



## THE LEARNING PROJECT

FIND YOUR WHY.  
TURN YOUR LIGHT ON & LEARN.

[www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca](http://www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca)

*Enhance. Enrich. Engage.*

# PRAIRIE SPIRIT SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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Prairie Spirit Schools  
**FOUNDATION**

*Supporting innovation in public education*



## THE LEARNING PROJECT

### Introduction & Application

#### INTRODUCING “THE LEARNING PROJECT”!

Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation is excited to announce The Learning Project! We have created **one MAIN Project Based Learning approach initiative** and have **combined and created a collaboration of both** our **Annual Student Learning Grants** and our **Da Vinci Project**. With the use of our **Project Based Learning approach**, schools/classrooms throughout the Prairie Spirit School Division will submit learning initiatives that will enable them to **further engage with their communities and meet curricular outcomes through their rigorous, collaborative projects and initiatives**.

As we blend both projects into one all encompassing, learning project, we know we will be able to obtain an **even greater reach, participation level and impact** among the students and educators in our Division.

#### TELL ME MORE!

The Learning Project will support Prairie Spirit Learners to reach curricular outcomes and aspirational goals by **connecting to and engaging with authentic, real-world questions, challenges, and problems**.

Project Based Learning follows an intentional structure and design and is based on pillars that support and align with the **three components of Prairie Spirit School Division’s Strategic Plan: Aspirational Learning Goals, Triangulated Assessment, and My Prairie Spirit Classroom**. Connected to communities and rich in collaboration, Project Based Learning actualizes the idea of **Learning Everywhere Together**.

## Five Pillars of Project Based Learning are:

1. Real World Connection (Connect to communities)
2. Rigorous Projects that are Core to Learning
3. Structuring Collaboration
4. Student Driven
5. Multifaceted Assessment

Prairie Spirit Learners engaged in the Foundation's Learning Project will not only meet curricular outcomes by engaging in Project Based Learning, they will also **grow in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century competencies of critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.**

## FANTASTIC! PLEASE SHARE MORE!

The Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation will consider applications for The Learning Project for schools/classrooms that are interested in participating in a Project Based Learning experience until **February 25, 2021**. Grants will be awarded for projects that follow a Project Based Learning model and the degree to which the project:

- Connects students to communities
- Develops competencies, skills, and curricular knowledge
- Fosters learning with specific tools and technologies.

Schools, classrooms, and teachers interested in participating in the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation's Learning Project should consider their readiness for Project Based Learning. Project Based Learning is a model of teaching and learning in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging (hands on learning), and complex question, problem, or challenge (that is rooted in community and grounded in curriculum). **Before applying for funding schools/classrooms should be prepared to commit to Professional Learning** (ILOs, PD, Learning Facilitator) in and with the Project Based Learning model.

Please note, by completing **all** areas of this application to the best of your knowledge regarding your project it will allow the selection committee to review all applications fairly and to ensure the Foundation is also meeting the key focus areas for our funding partners.

## WE HAVE A GREAT IDEA! WHAT DO WE DO?

We are excited to hear about your classroom/schools Learning Project initiative! Please review the attached application carefully as this is the format you will **need to complete and submit on or before February 25, 2021**. This application will also be the format, same questions and requirement of your follow-up report if you are a successful Learning Project grant recipient. Your application **must be submitted in this format** along with any supporting material and documentation (should you have additional information) by the deadline by email to: psfoundation@spiritsd.ca. Please ensure all sections of the attached application are complete prior to submitting.

**NOTE:** If you have a learning initiative that meets The Learning Project criteria/application and was initiated and began in the 2020/21 school calendar year and:

- has been completed; or
- is currently underway/will be underway shortly please know you ARE able to submit an application and apply for a possible grant through The Learning Project.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

A selection committee composed of members from the Prairie Spirit School Division leadership team, Board members of the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation and the Foundation's Executive Director will review all applications received by the noted deadline. Should the Foundation or selection committee require additional information or clarification your project team lead will be contacted. **Successful recipients will be notified by email on March 2, 2021** and any additional information, details and follow-up report requirements will be provided at that time.

## QUESTIONS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

The Foundation is excited to share The Learning Project and are happy to assist with any additional questions you may have. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us. This information & application is available on our website and a word version is also available upon request.



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## THE LEARNING PROJECT 2021 - APPLICATION

*Please complete all sections and areas to the best of your knowledge as this will assist the selection committee when reviewing your application.*

<b>Name/Title of your Learning Project learning initiative</b>	
<b>In point form or in no more than two to three sentences briefly describe your Learning Project learning initiative</b>	
<b>Amount requested to initiate your project</b> (NOTE: You will be asked for your budget breakdown further in the application. Based on the criteria, your request may (or may not) be approved for the entire amount, a portion of the amount or for a particular item within your breakdown.)	
<b>Enter the estimated total number of youth beneficiaries/students that will be directly impacted through this program/project AND grade levels/age range</b>	
<b>Name(s) of team member(s) leading the initiative and their position within the Division or project</b>	
<b>Email(s) of team member(s)</b>	
<b>Name of Prairie Spirit Division School:</b>	
<b>Name of Principal</b>	
<b>Email of Principal</b>	
<b>School Phone #</b>	
<b>School Email</b>	

## Project Overview

*Please explain what you will be doing if you had 2 minutes in an elevator to share your learning project initiative.*

In 150 words or less describe the project your students will participate in highlighting all of the following: 1) hands on learning 2) does this project have the ability or will it prepare students for the world of work 3) how will it improve learning for your students 4) how you will engage and involve your community 5) how funding from partners is utilized for your project/program 6) is there an opportunity to gain credit, receive training (certification, certificate, etc.) or the ability to continue training in a particular field because of this project:

## Innovation in Learning

**(Enhancing student engagement & learning)**

In what ways will your project connect curriculum to community?	In what ways will your students learn and grow Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Citizenship, and Communication?	What important and relevant questions will your students explore and solve and seek to solve?
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## Hearing Student Voice

(How will your students be involved & what will they have to say?)

<p>In the end, what do you hope will inspire and excite you and your students about this learning innovation? Why is it important to you? Why do you think it will be important to your students?</p>	<p>How do you think this learning innovation will make a difference for your student's learning? Please briefly list your TOP 5 Potential Outcomes.</p> <p><i>Examples: Prepare your students for the workforce; enhanced ability to use tools and equipment; learned a variety of skills; gain some form of certification or special training; encourage communication and public speaking, collaboration and problem solving which increase employability skills</i></p>
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## Enhancing Communities/Partnerships

(Changing your corner of the world)

<p>What partnerships will be developed or what community resources will be accessed through this learning innovation? How will students be involved with this? Please provide potential names of partners, individuals, businesses, community facilities, etc.</p>	<p>What positive community impacts do you think you will see as a result of this project?</p>	<p>How will this project expand to benefit other students, classrooms and schools?</p>
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# Geographic, Community & Population

<p>Where will the proposed initiative have an impact? <i>Example: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Saskatoon, Warman, Hague, etc.</i></p> <p>While your project may likely be located in one spot the work you focus on for this program/project may be located elsewhere or in several locations. We would like to know where the program/project will make an impact. Please include names of location(s) if applicable.</p>	<p>Will this project be relevant and available to the general population or will it focus on other demographics as shared below?</p> <p>Please select either General Population or indicate from the demographic categories below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General population</li> <li>2.LGBT: "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, +"</li> <li>3.Newcomers: "Someone who has arrived in their Country of residence within the last 5 years"</li> <li>4. First Nations, Inuit, Metis</li> <li>5. Other – please share</li> </ol>
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Describe how this program may help address and assist specific needs of the communities you serve:

*Example:*

*With the building of the daycare in Langham, there will be more options for the families in this community thus creating additional employment for the community and providing another childcare option for the communities in this area as well as the potential to involve members of the community to volunteer and engage in this project.*

**Feasibility & Budget**

**(Details of timeline and how you spent the funds provided)**

<p>Outline the timeline for this learning innovation.</p>	<p>Provide an overall budget and breakdown of your estimated budget for this project describing your projected expenses. (Note: This can be shared in a one-page excel spreadsheet if it is easier to attach to the application. Based on the criteria, your request may (or may not) be approved for the entire amount, a portion of the amount or for a particular item(s) within your breakdown.)</p>
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**Celebration, Showcase and Assessment**

**(How will you know that the learning innovation was successful and how will you celebrate & showcase it?)**

<p>Project Based Learning contains an element of presenting (celebrating and showcasing) learning where the community (parents, stakeholders, partners) are invited to learn about the project(s), first steps, milestones, final achievements. When might you expect this to occur? (An estimated timeline for your project and various milestones can be included below).</p>	<p>What evidence of success or “wins” or how will you know the project was a success? What measurements, testimonials or data will you collect that will demonstrate this project is a success.</p>
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## Impact Measures

(Estimate the impact and areas your project will have using the indicator below)

**Important Note:** While we understand that some of these projects will not apply to all of these impact measures in order to match requirements among our reporting to some of the Foundation's funding partners this information is required when we review all applications. If it does not apply please indicate with N/A in the 'Units to Achieve' column.

Indicator	Units to Achieve	Type of unit	Description
Number of youths, 15-29, participating directly in the program/project	<i>Example</i> 60	Students	<i>Example:</i> We anticipate we will have 60 participants aged 15-18 enroll & participate in the program
Number of paid jobs created (full or part-time) as a direct result of this program/project		Jobs	
Number of community connections (Example: positive & stronger relationship building; access to facilities as a result of the project) that may result as a direct result of this program/project		Connections	
Number of volunteers participating directly in this program/project		Volunteers	
Number of volunteer hours invested directly in this program/project		Hours	
Number of <u>new</u> cross-sector partnerships formed as a direct result of this program /project		Partners	

**Are there any other areas we should be aware of where you think an impact may be made as a result of this project?**

Indicator	Units to Achieve	Type of unit	Description



## Program Targets

**Important Note:** Again, while we understand that some of these projects will not apply to all of these program targets in order to match requirements among our reporting to some of the Foundation's funding partners this information is required when we review all applications. If it does not apply please indicate with N/A.

The following are definitions of the program target areas:

1. Practical Work Experience: Paid and/or education related employment experiences to gain work relevant skills in the places of work.
2. Career/Network Development Support: Educational training, tools and resources that support young people in understanding and navigating the labour market.
3. Skills Development Support: The skills, knowledge and expertise young people must master to success in work and life, ; it is a blend of content knowledge, specific skills, expertise and literacies.
4. Youth: Persons aged 15-29 who are transitioning through secondary, post-secondary or other education and training, into employment or entrepreneurship, or early-in-career

	<b>Total number of participants estimated to receive training/skill support and/or development as it applies to categories 1-4. Place N/A if it does not apply.</b>
1. Practical Work Experience	<i>Example: 60 if that was the total of all students that you anticipate will participate in the project &amp; receive practical work experience as a result of this project.</i>
2. Career/Network Development Support	
3. Skills Development Support	
4. Youth	

**Are there any other program target areas we should be aware of?**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Total number of participants estimated to receive training/skill support and/or development in this target area</b>

## Requirements, Promotion & Communication

If your project is one of the successful recipients of The Learning Project funding it is a *requirement* to (please check off your agreement to the following):

- Work with Prairie Spirit School Division to ensure Project Based Learning implementation through Professional Development and Supports
- Promote and communicate the support from the Foundation, Division and our funding partners (these will be provided to you so you may acknowledge them)
- Share and highlight your milestones, achievements (as indicated earlier in this application) through The Learning Project with the Foundation, Division and funding partners and among your communication channels

Please provide all of the ways you plan or anticipate you will be able to promote your project and the funds received for this project. (Note, examples and/or a list of the communication mediums used will be required for your follow-up report upon completion of the project).

Below are some examples – please check off all that will apply:

- Online Channels: Promotion through your/your schools social media channels (School website, blog, Facebook, Twitter, etc.). (Please provide your channels, addresses below as well so the Foundation may follow, share, etc.)
- Internal communications: School & Community Council Newsletter (please include the Foundation on your school's newsletter's email distribution at [psfoundation@spiritsd.ca](mailto:psfoundation@spiritsd.ca))
- Photo/Video: Provide photos or videos clips for the Foundation and/or Division to use or share within promotional presentations (Note: A photo/video release form will be provided/required to ensure photos/videos may be shared).
- Traditional media: Community newspaper, other \_\_\_\_\_
- Testimonials: Promotion from students, teachers, partners, community members and local businesses

Please list below other ways you plan to promote your project.

Please list your online channels so we may engage with you and share your project!

***Thank you for taking the time to share your learning initiative. It is through your dedication and support that students in our Division will continue to have enhanced, enriched and engaged learning experiences.***