

Annual Report

September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017

Vision

A community that values Innovation in public education and supports a lifetime of learning

Mission

We engage partners in public education to enrich opportunities for students to become contributing citizens and learners for life.

This report will form the third Annual Report for the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation. The Foundation was formally established in April of 2014 and incorporated in May 2014. Charitable status was secured in June 2016. The Board of Education for the Prairie Spirit School Division is the sole Member of the Foundation.

The Foundation exists to support innovation in public education by funding a range of experiences that help students in the school division realize their potential. We provide donation and investment opportunities for our communities and business partners to support innovative learning experiences in our schools which would not otherwise be accessible to our students. We inspire passion for and engagement in public education.

Together with our donors, the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation raised a total of \$18,252.05 in 2016 – 17 for innovation in education.

Overview

The 2016 – 17 operating year proved to be a year of transition and growth for the Foundation, both at the governance and the operational levels.

At the governance table, the Foundation Board saw the departure of Board members: Gord Steeves in November 2016; Robyn Kraft in December 2016; Brenda Erickson in March 2017; and Sharon Baron, in June 2017. These vacancies were filled by Ken Crush in November 2016, Michael Collins in December 2016, Karen Campbell in November 2016, Keith Wagner in January 2017 and Jolayne Rempel in August 2017.

At the annual meeting held November 9, 2016, the following Board officers were appointed for 2016 – 17: Bonnie Hope – Chair, Ken Crush – Vice Chair, Michael Collins – Treasurer (appointed April 2017).

In June 2017, the Foundation Board officially accepted the resignation of Executive Director, Sharon Compton. Sharon had led the work of the Foundation for two years and was instrumental in completing the registered charitable status of the Foundation, working with the Board to create and implement a strategic plan, establishing initial policies and operational procedures, implementation of a number of annual fundraising events including the Golf Classic and Trip A Month Lottery, and working to spread the concept of the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation to the broader community. The Board expressed their thanks for Sharon's gift of service.

Recruitment of a new operational leader for the Foundation was undertaken, and Denise Kendrick signed on with the Foundation as Fund Development Manager in August 2017. Denise brings a wealth of experience in the world of fundraising and events planning. The Foundation Board is pleased to be working with Denise.

From a strategic standpoint, 2016 – 17 was a challenging year for Prairie Spirit School Division and as a result, for the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation. Following the release of the Perrins' Educational Governance Review Report in December 2016, a review panel was established and received presentations throughout the months of January and February 2017. While this did not directly involve the Foundation, the resulting issues that were then examined through the Education Governance Renewal working groups did bring the future of the Prairie Spirit School Division into question as significant boundary changes were being considered. This left the Foundation in a state of uncertainty for a number of months as the Foundation Board considered whether to proceed with planning for the 2017 – 18 operating year or not. In the end, the Foundation Board made the decision to proceed and with the gracious financial support of the Division Board, was able to set a course for 2017 – 18.

Fundraising Activities

Golf Classic

The 2nd Annual Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation Golf Classic was held on September 15, 2016 at Greenbryre Golf and Country Club. It was a beautiful day with 62 golfers participating. \$9,468.30 was raised in support of the Foundation. A copy of our program, including donors and sponsors, is attached.

Trip a Month Raffle

Our second Trip a Month Raffle draw took place on January 27, 2017 with the winners each taking home a \$2,500 trip voucher. The Foundation realized a profit of \$1,778.10 and was able to provide \$9,840.00 to our schools who had assisted with ticket sales or through directed support from this event.

Partnerships

Donor partnerships were built for our Golf Classic and Trip A Month Raffle through email, phone and individual visits.

Print and radio were utilized to advertise our fundraisers and to raise the awareness of the Foundation to the public.

The Executive Director and Foundation Board Chair attended the AFP Saskatoon National Philanthropy Day Luncheon on November 15, 2016, along with guests Mike Lawton and Christina Carrs of ConTech. ConTech has been a supportive sponsor of the Foundation's Golf Classic for the past two years and the Foundation appreciates their ongoing support and looks forward to a continued partnership into the future.

In Support of Education

Learning Grants

The first edition of the Learning Grants initiative was launched in late 2016. A call for applications was made in November 2016, and fourteen responses were received. A small committee was established to review the applications, and nine successful groups received a total \$30,000.00 in funding. Successful projects that were supported included an Outdoor Learning Space in Aberdeen, Building Better Learners in Leask, Junk Yard Robotics from Hague High School and Warman High School, Classrooms Libraries in

Rosthern, Resonate Music Conference, Outdoor Classroom in Vanscoy, Outdoor Garden Space in Hepburn, Outdoor Education Program from WW Brown (Langham) and an Outdoor Education Program from Warman High.

Appreciation

Appreciation is extended to the Prairie Spirit Board of Education for its continued commitment to the work of the Foundation. Thank you to our Foundation Board Members for their dedication and hard work and to everyone who has donated to the Foundation or volunteered their time over the past year.

Respectfully submitted:

January 22, 2018

Denise Kendrick
Fund Development Manager
Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation

Bonnie Hope
Chair
Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation Board

Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation Board of Directors 2016 – 2017

Bonnie Hope – Chair
Ken Crush – Vice Chair
Michael Collins – Treasurer
Brenda Erickson – Secretary
Robyn Kraft
John Kuzbik (Ex Officio) – PSSD Director of Education
Sharon Baron
Keith Wagner
Sam Dyck
Karen Campbell
Jolayne Rempel

2016 – 2017 Donors

AODBT

Athabasca Basin Security

Biberdorf, Ron

Bodarus, Frederick

Bridge City Electric

Brown, Jarid

Build Tech

Cassidy, Faye

Compton, Gary

Con-Tech General Contractors

Deloitte LLP

Donst, Kerry

Ens & Baxter

Fehr Painting

Flynn Roofing

Harrison, Garth

Hollis Wealth

Hope, Bonnie

Integrity Plumbing & Heating

Kemsol

Kessler Insurance

Kuzbik, Debra

Kuzbik, John

Lakeview Insurance

Laskowski & Wright LLP

Letawsky, Stacy

McKercher LLP

Norris, Stephen

Northern Resource Trucking

Pavloff, Larry

Royal Bank of Canada

Robertson Stromberg

Saskatoon Fire and Flood

SaskTel

Scott, Chantelle

Steeves, Gord

Strive Inc.

Tucker, Chris

Valley Ford

Warman Dairy Queen

Weimer, Colin

WOW Factor Events Planning

Wright Construction