2024

Annual Report



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Mission Statement

To advocate for and support access to preschool programs

Vision Statement

All preschool children having opportunities for a better future

Guiding Principles:

Acting in the best interest of children

Board of Directors

Laurie Lanovaz, President

Kathy Harrison, Vice President

Holly Matkowski, Treasurer

Saba Kamran, Secretary

Jean Bacon , Member at Large

Karen Anderson, Member at Large

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 contributes to a child's social, physical, and intellectual development. Moreover, families have an opportunity to build community in their neighbourhood and with the school.

Advocacy continued to be a prime focus for 2024, as the Saskatchewan government continues their journey with $10 a day childcare. SPF has continued to stay engaged with like-minded groups such as Childcare Now, SECA, the ELCC Leadership Caucus and the Saskatoon Preschool Teacher's Group.

Grant writing and corporate donors are two areas that require a great deal of time and energy. The board has decided to apply for grants on a case-by-case basis dependent on time commitment required by the volunteer board members and the ability to utilize the skills of our current staff member. SPF acknowledged that this could result in a need to utilize additional funds directly from principal investment.

SPF continues to have one staff member who works remotely from a home office. This has worked well and there are no current plans to relocate to a physical office space.

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 continue to empower our board to move forward with tuition subsidies and our advocacy work. We appreciate your consistent and valued trust in our mission to provide high quality preschool to all in need in Saskatoon.

Laurie Lanovaz, President

Kathy Harrison, Vice President

Advocacy

Kathy Harrison, Jean Bacon, and Laurie Lanovaz, SPF Advocacy Committee

The focus of the Advocacy Committee has shifted in recent years. For many years the focus was on raising awareness of SPF and the importance of early learning and the many benefits including success in kindergarten and later school years, increased high school graduation,and improved social emotional wellbeing. With the establishment of the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) agreements, beginning in 2021, the committee has recently been busy advocating for community preschools to be included as a valuable early learning and childcare option, within the new provincial framework. It is our goal that community preschools be included within the province's ELCC system and new funding structure, which has reduced parental childcare fees to $10/day ($217month) for full-time childcare. Tuition fees for preschool are, on average, $125-150/month, depending on the number of hours/week.Some families continue to choose preschool, rather than full-time childcare, for a variety of reasons.At the present time, community preschools do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Early Learning and Child Care branch of the Ministry of Education, are not able to be licensed, and are therefore unable to access government funding and supports to reduce fees to a proportion of $10/day.

Members of the Advocacy Committee have joined a number of organizations that advocate for quality early learning and childcare, including:

- Saskatchewan Early Childhood Association (SECA)

- Child Care Now (CCN), Saskatchewan chapter

- Saskatchewan Leaders' Caucus on Early Learning and Child Care

Participating in these groups has enabled SPF to stay abreast of new developments, issues, and changes within the ELCC sector, especially related to the implementation of the federal/ provincial agreement. While the focus of these groups is primarily advocating for improvements in the childcare sector, SPF works diligently to continue to be a voice for community preschools and their value as an option for quality early learning.

We are pleased to report that in 2024, the provincial government indicated some interest in considering preschools for licensing and becoming part of their mandate. After providing some information about community preschools across Saskatchewan, SPF was invited to a virtual meeting of stakeholders regarding the development of new legislation about alternative childcare, which would include preschools. Subsequently, in late 2024, we became aware of the Ministry of Education's introduction of proposed changes to current legislation that could allow preschools to be licensed, in the future.

We are optimistic that over the next couple of years, the Ministry will move forward with finalizing legislation and regulations to enable preschools to be licensed and access provincial funding and supports, thus reducing parental tuition fees and some of the need for subsidies from the SPF.

Subsidies

Laurie Lanovaz, Saba Kamran - Subsidy Committee

In 2024, we received and approved 59 subsidy applications. Applicants attended 21 different preschools in Saskatoon and the surrounding area.

The following preschools received our assistance:

- Discovery Preschool
- Eastview Preschool
- Emmeline Preschool
- Erindale Cooperative Preschool
- Explorer's Preschool
- Golden Rule Preschool
- Hampton Free Methodist Preschool
- Hanley Preschool
- Lakeridge Preschool
- Let It Shine Preschool
- Little People's Preschool
- Lutheran Early Learning Preschool
- North Park Richmond Heights Preschool
- Northern Heights Preschool
- Ready Set Grow Preschool
- Sadok Dzvinkok Ukrainian Preschool
- Silverspring Preschool
- Varsity View Preschool
- Waldheim Community Preschool
- Wildwood Cooperative Preschool
- Wild Sky Learning Preschool

Budget & Finance

Holly Matkowski, Treasurer

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

Financial Statements

Saskatoon Preschool Foundation Inc
Statement of FInancial Position

As at December 31 — Unaudited - See Compliation engagement report

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current		
Cash	18337	9519
Accounts Receivable	1745	1745
Total current assets	20082	11264
Investments	558051	535032
	578133	546296
Net Assets		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1374	-
Net assets		
Restricted for endowment purposes	236212	236212
Unrestricted	340547	310084
Total net assets	576759	546296
	578133	546296

Statement of changes in net assets

	Restricted for endowment purposes $	Unrestricted $	Total 2024 $	Total 2023 $
Balance, beginning of the year	238212	310084	546296	584673
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year	-	30463	30463	(38377)
Balance, end of year	236212	340547	576759	546298

Statement of Operations

	2024 $	2023 $
Revenues		
Contributions	18237	21459
Raffle	4207	4951
	22444	26410
Expenditures		
Advertising and Promotion	50	15
Insurance	–	1760
Interest and bank charges	468	431
Office	2454	6619
Professional fees	3053	5035
Taxes and licences	15	–
Telephone and utilities	433	383
Tuition Supplements	56771	81468
Wage and employee benefits	11878	7821
	75122	104532
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures from operations	(52678)	(77125)
Investment earnings	83141	38745
Excess (dediciency) of revenues over expenditures for the year	30463	(38377)

Fundraising Events

Trona Guenther & Karen Anderson, Fundraising

Raffle

The annual SPF Raffle Campaign runs March-April of each year.

This year the raffle raised a total of $8024.00 with ½ of the proceeds returned to preschools who participated.

Proceeds from the raffle were shared between the participating preschools and the SPF. There were 6 preschools who participated - Alcerces, Puddle Jumpers, Emmeline, Varsity View, Erindale Cooperative, and Hampton Preschools. Thank you to all who participated in the ticket sales for the raffle and thank you to those who supported the raffle by purchasing tickets and donating items.

Donation and Grant Contributions

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.

Gold Leaders ($5,000.00 - $9,999.00)
Terry & Denis Sirois

Silver Leaders ($1,000.00 - $4,999.00)
Saskatoon Community Foundation
Huskies Den Preschool
United Way Individual Donors
Centennial Plumbing 12 in 12 Campaign
Mes Amis Preschool

Bronze Leaders ($500.00 – $999.00)
Terry & Lorraine Friesen
Ann Atchison

Leaders (up to $499.00)
Kathy Harrison
University of Saskatchewan
Joan Plosz
Bryan Salte
Diane Selby
Richard and Wendy White
Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Les & Linda Ferguson

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