

Funds Awarded for 15 School Food Infrastructure Projects

Funds have been awarded to 15 eligible organizations across Saskatchewan to expand school food infrastructure as part of a project led by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA).

This year, the SSBA was approved to receive \$1 million in one-time federal government funding from the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) School Food Infrastructure Fund (SFIF) under the banner of *Expanding school food infrastructure in Saskatchewan: Ensuring equitable reach*.

“We are excited that we have been able to secure this investment to help support our overall school food programming goals,” said Dr. Shawn Davidson, president of the SSBA. “We were pleased to see strong engagement across the province from organizations working in partnership with school divisions to support our children and youth.”

Eligible recipients are community-based, not-for-profit organizations engaged with school food programs.

The funded projects support objectives related to increasing the capacity of organizations to provide or upgrade food preparation spaces, storage, equipment, and transportation/delivery that improve the food environments within schools and strengthen community food security.



In total, recipients are partnered with 17 school divisions: Chinook, Christ the Teacher, Creighton, Good Spirit, Holy Trinity, Ile-a-la Crosse, Living Sky, Northwest, North East, Prairie South, Prairie Spirit, Prairie Valley, Prince Albert Catholic, Regina Catholic, Regina Public, Saskatchewan Rivers, and Saskatoon Public, and one First Nations school (Clifford Wuttunee School on Red

Pheasant First Nation). Please see the backgrounder provided on the next page of this newsletter for more information on the recipient projects and partnerships.

“An important focus for locally elected school boards is supporting school food programming,” said Davidson. “We know this can reduce known barriers to learning, attendance and school success.”

School Food Infrastructure Project Recipients

Organization / Community – School Division / Grant	Project Description
Battlefords District Food & Resource Centre / Empty Stocking Fund Inc. North Battleford – Living Sky / Red Pheasant First Nation \$30,953	Acquire additional refrigerated storage space, enabling the BDFRC to increase its capacity to obtain and store fresh, healthy food.
CHEP Good Food Inc. Saskatoon – Saskatoon Public \$180,209	Support the upgrade of a leased kitchen into a commercial processing facility with expanded storage and in-house transportation.
Dalmeny Bible Church Dalmeny – Prairie Spirit \$32,939	Increase access to nutritious foods in schools through the purchase of commercial grade equipment, appliances, and enhanced refrigerated storage.
Fort Qu'Appelle Community Outreach Management Corp Fort Qu'Appelle – Prairie Valley \$35,910	Improve access to nutritious, culturally appropriate meals for students by expanding local food processing and storage capacity.
Haunted Town Tours SK Inc. Fairview – Chinook \$10,000	Implement a program to provide Fairview School with the equipment and food supplies to provide the option of a quick, nutritional breakfast.
Hunger in Moose Jaw Moose Jaw – Prairie South / Holy Trinity \$10,000	Enhance the availability and accessibility of nutritious food through enhanced cold storage, increased meat slicing, increased supplies and increased storage.
Ile-a-la Crosse Friendship Centre Ile-a-la Crosse – Ile-a-la Crosse \$189,291	Invest in food storage equipment. Purchase tools, appliances and storage to develop and support safe food prep. Develop greenhouse and garden areas.
Meadow Lake Outreach Ministries Meadow Lake – Northwest \$8,608	Enhance garden to provide more produce to the school and minimize the dependency on grant funding and increase the amount of nutritious food.
Nipawin Nutrition for Kids Nipawin – North East \$28,000	Improve (new appliances and kitchen equipment) the Wagner School servery to increase ability to serve breakfast and increase access for students.
Prince Albert Catholic Education Foundation Prince Albert – Prince Albert Catholic \$40,731	Invest in kitchen equipment and food preparation facilities to increase the capacity to prepare and distribute more meals and snacks.
Regina Indian Community Awareness, Inc. (Chili for Children) Regina – Regina Public / Regina Catholic \$8,798	Buy new equipment to prepare and transport school food to guarantee safer and higher quality food services offering a hot, nutritious lunch.
Regina Food for Learning Regina – Regina Public / Regina Catholic \$187,159	Two projects: increase services through expanding operating facilities and contribute and expand Regina Catholic services through purchasing equipment.
Rotary Club of Flin Flon Creighton – Creighton \$21,994	Invest in commercial-grade appliances to improve food quality, increase the number of students served, and support the delivery of fresh, nutritious meals.
Saskatchewan Lions Foundation Inc. Christopher Lake – Saskatchewan Rivers \$20,000	Increase the school's capacity to grow, prepare, and serve meals and foster hands-on learning, community connection, and long-term food security.
The Soup Haven Lunch Program Inc. Yorkton – Christ the Teacher / Good Spirit \$80,234	Purchase a new cargo van to deliver lunches to the schools, to pick up supplies, and to ensure the program can continue.



Association Activity



SSBA President Shawn Davidson speaks to media at an SGI back-to-school safety event in September



Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30 was officially proclaimed in Saskatchewan at the request of the SSBA



*Shawn Davidson was named V-P of the Canadian School Boards Association, which visited Ottawa in October
Also pictured is CSBA President Alan Campbell*



"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

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Jerome Niezgoda

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Ronna Pethick

Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:

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Board Development and

Indigenous Education:

Ted Amendt, PhD

Communications and

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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 2025:

Fall Assembly

Nov. 16-18

Regina

Please [visit our website](#) for Agenda and Registration information.

Fall Assembly

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Brent Macdonald

'When Opinions Dissent:

Collaborative

Communication in

Governance'



Dr. Brent Macdonald is a registered psychologist in Alberta, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and the Northwest Territories, and is a certified teacher. Dr. Macdonald has over 25 years' experience as a psychologist working with individuals with a variety of complex learning differences, including a focus on those who have neurodiverse profiles.

Dr. Macdonald has been a sessional instructor at Mount Royal University and in the Faculty of Education at Acadia University. He is also an adjunct assistant professor with the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary and most recently has served as an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Prince Edward Island. Dr. Macdonald also maintains consultative relationships with a variety of public, independent and charter schools and other independent organizations across Canada, providing professional development opportunities for educators, mental health care workers, and others in the community.

Dr. Macdonald is a frequent guest on CBC Compass (PEI), CBC Calgary, Global Television, Breakfast Television, CITY-TV, and CTV. He has been the founder and lead psychologist with Onward Psychology Group, with offices in Calgary and Charlottetown. In 2022, Dr. Macdonald published *Fall Seven Times, Stand Up Eight: Mental Toughness for Everyone*.

Dr. Macdonald divides his time between Halifax and PEI.