

# SPTRB Now

#### NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016 EDITION

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# **Registrar's Update**

It has been a busy first six months of operations at the SPTRB! October, November and December saw more than 16,000 teachers register with the SPTRB; there are currently just over 16,800 registered teachers in Saskatchewan.

To date, we have received nearly 1000 applications for teachers' certificates and have issued 850 professional certificates and 125 temporary teaching permits. We will issue somewhere in the neighborhood of 600 certificates throughout April, May and June to teacher candidates who have recently completed their teacher education programs.

June will mark the beginning of the registration period for the upcoming school year. The registration period will run from June 1 through August 31. All teachers who will be practicing at the beginning of the 2016 – 2017 school year will be required to register prior the start of the new school year.

The SPTRB received its first complaint concerning professional misconduct in November, 2015 and to date has received a total of twelve complaints and employer's notices. Of the twelve complaints/employer's notices received, eight have been or are presently being investigated, one was dismissed because it pertained to an individual who was not registered with the SPTRB and in 3 cases no further action was deemed necessary. Information pertaining to hearings, disciplinary decision and consensual complaint resolution agreements can be found under the Conduct and Competence tab at www.sptrb.ca.

The SPTRB takes pride in regulating the teaching profession in the public interest in order to help our students be safe, happy, and successful.

Trevor Smith, COO & Registrar



## What is a "Self-Regulated Profession"?

Self-regulating professions are granted the authority to license and the ability to discipline licensees. The public has a genuine interest in knowing that the members of self-regulating professions are properly trained and maintain standards of conduct and competence. That being so, it is the responsible and experienced members of a profession who are in the best position to set the standards and qualifications to be met by those wishing to practice the profession.

At the SPTRB, registered teachers influence the decisions that are made which impact the teaching profession.

Teachers in Saskatchewan were granted the privelege and responsibility of becoming a self-regulated profession by the *Registered Teachers Act, 2015.*The Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board began operating on October 19, 2015.



### **SPTRB Board of Directors**

The SPTRB is governed by a board of nine directors: seven members are registered teachers and two members are public appointees. Meetings to date: October 21, 2015; November 18, 2015; January 21, 2016; March 16, 2016; May 19, 2016.

SPTRB Board of Directors

Front L to R: Dave Carter, Darrell Burko, Tom Schonhoffer, Kyle McIntyre

Back L to R: Tobi Tamblyn, Colleen Norris, Robin Bellamy, Chris Janzen, Linda Blaser-Fiddler



### **SPTRB Staff**

SPTRB Staff

Front L to R: Becky Wock, Policy Analyst/Writer; Jason Vogelsang, Assistant Registrar; Trevor Smith, COO/Registrar; Yuan Liu, Record Clerk

Back L to R: Crystal Kowalski, Certification Analyst; Janice Krietemeyer, Certification Analyst; Kelsie Marshall, Record Clerk; Brenda Holowatuk, Certification Analyst; Anabelle Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant/Accounting Clerk; Laura Weisgarber, Executive Coordinator



#### **SPTRB Committees**

As set out in the *Registered Teachers Act*, there are two statutory committees of the SPTRB: The Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) and the Discipline Committee (DC).

The PCC reviews and investigates complaints of alleged professional misconduct or professional incompetence made against registered teachers. The PCC determines if a complaint should be dismissed, settled by a consent-resolution process, or heard by the

Discipline Committee. The majority of PCC committee members are registered teachers. Meetings to date: December 3, 2015; January 13, 2016; February 8, 2016; February 23, 2016; March 7, 2016; March 15, 2016; April 6, 2016, May 16, 2016.

The DC conducts hearings to determine whether a registered teacher whose conduct is the subject of a formal complaint lodged by the PCC is guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence.

The DC is also responsible for making discipline orders in cases where a registered teacher is found guilty. The majority of DC committee members are registered teachers. No meetings have been held to date.

Registered teachers who are interested in becoming a member of the PCC or DC are invited to visit **www.sptrb.ca** for more information on the application process.

# **Annual Registration**

To meet the mandate of protecting the public interest, the SPTRB works to assure the public that teachers are qualified, competent, and trusted professionals. Part of this process involves annual registration. Registered Teachers are listed in the Public Registry.

Online registration for 2016/2017 is open from **June 1 - August 31, 2016**.

#### What's New this Year?

The registration application has been revised to make your registration quick and easy. To register, sign in to your educator portal at **www.sptrb.ca**.

There is now a Proof of Registration wallet-sized card you can print from your educator portal.





## **Grand Opening**

STF President Patrick Maze (left), Minister of Education Don Morgan (center) and Chairman of the SPTRB's Board of Directors Tom Schonhoffer (right) cut the ceremonial ribbon held by Registrar/COO Trevor Smith (far right) and Assistant Registrar Jason Vogelsang (not pictured) at the SPTRB's grand opening on October 19, 2015.

## **Professional Standards**

The SPTRB is responsible for establishing and administering the professional standards of conduct and competence for teachers in Saskatchewan.

# WHAT ARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS?

Professional Standards:

- set out the key principles of good conduct and practice
- are expected and achievable behaviours
- guide judgements and decisions
- inform registered teachers, parents, guardians, learners and the general public about the manner in which registered teachers are expected to conduct themselves

The SPTRB is considering the following as the SPTRB's Standards of Conduct:

- Registered Teachers base their relationships with learners on mutual trust and respect.
- Registered Teachers have regard for the safety and wellbeing of learners in their care.
- Registered Teachers work in a collaborative manner with colleagues and other professionals, and develop and maintain good relationships with parents and guardians.
- 4. Registered Teachers act with honesty and integrity.
- Registered Teachers take responsibility for maintaining the quality of their practice.

6. Registered Teachers uphold public trust and confidence in the education profession.

#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

During this year's registration period, you will be asked for your assistance in developing exemplars for each standard. Your responses will be collected by an online survey tool, and the exemplars will be developed based upon salient themes that emerge. The survey will be available at **www.sptrb.ca** between June 1, 2016 and September 30, 2016.

It is important that your voice is heard so please take time to participate in the survey.



204 - 3775 Pasqua Street Regina, SK, Canada S4S 6W8

> Phone: 306.352.2230 Fax: 306.352.0022 Email: general@sptrb.ca www.sptrb.ca

