The School Trustee

SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

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Northern Lights School Board Receives Premier's Award

The Northern Lights School Division Board of Education has received the 2024 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education.

Its submission was entitled: "Indigenization in Northern Lights School Division No. 113".

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 Annual General Assembly event in December.

"I am pleased to see the Northern Lights School Division Board of Education's innovative approaches to promoting Indigenous culture in education," said Education Minister Everett Hindley. "The Government of Saskatchewan applauds the division for its leadership in reconciliation through education."

In its application for the award, Northern Lights said of its submission: "The focus on Indigenization permeates the school division, evident in all schools and in every partnership … The journey to addressing (Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action), Indigenization and decolonization was developed to engage our students in the context and historical place inhabited by our people since time immemorial.

To view a video about the award recipients, please visit:
https://youtu.be/ivMfuprzLGI

"There has been a concerted effort to engage our students in cultural activities on the land, in their language and honouring their knowledge, values and history."

"Almost 90 per cent of our nearly 4,000 students identify as Indigenous, so this work for us has significance that extends far beyond test results and memorizing textbooks," said NLSD board chair Joey McCallum. "It is our great honour and privilege to receive this award tonight and we thank the province for its recognition of such a vital project."

2024 SSBA Fall General Assembly (held Dec. 1-3 in Regina)

Award of Distinction –
David Thompson (Lloydminster Public)

Award of Distinction –
Audrey Trombley (South East Cornerstone)

Greetings –
His Hon. The Hon. Russ Mirasty, Lt.-Gov. of Sask.

Greetings –
The Hon. Everett Hindley, Minister of Education

Greetings –
Regional Director Wendy Gervais, Métis Nation-Sask.

Greetings –
His Worship Chad Bachynski, Mayor of Regina

2024 SSBA Fall General Assembly (held Dec. 1-3 in Regina)

President's Address –
Jaimie Smith-Windsor (outgoing president)

Executive Director's Address –
Darren McKee

Keynote Speaker, 'Courageous Leadership' –
The Hon. Jody Wilson Raybould

Indigenous Constituency Rep. Kimberly Greyeyes and ED Darren McKee with the Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould

The new 2024-25 Provincial Executive, which will be led by incoming President Dr. Shawn Davidson

Canadian School Boards Association President Alan Campbell with outgoing and incoming SSBA presidents

"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:
Lori Kidney

Catholic Constituency:
Jerome Niezgoda

Central Constituency:
Ronna Pethick

Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:
Élizabeth Perreault

Indigenous Constituency:
Kimberly Greyeyes

Northern Constituency:
Joey McCallum

Southern Constituency:
Robert Bachmann

Urban Public Constituency:
Donna Banks

Executive Director:
Darren McKee

Board Development and Indigenous Education:
Ted Amendt, PhD

Communications and Strategic Services:
Jill Welke

Corporate Services:
Catherine Vu

Employee Benefits and Insurance Plans:
Jeff McNaughton

Legal Services:
Jolene Horejda

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

Calendar Update

Upcoming dates in 2025:

Sask. School Food Program Speaker Series 1
Jan. 23
Virtual

School for New Trustees
Jan. 30-31
Saskatoon

2024 SSBA Scholarship Recipients

Gurseerat Sandhu is the recipient of the 2024 Degree Program Scholarship, sponsored by AON. Gurseerat graduated from Bedford Road Collegiate in Saskatoon Public Schools and is enrolled in the Biomedical Sciences program at the University of Saskatchewan.

Ava Gasper is the recipient of the 2024 Technical / Trade Program Scholarship, sponsored by Manulife. Ava graduated from Kenaston School in the Sun West School Division and is enrolled in the Interactive Design and Technology program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

SSBA Strategic Plan Renewal

Renewal of the Strategic Plan through member, staff and partner engagement began in 2023 with many participating in an online survey and focus groups. The renewed strategic plan for the SSBA is a five-year plan 2025-2030 to align with the Provincial Education Plan. Priorities for 2025 were developed in early 2024 to align with the SSBA proposed budget development process. To find out more information, and to view a one-pager about the plan, please visit our website.