

2020 Annual Report



www.spf.sk.ca

Mission Statement

To advocate for and support access to preschool programs

Vision Statement

we see:

- ◆ all preschool aged children having opportunities for a better future
- ◆ quality preschool programs
- ◆ increased parent participation in preschool programs
- ◆ greater support for early childhood education
- ◆ preschool programs expanding as needs are identified

Guiding Principles:

- ◆ acting in the best interest of children
- ◆ providing support for families
- ◆ respecting the values and cultures of families

Board of Directors

Jennifer Boutin	President
Laurie Lanovaz	Vice President
Holly Matkowski	Treasurer
Andy Chiang	Secretary
Arley Wieler	
Jean Bacon	
Rochelle Blocka	
Erica Fu	
Kathy Harrison	
Trona Guenther	

Message to Our Community

The Saskatoon Preschool Foundation continues to uphold the mission to advocate for and support access to preschool programs by granting tuition subsidies for children of families with financial barriers.

SPF advocates for access to quality preschool programs because they provide an ideal foundation for early literacy skills, support language and social skill development and foster a readiness for school attitude. Attendance in early education classrooms contribute to a child's social, physical, and intellectual development. Moreover, families have an opportunity to build community in their neighbourhood and with the school.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought both positive and negative impacts to how and what SPF offers. Our tuition subsidies in 2020 decreased substantially as many preschools closed in March. Many preschools did not reopen in the fall of 2020. SPF appreciated the return of some of the subsidy funds not utilized by the preschools due to the early school year closure.

Our fundraisers and donations, particularly corporate donors, decreased with the economic slowdown. SPF was unable to proceed with our Spring 2020 raffle and Covid restrictions prevented hosting the annual Trivia Night in the fall. It allowed the SPF board to think more creatively and there are plans for some possible virtual fundraisers for the fall of 2021.

The Saskatoon Public School division requested that SPF vacate our office space in King George School to accommodate for changes in the schools' learning environment. This created some challenges, but the SPF board purchased a storage trailer to safely store our office furniture, files and other SPF materials and our Office Administrator agreed to work from home. This required SPF to change its address to a PO Box which is monitored by the Office Administrator. Thank you to Board Member, Rochelle Blocka, for taking the lead on this endeavour and to Kristen, our Office Administrator for her flexibility and understanding.

The SPF board members are active volunteers determined to work diligently together. We are a diverse team of individuals that together use our time and talents to ensure the purpose of the Saskatoon Preschool Foundation carries on. Thank you for your continued commitment to SPF.

A warm thank you to all our corporate, special interest and individual donors. Your support and generosity truly helped guide SPF through the challenges of 2020. We appreciate your consistent and valued trust in our mission to provide high quality preschool to all in need in Saskatoon.

Jennifer Boutin, President

Laurie Lanovaz, Vice President

Advocacy

The Saskatoon Preschool Foundation has three areas of focus regarding advocacy for early childhood education:

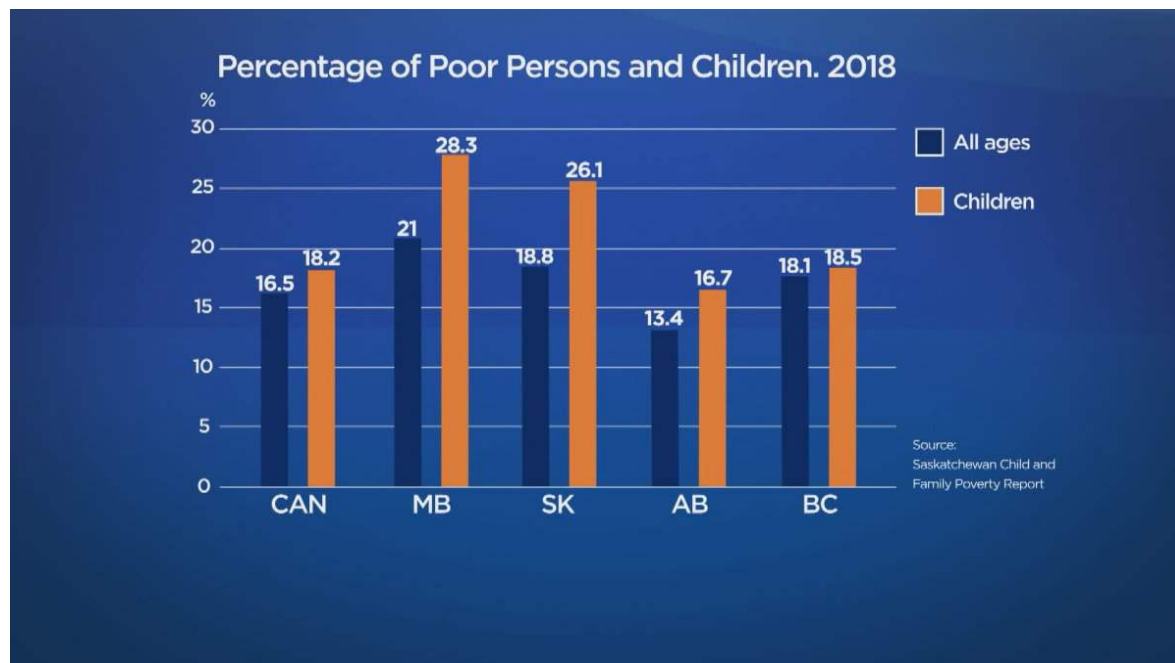
- Continuing to build awareness regarding the importance of early childhood education;
- Ensuring that cost is not a barrier for vulnerable preschool children to have access to an early learning program; and,
- Raising awareness regarding the work of the SPF in Saskatoon and surrounding area.

Research supports early learning in terms of long-term results.* Studies have found:

- Persistent positive effects on social behaviour from participation in a preschool program;
- Increased rates of high school graduation;
- Decreased involvement in juvenile delinquency and adult crime (Barnett and Ackerman, 2006).
- Decreased need for special education (Muschkin, Ladd, & Dodge, 2015),

Long-term positive effects on high school graduation rates and pro-social behaviour are more evident in low-income populations (Reynolds, et al., 2001).

A recent report, Saskatchewan Child and Poverty Report Card, (Sanchez and Hunter, 2021) found that Saskatchewan continues to hold one of the highest child poverty rates in Canada, with over a quarter of Saskatchewan children living in poverty.



Source: **Saskatchewan Child and Poverty Report Card (2021)**

Another alarming statistic indicates that 28.6 per cent of children living below the poverty line are between the ages of 0 and 6. This is particularly concerning as children at this age are at their most developmental stage. According to the report, “We know that **by the age of three, poor children are likely to be nine months behind from children from richer homes.**” Average preschool tuition in Saskatoon and the surrounding area continues to be approximately \$1,000/year.

There are efforts to address the concerns regarding costs and benefits of early learning through increased federal grants to provinces related to daycare. This initiative supports early learning for children whose parents use full-time daycare. The grants are contingent upon cost sharing with provincial governments. In addition, they do not address the continuing need of children not attending daycare who live in areas where prekindergarten is not provided. Finally, due to the pandemic, there are more families in financial need than there would have been otherwise.

Regarding the three focal points for SPF advocacy indicated earlier (i.e., building wider support regarding the importance of early learning, ensuring cost is not a barrier, raising awareness of the work of the Foundation), each of these came to life in 2020 through the collaborative efforts of board members with the support of Kristen Elson, SPF Office Administrator, including:

- Presentations to service clubs regarding the value of early learning and need for service club support for preschool tuition subsidies
- Presentation at the Preschool Information and Registry Service Conference for preschool and daycare workers
- Distribution of tuition subsidy posters in offices, stores, and malls throughout the city
- Communication with various groups and agencies: Ministry of Education, Greater Saskatoon Catholic, Saskatoon Public, and Prairie Spirit School Divisions, Saskatoon Public Libraries, Saskatoon Preschool Teachers Group, Kids First Saskatoon, Saskatoon Family Centres, the Children's Advocate
- Posting information on the SK 211 website regarding preschool subsidies and encouraging preschools to put their information on the website as well
- Providing information for families and preschools regarding possible avenues of support for preschool for their preschool child with special needs.
- Sponsoring the SPF Raffle
- Applications for numerous grants from companies, service groups and foundations
- Emailing updates to community preschools
- Maintaining the SPF website (www.spf.sk.ca)
- Recruiting new board members

We appeal to every supporter of early learning to engage others in explaining the work of the SPF and the value of early learning. Thank you to all individuals and organizations who support our mission.

***Research sources may be found in the appendix to this annual report.*

Jean Bacon, Chairperson

Subsidies

In 2020 we assisted 30 preschools through our subsidy program. We received 87 applications, several withdrew after due to the pandemic. 55 of these were approved at a cost of \$44,564 and \$19,088.72 was returned to the SPF because classes were canceled.

The following preschools received our assistance:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon - College Park Bilingual
Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon - John Lake Preschool
Circle Drive Preschool
Dundonald Preschool Inc.
Eastview Centre For Early Learning
Emmeline Preschool
Erindale Co-operative Preschool
Forest Grove Preschool
Hanley Preschool
Hansel & Gretel Preschool Inc.
HCVC Discovery Preschool
Huskie's Den Preschool
Let It Shine Preschool
Little People's Preschool
Lutheran Early Learning Centers Inc.
Maria Montessori Preschool
Mes Amis Preschool
Mother Teresa Cooperative Preschool
Northern Heights Co-op Preschool
North Park Richmond Heights Preschool
Petits Pandas Preschool
Rosewood Cooperative Preschool
St. Augustine Integrated Preschool
Saskatoon Misbah School
Tykes and Tots Preschool
Varsity View Co-op Preschool
Wildwood Cooperative Preschool
Windy Willows Preschool

Arley Wieler, Chairperson

Budget & Finance

The goals of the committee are to:

- ◆ keep directors informed about the financial situation.
- ◆ oversee the preparation of books and records for the annual review.

A review, not an audit, was considered appropriate again this year. Ernst & Young LLP continue as our auditors.

Holly Matkowski, Chairperson

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31		
	2020	2019
Assets		
Current		
Cash	40,089	59,466
Accounts Receivable	524	258
Prepaid Expenses	140	140
	40,753	59,864
Investments	536,803	495,154
Total Assets	577,556	555,018
Liability and Net Assets		
Current		
Deferred Contributions	3,919	-
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	-	-
	3,919	
Net Assets		
Restricted for endowment purposes	236,212	236,212
Unrestricted	337,425	318,806
Total net assets	573,637	555,018
	577,556	555,018

Statement of changes in net assets

Year ended December 31				
	Restricted for endowment purposes	Unrestricted	Total 2020 \$	Total 2019 \$
Balance, beginning of year	236,212	318,806	555,018	516,794
Deficiency of Revenues over expenses	-	18,619	18,619	38,224
Balance, end of year	236,212	337,425	573,637	555,018

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenues		
Contributions	25,290	78,407
Raffle	(793)	5,590
Trivia	-	8,074
	24,497	92,071
Expenses		
Advertising and promotion	150	784
Grants	-	1,350
Insurance	1,631	1,411
Interest and bank charges	395	499
Office	7,573	2,640
Professional fees	4,611	4,571
Tuition supplements	23,580	91,024
Telephone and utilities	574	595
Wages and employee benefits	9,105	10,442
	47,619	113,316
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses from operations	(23,122)	(21,245)
Investment earnings	41,741	59,469
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	18,619	38,224

Fundraising Events

Trivia Night

The 5th Trivia Night Fundraiser for the Saskatoon Preschool Foundation was scheduled for October 2020, due to the COVID- 19 pandemic it has been postponed. In 2019, the event raised over \$4300.

Raffle

The Annual SPF Raffle Campaign runs March - April. Due to the pandemic, we postponed the raffle. The raffle is our biggest fundraiser. We hope to be able to continue the raffle in 2021.

Year	2020	2019	2018
Tickets sold	postponed	6628	8477
No. of preschools	postponed	15	15

Prize Donations and Sponsorship

Thank you for your generosity towards the donation of items for raffle prizes and silent auction items, they are being held for 2021 fundraising event.

Jennifer Boutin, Committee Member

Trona Guenther, Committee Member

Donation and Grant Contributions

We work diligently to keep up with the increasing number of applicants for tuition subsidy. SPF has applied for a variety of grants. By ensuring our website is mobile friendly and accessible will enable SPF to approach a larger number of individuals in the community with the aim to increase awareness and additional donors.

We would like to thank the following corporate, interest group and individual donors for being leaders in our community. Without their support and generosity, we would not be able to continue our work.

SPF Leadership Giving Levels

SPF Palladium Leaders	\$15,000 and above
SPF Platinum Leaders	\$10,000 - \$14,999
SPF Gold Leaders	\$5,000 - \$9,999
SPF Silver Leaders	\$1,000 - \$4,999
SPF Bronze Leaders	\$500-\$999
SPF Leaders	\$0-\$499

Palladium Leaders (\$15,000.00 +)

-

Platinum Leaders (\$10,000.00 - \$14,999.00)

-

Gold Leaders (\$5,000.00 - \$9,999.00)

Nutrien

Sirois, Denis & Terry

United Way of Saskatoon (Boutin, Fern & Jennifer and Matkowski, Dustin & Holly)

Silver Leaders (\$1,000.00 - \$4,999.00)

Arnason Bourassa Family Foundation Inc.

University Of Saskatchewan

Bronze Leaders (\$500.00 - \$999.00)

Ann Atchison

Jean Bacon

Mes Amis Preschool Foundation

Terry & Lorraine Friesen

Saskatoon Progress Club

Shirley Spence

Leaders (up to \$499.00)

Bender, Bill

Fowler, Phyllis

Harrison, Kathy

Plosz, Joan

Salte, Bryan

Scott, Jana

Selby, Diane

Welch, Shannon

White, Wendy

***We regret any errors or omissions in recognizing our donors.*

Appendix

Advocacy Report Sources

Barnett, W.S., & Ackerman, D.J (2006). Costs, Benefits, and Long-Term Effects of Early Care and Education Programs: Recommendations and Cautions for Community Developers. *Community Development*, 37, 86-100.

Campaign 2000 (2017). National and Provincial Poverty Report Cards. From the website May 1, 2021: <https://campaign2000.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Saskatchewan-Child-and-Family-Poverty-Report-2020-Full-Report.pdf>

NB: Campaign 2000 is a non-partisan, cross-Canada coalition of over 120 national, provincial and community organizations, committed to working together to end child and family poverty in Canada. Campaign 2000 coordinated the preparation of the 2017 national and provincial poverty report cards. These can be viewed and downloaded at the web site www.campaign2000.ca

Muschkin, C., Ladd, H., & Dodge, K.A. (2015). Impact of North Carolina's Early Childhood Initiatives on Special Education Placements in Third Grade. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 10(5), 1-23.

Reynolds, A.J., Temple, J.A., Robertson, D. L., Mann, E.A. (2001). Long-term Effects of an Early Childhood Intervention on Educational Achievement and Juvenile Arrest: A 15 Year Follow up of Low-Income Children in Public Schools. *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, 285(18), 2339-2346.

Sanchez, M. and Hunter, G. (2021). Saskatchewan Child and Family Report Card
miguel.sanchez@uregina.ca Acknowledgements: We thank Campaign 2000 for providing data for this report. Campaign 2000: From the website May 1, 2021: <https://campaign2000.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Saskatchewan-Child-and-Family-Poverty-Report-2020-Full-Report.pdf>

Skjerven, K. (2021). Nearly 29% of Saskatchewan Children Living in Poverty Under Age of 6: Report, Global News. From the website May 1, 2021: