

## Keep Investing in Students



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Education Belongs  
to Community

School boards want to see the next budget cycle restore operating funding cut in the last provincial budget, along with increases in consideration of growing student enrolment numbers.

Boards have already had to make very difficult decisions for this school year due to the funding cuts in education and are hearing concerns from staff, families and community members.

Boards have worked hard to minimize the negative effects on students, but sufficiency is now of major concern for divisions planning for the 2018-19 school year.

Funding was cut in the last provincial budget by more than \$55 million — the per-student funding on average across the province is down almost \$500 a student for the 2017-18 school year. Boards need communities to continue to stand

up for investment in our education system and its importance to the future of our province.

Communities can add their voices and help send a strong message in support of publicly funded education on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), by sending a message to [local MLAs](#), by sharing thoughts with boards through the [SSBA website](#) and by viewing and sharing the SSBA's ["Keep Investing in Students" video](#).

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Premier's Award Recipient	2	Assembly Panels	6
Premier's Award Submissions	3	Executive Update	7
Life Memberships	4	Calendar Update	8
Scholarships	5	Assembly Sponsors	8

## Greater Saskatoon Catholic and Partners Receive Premier's Award

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, the Saskatoon Tribal Council and the College of Education Indian Teacher Education Program at the University of Saskatchewan have received the 2017 Premier's Board of Education Award for their joint submission of "ni ahkwatonâmonân: An Indigenous Language Pathway to Improved Student Learning Outcomes at St. Frances Cree Bilingual School."

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association co-ordinates the Premier's Award each year. The award was presented on behalf of Premier Brad Wall during the SSBA Annual General Assembly.

"I want to congratulate the partners for winning this year's award," Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood MLA Lisa Lambert said on behalf of Premier Wall. "This award honours the great work they are doing at St. Frances Cree Bilingual School, expanding opportunities for our First Nations and Métis students to improve their learning."

In their application for the award, the partners said the St. Frances Cree Bilingual Program provides the



*Partner representatives after the presentation of the 2017 Premier's Award*

foundation for students to achieve their full potential and offers an incubation site for innovations in Indigenizing the curriculum and improving First Nations and Métis student learning outcomes.

"We are both honoured and humbled to receive this award for the Cree bilingual program at St. Frances," said Diane Boyko, Board of Education Chair at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. "When we started this journey with our

partners years ago, it was a bit of a risk. We were optimistic about its success, but there were a lot of unknowns about how a Cree language program would be received in the medium- to long-term. Ten years later, we have a thriving school community, and the school is bursting at the seams."

Boyko said the board is very thankful to have great partners in education and noted that it is very

**Continued on Page 3 →**



*Kent McDonald representing Xerox Canada*



*Presentation of the 2017 Premier's Award*

## **Premier's Award (continued)**

gratifying for a program that embraces Indigenous language, culture, identity and community to be recognized. But even more rewarding is the fact that the innovative programs and supports have resulted in marked improvement in student outcomes, she added.

"The St. Frances Professional Development School (PDS) project is designed to achieve the common benefits of the PDS model, including targeted teacher learning and high student achievement; but it also achieves more," said Michelle Prytula, Dean, College of Education. "Through its focus on Indigenous student identity and Indigenous language and culture, it sets the bar for teaching and learning models province-wide."

"One of the TRC calls to action mentions that Aboriginal languages are a fundamental and valued element of Canadian culture and

society, and there is an urgency to preserve them," said Tribal Chief Mark Arcand, Saskatoon Tribal Council. "This award demonstrates what incorporating our identity and language can do for a school in Saskatoon, where the Indigenous population is steadily increasing."

The \$3,000 award is sponsored by Xerox Canada. The award recipient is recommended by a panel that includes representation from education sector partners.

"The importance of embedding Indigenous language and culture into the curriculum in Saskatchewan has certainly been internalized by St. Frances' Cree Bilingual Program," said Damien Johnston, VP Western Canadian Operations, Xerox Canada.

"Their unique approach has helped to integrate the language, history and culture of First Nations/Métis communities, with tools and programs designed to support this innovative approach,"

Johnston added. "The results speak for themselves with increases in attendance and improved performance, not to mention an enhanced sense of belonging for students. We are proud to be associated with St. Frances, congratulations from Xerox."

Developed in 1999, the Premier's Award recognizes educational innovations and improvements focused on student achievement that have been advanced or directed by boards of education. The prize is to be used to support or extend the innovation or project.

"The Premier's Award shines a spotlight on great work being done by boards of education throughout the province," said Dr. Shawn Davidson, President of the SSBA. "Although there is only one recipient of the award, each submission is worthy of recognition for advancing the goal of improved outcomes for all students."

## **Premier's Award Submissions**

Thank you to the boards of education that submitted applications for the Award and agreed to share their work. All submissions received for the 2017 Award are available to view on the [SSBA website](#).

### **2017 Award Recipient:**

#### **Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools –**

ni ahkwatonâmonân: An Indigenous Language Pathway to Improved Student Learning Outcomes at St. Frances Cree Bilingual School

### **Other 2017 Submissions:**

**Horizon School Division** – Safe and Caring Schools

**Lloydminster Catholic School Division** – Synergy in Spaces

**Prairie Spirit School Division** – The My Prairie Spirit Classroom (MPSC) document

**Prairie Valley School Division** – Planning for Student Success

**Regina Public Schools** – Improving Graduation Rates



## New Life Members

**LARRY PAVLOFF**



Larry Pavloff is married to Rosanne Alain. He is very proud of three children and four grandchildren.

Larry attended a one room school near Arelee, Saskatchewan, and graduated high school from Perdue, Saskatchewan. After two years of university, Larry started teaching at Turtleford, Saskatchewan, at the age of 19. He was able to retire from teaching in 2000 at the age of 50. In 2003, Larry was inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame as an individual athlete for the sport of softball.

Larry was elected as a trustee in 2006 to the newly amalgamated Prairie Spirit School Division. In 2011, he was chosen Board Chair and remains there today. In 2008, Larry was first elected to the Executive of the SSBA, a position he was honoured to serve. Since, he has served another two-year term on the Executive. As a trustee, Larry has served on many Provincial Panels and Committees, the highlights being the Provincial Panel on Student Education and the Saskatchewan High School Athletic Association Executive.

Larry is very appreciative of the many relationships made and individuals met over his long career in Education and work as a Trustee. He hopes that he has passed on some of his enthusiasm, passion and love for education to others.

**RONNA PETHICK**



Ronna Pethick grew up and attended school in the Portreeve-Sceptre area. She graduated from Evan Hardy Collegiate in Saskatoon. She has been married to her husband, Ron, for the past 40 years and they are proud of three children and seven grandchildren.

Ronna was a Judicial Officer for many years and has been a Justice of the Peace for 38 years and is also a Marriage Commissioner. She has volunteered with various organizations as well as serving as President of Minor Ball, Ringette and Figure Skating.

Ronna was elected as a trustee in 1997 to the LandsWest School Division and has served as a trustee since then. She was chosen as Board Chair of Living Sky School Division last year after serving as Vice-Chair for seven years. Ronna also sits on the Sakewew First Nations High School Joint Board of Education.

She was elected to the SSBA Executive as Central Constituency Rep in 2012 and in 2014 was elected Vice-President of the Association. Ronna has served on many Provincial Committees.

Ronna's dedication to our sector and our students is exemplified by her not only serving as a school division trustee, but by her continued involvement in each initiative provincial or local that leads to better outcomes and success for students.

**ÉLIZABETH PERREAU**



Elizabeth has been happily married for 31 years to Norman. She is a very proud mother of her two sons, Emile and Dennis. She welcomed, this year, a new addition to the family, daughter-in-law Ashley. Elizabeth and Norman live and work on their farm in Hoey. Before getting her feet wet in politics, Elizabeth worked at the school in Bellevue as a communications officer. She was then voted as an elected official with the assembly communautaire fransaskois (ACF), where she represented her community for two terms.

Elizabeth was elected to the conseil scolaire in 2006. She spent 10 years on the conseil as board member, chair and vice-chair. Elizabeth spent six years on the SSBA executive as the representative for the conseil.

## Scholarship Recipients

*Each year, the Saskatchewan School Boards Association offers two Education Scholarships of \$2,500 each to graduating high school students who remain in Saskatchewan in post-secondary study.*

*One scholarship is awarded to a student entering a degree program in Saskatchewan and one scholarship is awarded to a student entering a technical / trade program in Saskatchewan.*



**Arslan Azeem**  
**Regina Public Schools**

*2017 Degree Program  
Scholarship Recipient*

Arslan Azeem is the winner of the 2017 scholarship.

Arslan graduated from Campbell Collegiate in the Regina Public School Division.

Arslan is enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration program at the U of R.



**Mathieu Mihalicz**  
**Horizon School Division**

*2017 Technical / Trade Program  
Scholarship Recipient*

Mathieu Mihalicz is the winner of the 2017 scholarship.

Mathieu graduated from Raymore School in the Horizon School Division.

Mathieu is enrolled in the Automotive Service Tech program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

## **Fall General Assembly – Nov. 12-14, 2017**

### **PANELS**



#### *“Elected and Engaged”*

SUMA President Dr. Gordon Barnhart  
Cowessess Chief Cadmus Delorme  
Member of Parliament Kevin Waugh



#### *“Reconciliation Through Our Students’ Eyes”*

Holy Trinity Catholic School Division – Kalyka Kober and Jessica Chowdhury  
Prairie South School Division – Jeremy Corrigan and Kaleigh Olson  
Prairie Valley School Division – Michael Starr-Desnomie and Kisis-Isquao Cappel  
Regina Public Schools – Paige Hamann and Taye Starr  
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools – Jordan Daniels and Hunter Martin  
Facilitator: Dr. Michael Cappello



## Executive Update



*Swearing in of the 2017-18 Executive at the Fall General Assembly*

### **2017-18 SSBA Provincial Executive (left to right above):**

- Aleana Young, Vice-President
- Janet Kotylak, Southern Constituency
- Jansen Corrigan, Northern Constituency
- Martin Prince, CEF Constituency
- Shawn Davidson, President
- Duane Favel, Aboriginal Constituency
- Jerome Niezgoda, Catholic Constituency
- Jaimie Smith-Windsor, Central Constituency
- Donna Banks, Urban Public Constituency

### **New Executive Terms**

These members are beginning new two-year terms on the Executive following 2017's elections:

- Jansen Corrigan will serve as Northern Constituency Representative for a new two-year term. The SSBA thanks outgoing Northern Constituency Representative Joe Daigneault for his service.
- Janet Kotylak will serve as Southern Constituency Representative for a new two-year term.
- Martin Prince will serve as Conseil des écoles fransaskoises Representative for a new two-year term.

Elections for the six other Executive positions are scheduled for 2018.



*"The mission of the SSBA is to provide leadership, coordination and services to member boards of education to support student achievement."*

**President:**

Dr. Shawn Davidson

**Vice-President:**

Aleana Young

**Aboriginal Constituency:**

Duane Favel

**Catholic Constituency:**

Jerome Niezgoda

**Central Constituency:**

Jaimie Smith-Windsor

**Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:**

Martin Prince

**Northern Constituency:**

Jansen Corrigan

**Southern Constituency:**

Janet Kotylak

**Urban Public Constituency:**

Donna Banks

**Executive Director:**

Darren McKee

**Communications Services:**

Jill Welke

**Corporate Services**

Marie Stewart

**Employee Benefits  
and Insurance Plans:**

Jeff McNaughton

**First Nations and Métis Education:**

Jamie Lerat

**School Board Development,  
Strategic Human Resources  
and Legal Services:**

Ted Amendt

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approximately five times per year  
(September to June).

If you would prefer to receive *The School Trustee* by hard copy, please contact the Association at the email address above.

## Calendar Update

### Upcoming Events in 2018:

#### SSBA Spring General Assembly

Regina – Apr. 12-13

<https://saskschoolboards.ca/event/spring-general-assembly-2018/>

**For more information, visit:** <https://saskschoolboards.ca/events/>.

## Assembly Sponsors

### PRINCIPAL SPONSOR GROUP (\$5,000)



### MAJOR SPONSORS (\$1,500)



### SUPPORTING SPONSOR (\$500)

