

\$100,000 Announced for 10th Anniversary Mosaic Challenge

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge, The Mosaic Company has provided \$100,000 in total cash prizes for 2016, Mosaic, the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) and Breakfast for Learning (BFL) have announced.

"In honour of 10 years of successful partnership with BFL and the SSBA, we want this year's challenge to leave a lasting impact on children across the province," said Sarah Fedorchuk, Senior Director of Public Affairs for The Mosaic Company. "We are excited that schools and communities get to pick the project that will net the biggest returns for their kids. Mosaic plays an important role in food security around the world; here at home we understand that quality nutritional programming is imperative to achieving success in the classroom."

Together with the SSBA and BFL, Mosaic launched the Extreme School Makeover Challenge in 2006. To date, 23 schools have received funds to improve nutrition environments.



Partner Announcement at Spring Members' Council in Regina

The Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge is open to all schools in Saskatchewan. Participating schools receive a certificate of recognition acknowledging their efforts to create healthier school nutrition environments.

Ten winners will each receive a \$10,000 prize. Schools are invited to submit nutrition-related action plans prior to Apr. 16, 2016. Entries will be judged on quality of nutritional

programming and potential benefits to the school community.

"Our students are our future leaders, and investing in their learning through nutrition programs is vital to their success," said Kelly Berlinic, Director of Programs and Community Development for BFL.

"Breakfast for Learning is proud to work with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and The Mosaic Company to ensure all

Continued on Page 2 →

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Mosaic Challenge	2
President's Remarks	3
Council Presenters	5
Executive Meetings	6

Open Letter	7
Staff Update	7
Calendar Update	8
Services Contacts	8

Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge (continued)

→ students have the nourishment they need to succeed at school.”

The Mosaic Company and the SSBA, in partnership with BFL, host the Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge to encourage grassroots initiatives to improve student nutrition.

As Canada’s first established and one of the largest national charities focusing on student nutrition as it relates to learning, Breakfast for Learning helps support and sustain school-based breakfast, lunch and snack programs Canada-wide, providing students with the opportunity to reach their full potential in life. Since 2004, the SSBA has been involved with supporting those efforts.

“The Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge is important because school boards firmly believe that every student in Saskatchewan should have the resources and supports needed to succeed and achieve, regardless of where they live in the province or their personal circumstances,” said Connie Bailey, president of the SSBA. “The Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge helps ensure all students in



THE Mosaic EXTREME SCHOOL MAKEOVER CHALLENGE IS BACK!

YOUR SCHOOL COULD WIN 1 OF 10 PRIZES OF \$10,000!

The poster features three circular images of children: one with a tomato outline, one with a thought bubble outline, and one with a speech bubble outline. The background is teal.

Saskatchewan are well-nourished and ready to learn. The SSBA is very proud to support Breakfast for Learning. We also thank The Mosaic Company for their strong commitment to excellent corporate citizenship in this province and their support of K-12 education.”

To learn more about the 100th Anniversary Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge, view a video about the program and download application materials, visit: saskschoolboards.ca/partner-organizations/mosaic-extreme-school-makeover-challenge/.

Additional Information on Mosaic Challenge Submissions

Submissions will be judged on the quality of their nutrition programming and through evidencing potential for enhancement through participation in the Mosaic Challenge. Areas of consideration include but are not limited to:

- Education
- Inclusion and Equity
- School Culture (initiatives impact all students)
- Student/Parent Involvement
- Healthy Physical Environment
- Community Engagement and Partnerships
- Comprehensive and Holistic Planning
- Supportive Social Environment

Visit the [SSBA website](https://saskschoolboards.ca/partner-organizations/mosaic-extreme-school-makeover-challenge/) to access more information, including the application form for the Mosaic Challenge.

President's Remarks to Spring Members' Council

CONNIE BAILEY SSBA PRESIDENT

*(as presented on
Feb. 4, 2016, at
the DoubleTree
by Hilton Hotel,
in Regina, Sask.)*



Good evening and welcome to our Spring Members' Council.

I know that recent events in the community of La Loche are top of mind for all of us in the education sector and in this province at this time. On behalf of the SSBA, I want to offer my sincere condolences to the community of La Loche and all affected by this tragedy.

I also want to recognize the strength of the community and extend my thanks to all those who have reached out in support from across the province, country and beyond, including local, provincial and federal governments, the RCMP and emergency services and the education sector across the province. We at the SSBA will continue to do everything we can to support the community and we know you will do the same.

I want to take this opportunity to observe a moment of silence for those who lost their lives in the tragedy that has affected this community, our province and indeed the whole country.

Thank you.

As we begin our Spring Members' Council this evening, keeping those impacted by the recent tragedy close in our hearts, I am reminded of why we come together as boards of education, and as a sector – it is because we are leading and doing important work for the students of

this province. And we share this responsibility with many partners.

I would now like to take a few minutes to share some thoughts with the group about the ongoing work of your Association before we move into the rest of our program for the evening.

I want to begin by commenting briefly on education in the context of the current economic situation our provinces faces.

We all know there are challenges in our economy, but we have faced this before. I would like to recognize that for school boards, while they have always found savings and efficiencies, I believe that there is a renewed spirit of cooperation in finding efficiencies throughout our sector and making sure we are meeting the needs of our students while being mindful of our commitments to fiscal responsibility.

At the same time, it is critical probably now more than ever to emphasize the importance of education, and the work we do on behalf of students, to the economy of our province.

Education is crucial to ensuring the next generation are the critical thinkers, the innovators, the leaders, the entrepreneurs.

Our students, our children must be engaged as successful and productive contributors to our society and our economy.

So, even when times are tough, we must continue to champion the crucial importance of education in ensuring all members of our society have hope and opportunity and the skills they need to ensure the growth of our province as a whole and in particular, its economy.

We continue to remain firmly committed to the belief that all children should have access to the resources they need to achieve, regardless of where they live in the province or personal circumstances.

We know that a review of the funding model for education is underway in our province and we continue to be supportive of that work and hopeful that it will result in a system for funding education that meets the principles of transparency, autonomy, predictability and equity.

Not until we are clear with the formula can we then understand if we indeed have resources that are sufficient and sustainable. These are what you as our members have identified as critical for education funding in our province.

As you know, this will also be a very busy year politically in our province and sector, with a provincial election this spring and school board elections this fall.

More information will be forthcoming in relation to both of those elections, but for now let me assure you that your Association is working to ensure that the goals and directions approved by our

Continued on Page 4 →



*President Bailey addresses
delegates at Members' Council*

President's Remarks to Spring Members' Council (continued)

→ membership are reflected in the work we are doing and that education continues to be a priority in our province.

For now, I want to extend my thanks to all who are preparing to run as candidates, both provincially and at the local level, for their commitment to serving the public and in particular, the students and families in our communities.

Trustees serve a very important role in ensuring the voices of their communities are represented in decision-making about public education. We at the SSBA continue to strive to support trustees in developing their governance skills.

We know that good governance matters and makes a difference in education. And with that I would like to remind you that registration remains ongoing for individual modules of our School Board Member Education and Certification Program. This world-class, university level education program is designed specifically for school board members to support them in pursuing excellence in school board governance. Please see our [website](#) for more information.

Once again, we have a full and important agenda to cover and I



Members listen to President Bailey's remarks during Members' Council

want to conclude my remarks by thanking all of you for coming together once again in support of education in our province.

We are pleased by the initial success of the new Board Chairs' Council and its work in bringing us together to speak with a unified voice. We are also thankful for our ongoing partnerships throughout the province as we seek to provide the best for our students.

We are an Association that is made up of 28 diverse voices and perspectives from every corner of this province.

Yet we are here together to interact, to listen and to learn because we know that together, we are better. In that spirit, thank you again for being here and I look forward to a productive Spring Members' Council.

Thank you.

MORE MEMBERS' COUNCIL PHOTOS



Members' Council Presenters



Minister Don Morgan
Greetings



Executive Director Darren McKee
Remarks



Rob DeRooy, Brown Governance:
Qualities of an Effective Chair



Panel Presentation
Gender and Sexual Diversity



Panel Presentation
Dual Credits



Trevor Smith, Sask. Professional
Teachers Regulatory Board



Delegates listen to presentations during Members' Council

Executive Meeting Highlights



The SSBA Provincial Executive. Pictured: Top Row, L-R – Larry Pavloff, Central Constituency; Vernon J. Linklater, Aboriginal Constituency; Donna Banks, Urban Public Constituency; Élizabéth Perreault, Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency; Jerome Niezgoda, Catholic Constituency; Front Row, L-R – Ronna Pethick, Vice-President; Connie Bailey, President; Janet Kotylak, Southern Constituency. Not pictured – Joe Daigneault, Northern Constituency.

Dec. 3 & 4, 2015

The Executive approved the 2016 Executive Workplan, reviewed the Board Chairs (or designate) Council Meeting Notes and the 2015 Adopted Resolutions Workplan. The Executive also received a financial update, the Good Practices and Dispute Resolution Committee progress update and the AYEP update.

The Executive had an opportunity to review and debrief feedback from the very successful and productive 100th Anniversary Fall Assembly.

In the round table discussions, some of the subjects included were: updates from the Infrastructure Committee, the Task Force on Teacher/Student Time and Workload Intensification, Aboriginal Council, CEF, MEPP and Catholic Section, and highlights and updates from the President and Executive Members' attendance at recent events.

Jennifer Tupper, Dean of Education, University of Regina, appeared as a delegation.

Jan. 21 & 22, 2016

The Executive approved decision items regarding: clarity and changes to 2016 AGM guest invitations practices based on SSBA bylaws; review of the Executive Policy Handbook; revised Employee Benefits Plan Advisory Committee Terms of Reference; CCSTA membership; addition of business portion at the 2016 Spring Assembly; creation of a FNME/Residential Schools Position Paper; and 2016 Elections Advocacy actions and messages in support of the Communications and Advocacy Plan.

The Executive Meeting began with a wall walk to update and discuss progress on the SSBA 2016 Strategic Plan.

In the round table discussions, some of the subjects included were: updates from the Task Force on Teacher/Student Time and Workload Intensification, Aboriginal Council, MEPP and Catholic Section. Highlights and updates from attendance at recent events and meetings were also discussed.

The minutes of Executive meetings are posted on the SSBA [website](#) after they have been approved.

Open Letter: Upcoming Provincial Election

With the provincial election coming, on behalf of the SSBA Executive and our members, school boards in our province want to take this opportunity to highlight our shared priorities for education in Saskatchewan.

We are all aware of the economic challenges our province is facing. As school boards, we are also aware of the challenge of balancing financial resources and providing much needed services. Boards of education have always tried to find efficiencies in order to optimize our resources. We continue to examine our own systems and work in cooperation with other partners to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our students.

At the same time it is critical, perhaps now more than ever, to emphasize the importance of education to our society. Our students will shape our province today and into the future. As Saskatchewan grows and changes, we must focus on renewal, and education must remain a top priority to ensure our students have the resources they need to be successful.

With a review of the operational funding model underway, we are looking for equitable distribution, as well as improved predictably and transparency, so school boards can plan and respond. As we look forward, we need to ensure that our resources are sustainable and, above all, adequately provide for the needs of our students.

It also important that locally elected boards of education continue to work closely with the women and men who are elected provincially to ensure that local interests and local circumstances are considered and are part of the decision making related to education in Saskatchewan. Locally elected school boards have a vital role in serving Saskatchewan's publicly funded education system. The longest lasting and most fundamental responsibility of schools boards is to bring the voice of the public to publicly funded education.

We continue to remain firmly committed to the belief that all children should have access to the resources they need to achieve, regardless of where they live in the province or their personal circumstances.

On behalf of boards of education, we invite you to share with those running for office your priorities for education in Saskatchewan as well.



Connie Bailey, SSBA President

Association Staff Update: Innocent Ihenyen

Innocent Ihenyen joined the Association in February as an **Insurance Administrator**.

He earned a business degree from the University of Regina in 2011 and has about four years of experience in insurance.

His most recent employment was with AON Risks Solutions as an

Insurance Broker. He also worked as an Insurance Advisor with Harvard Western Insurance in Regina.

Innocent is close to finishing the Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) designation. His hobbies include watching and playing soccer. He is active in parenting his four-month-old baby girl.





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

President:

Connie Bailey

Vice-President:

Ronna Pethick

Aboriginal Constituency:

Vernon J. Linklater

Catholic Constituency:

Jerome Niezgoda

Central Constituency:

Larry Pavloff

Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:

Élizabeth Perreault

Northern Constituency:

Joe Daigneault

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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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 Events in 2016:

Spring General Assembly

Apr. 14-15, Regina (DoubleTree by Hilton)

Duty to Accommodate Students Workshops

Apr. 20, Regina (Travelodge Hotel & Conference Centre)

Apr. 22, Saskatoon (Sheraton Cavalier)

Employee Benefits Plan Seminar

May 4-5, Moose Jaw (Temple Gardens)

Trustee Academy

May 26-27, Cypress Hills (The Resort at Cypress Hills)

For more information, see the SSBA website under [Events](#).

Services Contacts

To ensure you are served in the most efficient, effective manner, below is an updated grouping of the names and faces of the main contacts for each service area. Full staff lists and management team contact info is [online](#).



Darren McKee
Executive
Director



Jill Welke
Communication
Services



Catherine Vu
Corporate Services
& Risk Management



Jeff McNaughton
Employee Benefits
& Insurance Plans



Jamie Lerat
First Nations and
Métis Education



Ted Amendt
Board Development,
Strategic HR & Legal