## The School Trustee



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### **Recipient Schools Announced for 2019 Mosaic Challenge**

Ten schools in Saskatchewan are each receiving \$10,000 to support student nutrition after being selected in the 2019 Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge.

"The response to this program continues to grow year over year, which speaks to the need for and interest in making nutrition a daily part of student lives," said Sarah Fedorchuk, Vice-President, Public Affairs and Government Relations at The Mosaic Company. "Helping the world grow the food it needs is our mission at Mosaic, and we look forward to hearing about the efforts of the 10 winning schools as they help connect students with food and nutrition in unique ways."

The grants will support projects that have goals including creating or improving kitchen and garden facilities; enhancing education for students, families and communities about nutrition, food safety, life skills and Indigenous knowledge; aiding in the path toward reconciliation; and, developing or furthering programs.

More than 80 schools from across the province submitted their



Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School in the Regina Catholic School Division celebrated in June the school's receipt of a 2019 Mosaic Challenge prize.

projects to compete for the total of \$100,000 in prizes, provided by Mosaic. Schools receiving grants this year are part of the Good Spirit, Greater Saskatoon Catholic, Living Sky, Northern Lights, Northwest, Regina Catholic, Regina Public, Saskatoon Public and South East Cornerstone school divisions.

To encourage grassroots initiatives to help improve student

nutrition, the Mosaic Challenge began in 2006. Mosaic and the SSBA have continued to partner for the initiative since then.

"School boards across
Saskatchewan are very grateful for
Mosaic's continued generosity in
funding this effort to support
nutrition environments," said Dr.
Shawn Davidson, SSBA president.

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## **2019 Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge Winners**

SCHOOL	PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS
Arcola Community School	Provide nutrition and life skills training
(Regina)	<ul> <li>Develop cookbooks to share at home</li> </ul>
Regina Public School Division	Host family engagement days
Bishop James Mahoney High School	Teach about food security and choice
(Saskatoon)	<ul> <li>Provide workshops to other schools</li> </ul>
St. Paul's Catholic School Division	Grow and prepare healthy food choices
Dr. Brass School	Aid in the path toward reconciliation
(Yorkton)	<ul> <li>Implement Indigenous Foods program</li> </ul>
Good Spirit School Division	Purchase commercial dishwasher
Glaslyn Central School	Implement new snack program
(Glaslyn)	<ul> <li>Empower students to "pay it forward"</li> </ul>
Northwest School Division	Focus on Indigenous teaching via elders
Hillmond Central School	Start daily universal breakfast program
(Lloydminster)	<ul> <li>Implement student cooking club</li> </ul>
Northwest School Division	Provide students Food Safe certification
Marion M. Graham Collegiate	Establish community nutrition program
(Saskatoon)	Enhance cooking and life skills training
Saskatoon Public School Division	Purchase appliances and garden
Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School	Provide life skills and nutrition training
(Regina)	<ul> <li>Provide access to healthier foods</li> </ul>
Regina Catholic School Division	Implement food policy
Midale Central School	Renovate kitchen and buy equipment
(Midale)	Implement daily programming
South East Cornerstone School Division	Engage parents and community
Spiritwood High School	Provide indoor and outdoor gardens
(Spiritwood)	Implement cooking classes
Living Sky School Division	Teach about Indigenous culture
Valley View Community School	Aid in the path toward reconciliation
(Beauval)	Build cooking and cultural space
Northern Lights School Division	Teach traditional gathering and prep



#### **National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day**



Image Credit: Government of Canada

In 2009, the House of Commons passed unanimously the motion to declare June as National Indigenous History Month. Each June, all Canadians are invited to acknowledge and celebrate the rich diverse history and amazing achievements of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples by participating in National Indigenous History Month local events and festivities.

June 2019 marks the 10th Anniversary of National Indigenous History Month and for this year, the Government of Canada acknowledges UNESCO declared this year as the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

The SSBA's Indigenous Council commends Saskatchewan Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Gordon Wyant for expanding learning opportunities for high school students in Saskatchewan with courses in Dene, Nakawe and Michif at the 10, 20 and 30 level becoming available in the 2019-20 school year. (Dene, Nakawe and Michif were previously available through locally developed courses to meet the needs of local students.) These new language courses are in addition to the already available

provincial Cree (nēhiyawēwin) course. This initiative aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and supports the Joint Task Force recommendations, which identify the importance of Indigenous languages and the significant role they play in preserving cultural traditions, knowledge and history.

June 21 was chosen as National Indigenous Peoples Day because of the cultural significance of the summer solstice, the first day of summer and longest day of the year. Indigenous peoples celebrate, showcase and share their cultural traditional heritage with all Canadians across the country. In 1982, the National Indian Brotherhood (now the Assembly of First Nations) called for the creation of June 21 as National Aboriginal Solidarity Day, which later was renewed in 1995 by Manitoba politician Elijah Harper, and in 1996, former Governor General Romeo A. LeBlanc officially proclaimed June 21 as National Aboriginal Day and it is now proclaimed as National Indigenous Peoples Day.

National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day is for the SSBA, its member boards and all Canadians to honour the traditions, cultures, languages, ways of knowing and the contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

The SSBA Indigenous Council represents 11 per cent of all Saskatchewan school board trustees. Chair of the Indigenous Council, Joe Daigneault, extends appreciation to all the Indigenous trustees who serve on the Council and school boards across the province of Saskatchewan.

"June is a month to be proud of our Indigenous heritage and as a member of the SSBA Executive, we send good wishes to all Indigenous students, parents, caregivers, teachers and communities during this month," said Daigneault.

#### **Resource Links:**

- SSBA First Nations and Métis
   Education Services
- National Indigenous History
   Month Information
- National Indigenous Peoples
   Day Information
- National Indigenous Peoples
   Day Promotional Resources



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

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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 2019:

2019 National Trustees Gathering on Indigenous Education and CSBA Congress

Toronto - July 3-7

**SSBA Fall General Assembly** 

Regina – Nov. 17-19

https://saskschoolboards.ca/events/

#### **Association Activity**



The SSBA Indigenous Council met with Deputy Premier and Education Minister Gordon Wyant and Ministry of Education officials in May.



The Student Transportation Working Advisory Group met in May to continue its work regarding student transportation and safety.



The SSBA's 2018 Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements are completed and are now available at the following link:

<u>https://saskschoolboards.ca/wp-</u> content/uploads/ANNUAL-REPORT-2018.pdf