The School Trustee

SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

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Horizon School Board Receives Lieutenant Governor's Award

To view a video about the award recipients, please visit:
https://youtu.be/mfUGYoLvfj0

The Horizon School Division Board received the 2025 Lieutenant Governor's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education for its submission of "From Field to Future: Inspiring Excellence in Agriculture Education".

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) co-ordinates the Lieutenant Governor's Award each year. The award was presented by the Lieutenant Governor during the SSBA's Annual General Assembly.

"I was honoured to present the Lieutenant Governor's Board of Education Award to the Horizon School Division Board of Education," said Her Honour Bernadette McIntyre. "Having grown up on a farm, I am particularly impressed by Horizon's innovative program, teaching students about agriculture and incorporating Indigenous perspectives. I congratulate Horizon on this well-deserved recognition, and I thank them for their excellence in education."

In its application for the award, Horizon said of its submission:

"This division-wide agriculture education initiative connects students with authentic, hands-on learning rooted in Saskatchewan's economy, culture, and environment. The goal is to integrate Indigenous ways of knowing and reconciliation through land-based learning while creating clear pathways to future education, careers, and leadership."

"Agriculture is the heartbeat of Horizon's communities and culture, and it is a privilege to bring that learning to life for our students," said Linda Mattock, Board Chair.

"We are honoured by this recognition, and are profoundly grateful to the Elders, partners, and educators whose commitment ensures our students learn from the land and see bright futures in Saskatchewan's agriculture sector."

While this has been a long-standing award, this is the first time it is being recognized through the Lieutenant Governor's office and with the new sponsorship of the Promhouse Financial Group at CIBC Wood Gundy.

2025 SSBA Fall General Assembly (held Nov. 16-18 in Regina)

Award of Distinction –
Janet Kotylak (Prairie Valley) – with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President

Life Membership –
Jaimie Smith-Windsor – with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President

Honorary Life Membership –
Harry Lafond – with Lieutenant Governor and SSBA President

2025 SSBA Fall General Assembly (held Nov. 16-18 in Regina)

President's Address –
Dr. Shawn Davidson

Executive Director's Address –
Darren McKee

Keynote Speaker, When Opinions Dissent: Collaborative Communication in Governance –
Dr. Brent McDonald, Registered Psychologist

Presentation of CSBA 2025 National Reconciliation Partnership Award –
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, Saskatoon Tribal council, and Central Urban Métis Federation Inc.

"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:
Nathan Favel

Southern Constituency:
Lisa Grudnizki

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

Member Services, Risk and Benefits:
Jeff McNaughton

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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 dates in 2026:

SSBA Trustee Academy
Jan. 29
Virtual

Please visit our website for Agenda and Registration information.

2025-26 SSBA Executive

Indigenous Constituency Rep: Kimberly Greyeyes
Urban Public Constituency Rep: Donna Banks
Central Constituency Rep: Ronna Pethick
Vice-President: Lori Kidney
President: Shawn Davidson
Catholic Constituency Rep: Jerome Niezgoda
CSF Constituency Rep: Élizabeth Perreault
Southern Constituency Rep: Lisa Grudnizki
Northern Constituency Rep: Nathan Favel (not pictured)

SSBA Scholarship Recipients

Dani Meyer is the recipient of the 2025 Degree Program Scholarship, sponsored by AON. Dani graduated from Swift Current Comprehensive in the Chinook School Division and is enrolled in the University Transfer: Science program at Medicine Hat College and intends to study Physical Therapy at the University of Saskatchewan.

Mikeal Bird is the recipient of the 2025 Technical / Trade Program Scholarship, sponsored by Manulife. Mikeal graduated from North Battleford Comprehensive in the Living Sky School Division and is enrolled in the Primary Care Paramedic program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.