

## Prairie Spirit School Division Receives Premier's Award



*Prairie Spirit School Division was presented the 2018 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education during the SSBA Fall General Assembly in Regina in November.*

Prairie Spirit School Division has received the 2018 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education, for its submission of "innovative music programming" in the division.

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) co-ordinates the Premier's Award each year. The award was presented on behalf of

Premier Scott Moe during the SSBA Annual General Assembly in November in Regina.

"I want to congratulate Prairie Spirit School Division for winning this year's award," Todd Goudy, MLA for Melfort, said on behalf of Premier Moe. "This award honours the great work in Prairie Spirit schools, which includes expanding

opportunities through an innovative music program that brings quality music education to rural schools."

In its application for the award, Prairie Spirit School Division said a new approach to music programming called "Resonate" ([www.resonatelive.ca](http://www.resonatelive.ca)) was initiated in the division in 2015. Resonate is

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## Premier's Award (continued)

→ designed to be an inclusive approach to music programming in the division and involves a number of channels and outlets, including a student music conference, teacher professional development, performances and other events.

"We measure success for our school board by whether students and teachers are successful," said Prairie Spirit Board Chair Sam Dyck. "Resonate gives us feedback that tells us the subject matter is relevant and that parents are engaged in the students' learning."

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

"For 20 years, Xerox Canada has been investing in the education of our future leaders and proud to continue supporting the development of youth and students in our community," said Xerox Regional Manager Bal Badh.

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 Premier's Award highlights the great work being done by school boards throughout the province," said SSBA President Dr. Shawn Davidson. "While there is only one recipient of the award each year, every submission is worthy of recognition for promoting efforts to help ensure success for all students in Saskatchewan."

All submissions for 2018's award are available on the [SSBA website](#).

## Local Government Week Proclaimed in Saskatchewan



*Representatives of the partner organizations participated in a kickoff media conference held in Saskatoon in November to launch Local Government Week 2018.*

The first-ever Local Government Week was proclaimed in the province at the joint request of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA).

Saskatchewan's Government Relations Minister Warren Kaeding officially proclaimed the Week, which ran from Nov. 12 to 16.

"Mayors, reeves, chairs, councillors, trustees, and administrative officials all contribute to shaping the quality of life delivered to our province's citizens and their families. They all play key roles in working with their neighbouring communities and other government partners. On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, it's a pleasure to have this week recognize their valuable contributions and insights that help keep this great province strong," said Kaeding.

"We are committed to building capacity at the local level and are pleased to recognize Local Government Week," said SARM President Ray Orb.

"Local governments are responsible for the services and

infrastructure that residents rely on daily," said SUMA President Gordon Barnhart. "Local Government Week provides a formal opportunity to highlight this."

The call to recognize Local Government Week emerged through discussions between the partner organizations as an excellent opportunity to increase awareness and engagement in the province's systems of local democracy.

"Locally-elected governments are the voice of the people and provide connection and accountability to communities," said SSBA President Dr. Shawn Davidson. "Decisions are best made at the grassroots level and local governments have credibility and relationships with their communities."

The partner organizations representing local governments also include the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) and Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S).

## New Life Members



**Connie Bailey**

(with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President)

Connie Bailey served as a locally elected school board trustee for more than 15 years.

She was an active member of the Provincial Executive of the SSBA for a total of more than 10 years, serving in the roles of Constituency Representative, Vice-President and President of the Association. She served a trustee for the Sun West School Division until 2016.

Connie has been married for 39 years to Roy. She has two children, Rylan and Brenna. She is a mother-in-law to Maria and Geoff and a proud grandmother to Brynn and Jasper.

Connie continues to work on the family farm although less time is spent there as the farm transitions to new ownership under the next generation.

Connie now resides mostly in Saskatoon. She is generally enjoying volunteer opportunities and participating in her local community.



**Élizabeth Perreault**

(with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President)

Élizabeth has been happily married for more than 30 years to Norman.

She is a very proud mother of her two sons Emile and Dennis.

She welcomed, last year, a new addition to the family, daughter-in-law Ashley.

Élizabeth and Norman live and work on their farm in Hoey.

Before getting her feet wet in politics, Élizabeth 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.

Élizabeth was elected to the conseil scolaire in 2006. She spent 10 years on the conseil as board member, chair and vice-chair.

Élizabeth spent six years on the SSBA executive as the representative for the conseil.

## 2018 SSBA Scholarship Recipient



Alabi AbdulFattah is the recipient of the 2018 Degree Program Scholarship.

Abdul graduated from Central Collegiate in the Prairie South School Division.

Abdul is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Animal Bioscience program at the University of Saskatchewan.

Abdul is depicted in the photograph here with the Lieutenant Governor, Prairie South Board Chair and SSBA President.



## Awards of Distinction



**Larry Caswell**

(with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President)

Larry Caswell serves on the Chinook Board of Education and is being recognized for outstanding service and significant contribution to the youth of the southwest and the province over the past 40 years.

His first foray into school board affairs was on his district's local school board in 1978. He was first elected as a trustee in 1988 and has held that position for 28 of the past 30 years through evolutions of education in the province.

Larry and Bev have five children and numerous grandchildren, many whom have gone or are going through school systems he has been part of. His family was instrumental in his entrance into school politics.

Larry has served as chair, vice-chair, on committees and contributed at the provincial level.

He is credited with helping lead a number of different initiatives of his board. He is a champion for student learning and vulnerable students, a strong advocate for rural education and a positive change leader.

Larry believes the trustees of our province have proudly and effectively answered the challenges facing us and states it is a privilege to have stood among these defenders of children and families.



**Bert de Gooijer**

(with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President)

Bert de Gooijer resides in Kelliher and with his wife Joy operates a grain and cattle farm. They have four adult children and five grandchildren. Bert is a graduate of the College of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan.

Bert has 24 years of service in education. He serves on the Prairie Valley School Board. He has extensive experience as a board and committee member and serves as vice-chair of the board. He is a true example of the foundation of trusteeship being the voice of the public in public education.

He has been active in many community organizations including the recreation centre board, managing minor hockey, 4-H leader, church council and agriculture-related organizations.

Bert is committed to ensuring boards and the province provide equitable, progressive, adequately funded education so students grow into confident, knowledgeable, engaged citizens. His number one focus is student achievement. He has consistently demonstrated values of leadership, effective governance, commitment, advocacy, ethics and participation in professional development.



**Ray Morrison**

(with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President)

Ray Morrison has dedicated years of service to promoting and supporting public education in Saskatoon. He has served on the Board of Education for Saskatoon Public Schools since 2003 and as chair since 2006.

He also sits as a Board member of the Saskatchewan Public Schools foundation and until recently READ Saskatoon. Prior to being elected he served on his local parent council for 13 years, as an executive of the citizens advisory council to the Saskatoon Public School Division and of the Saskatchewan Association of School Councils.

He has represented the SSBA on a number of committees and task forces. In December 2016, Ray was appointed by the Minister of Education to chair the "Educational Governance Advisory Panel".

He spent more than 35 years working at SaskTel, prior to retiring. Ray was awarded the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in 2005.

He is passionate about public education and believes in working collaboratively to improve student outcomes in Saskatoon.

Ray is first and foremost a husband to Cindy and a father to his two daughters Kate and Ellen.

## Fall General Assembly Photos



*President's Address  
Dr. Shawn Davidson*



*Greetings from the Government of Saskatchewan  
Hon. Tina Beaudry-Mellor*



*Keynote Presentation  
Dr. Jody Carrington*



*Greetings from LEADS  
Sean Chase*



*Greetings from SASBO  
Ryan Bruce*



*Inclusive Education Presentation  
Council for Exceptional Children*



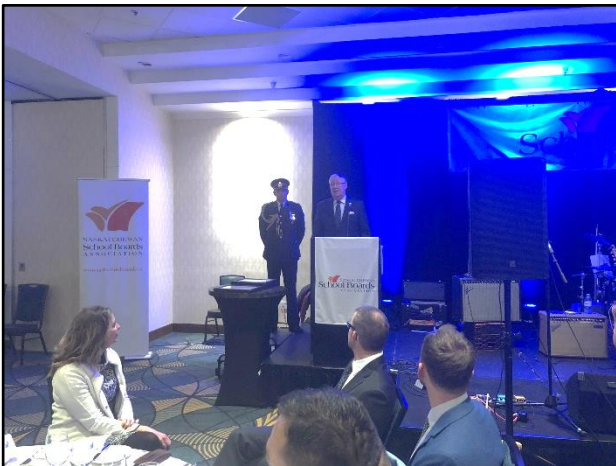
## Fall General Assembly Photos



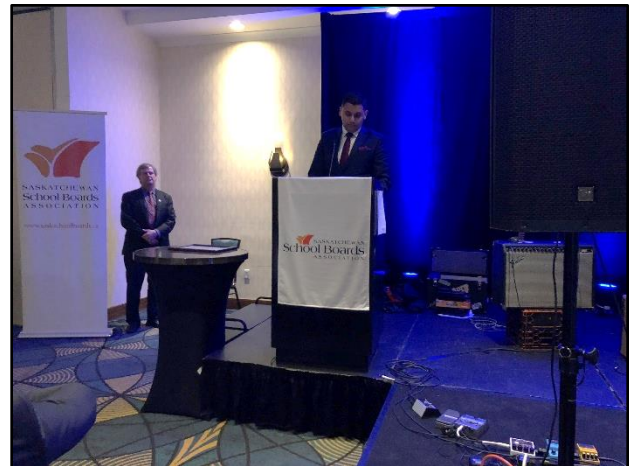
*Greetings from STF  
Fay Humbert*



*Greetings from CSBA  
Laurie French*



*Greetings from Lieutenant Governor  
Lieutenant Governor W. Thomas Molloy*



*Remarks from Xerox (Premier's Award Sponsor)  
Bal Badh*



*SAYCW Presentation  
Dr. Jon Tonita and Jason Young*



*History of Francophone Education  
Martin Prince*

## Activity and Updates



*The Canadian School Boards Association has announced Nancy Pynch-Worthylake (left) will serve as its Executive Director.*



*CSBA President Laurie French (right) chaired the National Search Committee. Pynch-Worthylake has served as school board association executive director at the provincial level and as provincial government senior executive director and as superintendent of schools. She is fluent in French and English and holds degrees at Bachelor and Master levels.*

### Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association Awards

*The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony was held in October.*

The SCSBA's prestigious Julian Paslawski Meritorious Service Award was named for a long-serving SCSBA executive director. It is awarded to individuals who made significant contribution to Catholic education in Saskatchewan. This year's winners were:

- Geri Hall, former Director of Education for Holy Trinity
- Darrell Zaba, former Director of Education for Christ the Teacher; also served as interim Director for Holy Trinity

The SCSBA also has an Appreciation Award, awarded to an individual in appreciation of commitment and contribution to Catholic education in Saskatchewan. This year's winners were:

- Joanna Landry from Regina Catholic
- Donna Ziegler from Regina Catholic

Ziegler and Jerome Niezgoda (SSBA Executive Member and Christ the Teacher trustee) received 18-year long service awards.



### 2018-19 Provincial Executive

(left to right):

**Joe Daigneault** (Indigenous Constituency)  
**Martin Prince** (CÉF Constituency)  
**Donna Banks** (Urban Public Constituency)  
**Aleana Young** (Vice-President)  
**Janet Kotylak** (Southern Constituency)  
**Shawn Davidson** (President)  
**Jansen Corrigan** (Northern Constituency)  
**Jaimie Smith-Windsor** (Central Constituency)  
**Jerome Niezgoda** (Catholic Constituency)



*SSBA Board Development and Communications staff made presentations to the Prairie South School Division board and staff members in October.*

### Calendar Update

Upcoming Events in 2019:

**SSBA Spring General Assembly**  
 Saskatoon – Apr. 11-12

<https://saskschoolboards.ca/events/>





*"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

**Catholic Constituency:**

Jerome Niezgoda

**Central Constituency:**

Jaimie Smith-Windsor

**Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:**

Martin Prince

**Indigenous Constituency:**

Joe Daigneault

**Northern Constituency:**

Jansen Corrigan

**Southern Constituency:**

Janet Kotylak

**Urban Public Constituency:**

Donna Banks

**Executive Director:**

Darren McKee

**Communications Services:**

Jill Welke

**Corporate Services:**

Catherine Vu

**Employee Benefits**

**and Insurance Plans:**

Jeff McNaughton

**First Nations and Métis Education:**

Jamie Lerat

**School Board Development,**

**Strategic Human Resources**

**and Legal Services:**

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