

## Greater Saskatoon Catholic Receives Premier’s Award

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and Central Urban Métis Federation Inc., in collaboration with Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program and Gabriel Dumont Institute, have received the 2020 Premier’s Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education for the submission of “Marrsî ôma kici kâmiyin – The St. Michael Métis School of Excellence”.

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’s virtual Annual General Assembly in November.

“The Government of Saskatchewan is proud to recognize our province’s great leaders in education,” Minister of Education Dustin Duncan said on behalf of Premier Scott Moe.

“Due to Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools’ ingenuity and collaborative work, they have earned this year’s distinction.”

In its application for the award, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools



GSCS Chair Diane Boyko in a video highlighting the award recipients:  
<https://youtu.be/UkkGYw3E-tU>

said the Métis School of Excellence “represents the commitment of the Board to collaborate with Métis families and organizations to adapt the division to the needs and aspirations of the Métis community so that all students enjoy the richness of Métis history and culture, and so that Métis students achieve their God-given potential.”

“The partnerships that make Métis programming at St. Michael Community School possible really breathe a vibrancy into the school,” said Diane Boyko, Board of Education Chair at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

The \$3,000 award has been sponsored by Xerox Canada since its development in 1999. The award recipient is recommended by a panel of education sector partners.

Xerox is pleased to continue the long-standing partnership with the SSBA through the sponsorship of the Premier’s Award.

“We strive to support students and educators across Canada through the introduction of new tools designed to help individuals and groups effectively share and communicate information,” said Karl Boissonneault, Vice-President, Xerox Channel Unit.

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## Healthy and Safe Communities = Healthy and Safe Schools

Education Sector Organizations in Saskatchewan shared an open letter asking communities to follow the recommended health measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and help keep schools safe.

“We all need to do our part to ensure we have safe and healthy communities that support our schools,” said the joint message from the presidents of the SSBA, LEADS and SASBO.



## New Minister of Education

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) congratulated the Saskatchewan Party and Premier Scott Moe on their re-election, welcomed Minister Dustin Duncan to the Education portfolio and thanked outgoing Minister of Education Gordon Wyant, following the recent provincial election and cabinet announcement.

“We look forward to working with Minister Duncan to advance the important efforts happening to in education,” said SSBA President Dr. Shawn Davidson. “The SSBA and its member boards believe all students should have the resources they need to succeed, regardless of where they live in the province or their personal circumstances.”

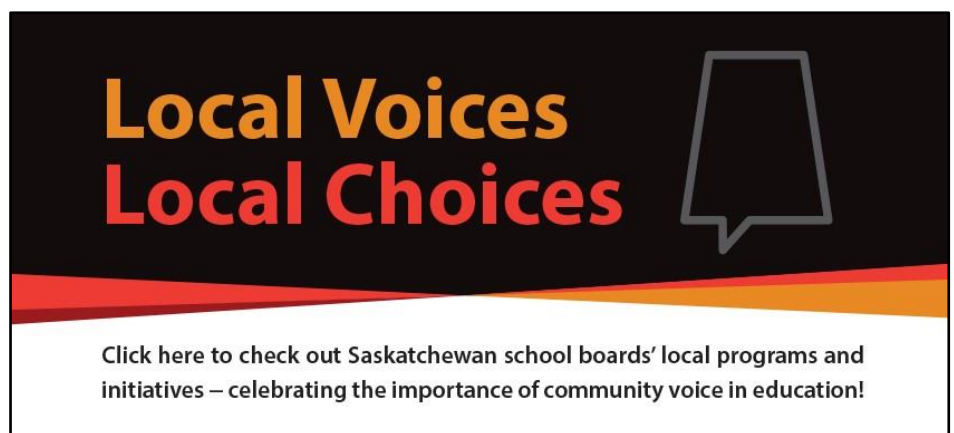
The SSBA is continuing to call for Innovation, Inclusion and Investment in the education system.

Davidson also highlighted the important work in the pandemic context through the sector’s Response Planning Team and encouraged support for this. He also looks forward to continuing to work with Premier Moe.

## Local Government Week in Saskatchewan

To raise awareness and engagement in local democracy, Local Government Week was again officially proclaimed in the province of Saskatchewan, for the week of Nov. 9 to Nov. 15.

Local Government Week is a partnership between the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, Municipalities of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and this is the third year it has been proclaimed.



The call to recognize the week with a provincial proclamation emerged through discussions

between the partner organizations as an excellent opportunity to recognize and raise awareness.

## 2020-21 SSBA Provincial Executive

President: Shawn Davidson  
 Vice-President: Jaimie Smith-Windsor  
 Catholic Constituency Rep: Jerome Niezgoda  
 Central Constituency Rep: Christine Gradin  
 CSF Constituency Rep: Élizabeth Perreault  
 Indigenous Constituency Rep: Kimberly Greyeyes  
 Northern Constituency Rep: Nathan Favel  
 Southern Constituency Rep: Janet Kotylak  
 Urban Public Constituency Rep: Donna Banks



*The 2020-21 SSBA Provincial Executive took the Oath of Office during the SSBA's virtual Assembly in November. Pictured are President Shawn Davidson and Vice-President Jaimie Smith-Windsor after the Oath was taken.*

## 2020 Scholarship Recipients



*Degree Program Recipient*

Amanda Gel is the recipient of the 2020 Degree Program Scholarship. Amanda graduated from Hudson Bay Community School in the North East School Division and is enrolled in the Arts and Science program at the University of Saskatchewan.



*Technical / Trade Program Recipient*

Tiara Thiessen is the recipient of the 2020 Technical / Trade Program Scholarship. Tiara graduated from Kerrobert Composite School in the Living Sky School Division and is enrolled in the Fabricator Welding program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

## 2020 Fall Virtual Assembly Screenshots





*"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:**

Jaimie Smith-Windsor

**Catholic Constituency:**

Jerome Niezgodia

**Central Constituency:**

Christine Gradin

**Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:**

Élizabeth Perreault

**Indigenous Constituency:**

Kimberly Greyeyes

**Northern Constituency:**

Nathan Favel

**Southern Constituency:**

Janet Kotylak

**Urban Public Constituency:**

Donna Banks

**Executive Director:**

Darren McKee

**Communications and**

**Policy Support:**

Jill Welke

**Corporate Services:**

Georgia Hanwell

**Employee Benefits and**

**Insurance Plans:**

Jeff McNaughton

**School Board Development,**

**Strategic Human Resources,**

**Legal Services and**

**First Nations and Métis Education:**

Ted Amendt, PhD

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*The School Trustee* is published 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 in 2021:

### **Trustee Academy**

The SSBA will be delivering Trustee Academy / School for New Trustees virtually in early 2021. The intent is to provide professional learning opportunities for all school board members, with some of the sessions having a focus that is particularly directed for new trustees.

In terms of format, we are looking at offering a series of webinars in mid-January to early February. These will likely be 60- to 90-minute webinars, repeated over the two to three week period. More details and a schedule of events will be forthcoming and distributed to members.



## Mosaic Challenge Showcase



Thanks to Mosaic for continuing to support school nutrition. Check out our video showcase of the 2020 Mosaic Challenge recipient schools and stay tuned for information about the 2021 Challenge early in the new year. Click above or use this link: <https://youtu.be/znZg9ZpcwXU>.