Consolidations, Grade discontinuance and closure
- Cyber School
 - Creation and Policy Framework



Activities

As a board member, Larry has lead or helped design a number of different initiatives of the Board:

- Staffing Formulas
 - Equitable allotments that recognize differences between small and large schools
- Data
 - Instrumental in development and authenticity of Chinook data used for decision making



Positive Change Leader

Larry has been a champion for student learning... he has asked critical, constructive questions, caused plans to be refined, and supported emotionally as well as resourced four key positive changes for children:

1. Maverick School
 - Alternative HS that has graduated over 200 students not successful in traditional setting
2. Balanced Literacy
 - Over \$1M invested... results going from 65% to 84% (Premier's Award Winner)
3. Math Momentum
 - Over \$1M invested... results going from 47% to 79%
4. Graduation Rates and Student Engagement
 - In progress

Board Effectiveness

As a long time Board member, Mr. Caswell has been:

- A staunch advocate for Rural Education.
- A champion for vulnerable students, e.g.) special needs, small schools, underprivileged youth, etc.



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- A staunch advocate for Rural Education.
- A champion for vulnerable students, e.g.) special needs, small schools, underprivileged youth, etc.
- Involved in the political process with Premiers and MLA's down to the local SCC members... Larry is very politically astute.
- A very constructive Devil's Advocate... Larry has an uncanny ability to anticipate the other or less popular side of an issue which has been valuable when Strategic Planning.

Deserving Candidate

If there is a youth-oriented event in Southwest SK, Mr. Larry Caswell is most often involved. Some of these include local and regional science fairs, public speaking competitions, art coffeehouses, band and choral performances, Christmas concerts, sports and team events, and so much more.



Deserving Candidate

Larry has taken many roles during his tenure with local and division school boards, and he has been active on multiple committees, but his primary focus has always been the best interests of the learners. He feels strongly about rural representation in the provincial educational field, and does not hesitate to research best practice and provide educated opinions about what may be best for young learners.

Furthermore, he has always been a lifelong learner, and has supported the love of learning in all of his own children, as well as countless other young people.

Deserving Candidate

Mr. Larry Caswell has devoted much of his life to Education. His belief in the value of learning has permeated throughout the school system in SW Saskatchewan. He will leave a wonderful legacy to this region of the province as a result of his work and insight.

As his daughter stated:

“He is one of the reasons I went into education, and remains integral to my own learning, as well as the learning of others”



Closing



The Chinook Board of Education is proud to submit Larry Caswell as a nominee for the prestigious SSBA AWARD OF DISTINCTION.