**Saskatoon Preschool Foundation 2017 Annual Report**

**Mission Statement:**

 To advocate for and support access to preschool programs.

**Vision Statement:**

**WE SEE**

* all preschool 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 interests of children.
* support for families.
* respecting the values and cultures of families.

# A Message to Our Community

In 2017 Saskatoon Preschool Foundation once again endeavored to meet the needs of our community by granting $84,850 in tuition subsidies. This enabled 132 children to attend preschool who might otherwise have not had the opportunity.

We continue to pursue every funding raising opportunity whether it is through our own fundraising initiatives (raffle and Trivia Night), applying for numerous grants, or cultivating new and existing donors. While we did not meet our budgeted fundraising goal in 2017, we are not deterred and are determined to work just as diligently going forward into 2018 to raise the funds required to grant every deserving tuition subsidy application so that no child is denied the best start to the education.

I cannot say thank you enough to the dedicated Board members who strive every month to see that the vision and purpose of the Saskatoon Preschool Foundation carries on.

A huge thank you goes out as well to all our corporate and individual donors. We couldn’t do this job without your continued support.

**Terry Sirois**, President

**SPF Advocacy/Public Relations Report**

The SPF continued to work on three main areas regarding Advocacy/Public Relations in 2017:

* **Raising awareness within the geographical areas encompassed by the three school divisions within and around Saskatoon** (i.e., Greater Saskatoon Catholic, Saskatoon Public, Prairie Spirit) regarding the SPF and its work, including:
	+ Participation in YXE Connects 2017, an open house regarding services and supports available to families, and
	+ Workshops and conference presentations for preschool teachers.
* **Ensure that cost is not a barrier for vulnerable preschool children to have access to an early learning program**, including:
	+ Fundraising and grant writing, and
	+ Tuitions subsidies for children whose families have a limited income.
* **Continue to build public relations and communication regarding the importance of early childhood learning, including:**
	+ Presentations and distribution of information at workshops and conferences,
	+ Continued connection with other organizations and agencies focussed on early learning programs (e.g., Saskatoon Preschool Teachers Group, Preschool Information Registry and Services [PIRS], the three immediate school divisions, the Ministry of Education)

**Jean Bacon**, Chairperson

# Budget & Finance Committee

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.

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

**Holly Matkowski,** Chairperson

# Corporate Committee

The Corporate Fundraising Committee is working diligently to keep up with the increasing number of applicants for tuition subsidy. The committee has applied for a variety of grants in the past year and hopes that making our web site mobile friendly will enable us to approach a larger number of individuals throughout the community.

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

**Terry Sirois**, Chairperson

**Gold** ($5,000.00 - $9,999.00)

Maunders McNeil Foundation Inc.

Potash Corp

Sirois, Denis & Terry

**Silver** ($1,000.00 - $4,999.00)

U of S Charitable Donations Plan

Arnason Bourassa Family Foundation Inc.

Saskatoon Community Foundation

Brossart Construction Ltd.

Boutin, Fern & Jen

Friesen, Sarah

Levers, Mary

Paslawski, David

**Bronze** ($500.00 – $999.00)

Ann Atchison

Arley & Leslie Wieler

Terry & Lorraine Friesen

Sirois, Adele

Taylor, William

**We are very grateful to:**

**Saskatoon Golf & Country Club –** Meeting space.

**The Saskatoon Public School Division –** providing office space and support.

**Terry Sirois**, Chairperson

# Subsidies to Preschools

In 2017 we assisted 36 preschools through our subsidy program. We received 132 applications, 125 of these were approved at a cost of $85,450.

Grants totaling $3,136 were provided for field trips and learning materials.

The following preschools received our assistance:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon – College Park Bilingual

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon – John Lake Preschool

Buena Vista Creative Preschool

Care-A-Lot Preschool

Circle Drive Alliance Church

Dundonald Preschool Inc.

Eastview Centre for Early Learning

Erindale Co-operative Preschool

Explorer’s Preschool

Golden Rule Preschool

Hampton Free Methodist Preschool

Hansel & Gretel Preschool Inc.

Happy Little Hearts Preschool

HCVC Discovery Preschool

His to Grow Christian Preschool

Holliston Community Preschool

Huskie’s Den Preschool

Lawson Heights Co-operative Preschool

L’il Lights Preschool

Little People’s Preschool

Little Roots Preschool

Lutheran Early Learning Centers Inc.

Mes Amis Preschool

Mother Teresa Cooperative Preschool

Northern Heights Co-op Preschool

North Park Richmond Heights Preschool

Petits Pandas Preschool

Queen Elizabeth Co-op Preschool

Rock of Ages Preschool

Rosewood Co-operative Preschool

Saskatoon Misbah School

Silverspring Cooperative Preschool

Spadina Early Learning & Childcare Cooperative

Sunshine Corner Preschool (Greystone)

Varsity View Co-op Preschool

Wildwood Cooperative Preschool

**Arley Wieler,** Chairperson

# Preschool Raffle

We did not hold a 2017 raffle campaign.  Going forward, as per recommendations, we will be running the campaign during the months of February and March, which is better suited for the participation of the preschools.

**Jennifer Boutin**, Chairperson

# In Memoriam

Recently Saskatoon Preschool Foundation lost one of its valued and long-time members, Ann Tracey. Ann joined the board of Saskatoon Preschool Foundation over 10 years ago. Ann worked for the Saskatoon Public School Board for many years and it was her commitment to early childhood education and disadvantaged children that brought her to join our Foundation.

In those early years the Foundation hosted a Champions of Children dinner to celebrate those in our community who gave of themselves to improve the life and experiences of children in the City of Saskatoon. Ann was the one who made sure the room looked its best by applying her artistic flair. She also graciously donated one of her own art pieces to the live auction at the dinners.

We are forever grateful for her knowledge, advice and joyful personality. We are a better organization for her presence and will miss her dearly.

**Financial Statements**







**Thanks to our Donors!**

Abraham, Max & Dalice

Bacon, Jean

Saskatoon Co-operative Association

Bender, Bill

Ferguson, Les & Linda

Fowler, Phyllis

Kunaman, Diane

Plosz, Joan

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Carlson-O’Keefe, Donna

Kindrachuk, Erin

Pederson, Jennifer

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

# Board of Directors

