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Fall/Winter 2024-2025

Greetings from the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board!

Spring is on its way and that means it's time to provide an update on our fall and winter activities.

Annual Registration and Certification

Over 18,000 teachers in Saskatchewan completed their annual registration with the SPTRB for the 2024-2025 school year. The number of Registered Teachers increases throughout the school year as new teachers are hired and register with the SPTRB, but as of February 1st, 2025 there were 18,420 Registered Teachers in Saskatchewan. Within that total, 354 Registered Teachers indicated that they are employed at a First Nation operated school.

Pathways to Teach Canada

Pathways to Teach Canada service officially launched in November of 2024. Pathways to Teach Canada is based at the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) and will provide a single point of entry for internationally educated teachers (IETs) to apply for licensure in participating provinces and territories, including Saskatchewan, by offering credential assessment and language-competency assessment services.

The mission of Pathways to Teach Canada is to streamline the certification process for IETs by:

1. improving access to pre-arrival information for internationally educated teachers (IETs) seeking to settle in Canada to teach in a participating province or territory.
2. promoting the adoption of fair, transparent, consistent, and timely assessment and recognition procedures leading to the issuing of licenses to practice to IETs in Canada's participating provinces and territories. This includes the assessment of French and/or English language competencies.
3. improving labour market integration outcomes of IETs within the teaching profession in the participating provinces and territories.

It is important to note that while Pathways to Teach Canada facilitates the credential and language competency assessments of IETs, the final decision regarding certification is made by the regulatory bodies in each participating province or territory. These regulatory bodies retain the exclusive authority to grant or refuse certification and determine additional requirements, if needed.

Currently, the program operates in collaboration with several provincial and territorial regulatory bodies, including those in British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan. Ontario has its own certification process but accepts language competency assessments administered by Pathways to Teach.

Pathways to Teach Canada will play a critical role in supporting the success of internationally educated teachers in their journey toward becoming certified and contributing to the Canadian education system.

Most Recent Appointments to the SPTRB Board of Directors

The SPTRB would like to introduce five new appointments to the SPTRB Board of Directors. John McGettigan, Edla Landry, Verne Barber, Katherine Gagné and Milt Block were appointed to the board over the past year. John was appointed in March of 2024 and Verne and Edla were appointed to the Board of Directors over the summer of 2024. Katherine Gagné was appointed to the Board of Directors in December of 2024 and Milt Block was appointed in February of 2025. Please see below to learn a bit more about our newest board members.

John McGettigan



Born and raised in Saskatoon, John is a graduate of Holy Cross High School and the University of Saskatchewan. In his 30-year teaching career he taught in rural and urban settings, in elementary and high schools. He served ten years as President of the

Saskatoon Teachers' Association and retired from teaching in June 2023. Currently, John is the Chief Development Officer for the Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation.

Milt Block



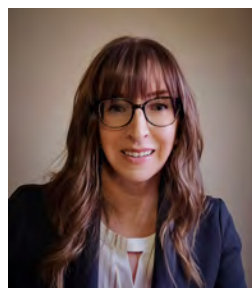
Milt Block was born and raised in Saskatoon, attending Henry Kelsey Elementary and Bedford Road Collegiate before earning a B.A., B.Ed., and a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Administration from the University of Saskatchewan. Milt also worked as a long-haul truck

driver during the summers and in the early years of his teaching career.

Milt spent 15 years as a teacher and principal before transitioning to the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, where he played a key role in policy governance and labour relations. He was appointed to the Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan in 1991, serving for over 13 years. He retired as Associate Executive Director of STF in 2022 and now serves as Director of Human Resources at Q-Line Trucking.

Milt has been the chairperson of the Jeannette Lake Camping Association for more than 20 years. He and his wife moved to Waldheim in 1993, where they raised their four children before settling in Warman. A proud grandfather, Milt enjoys having all 11 of his grandchildren living nearby.

Edla Landry



Growing up on a farm in west central Saskatchewan, Edla began teaching in 1993 and has had a rewarding career spanning various age groups and subject areas in rural schools. Holding both a Bachelor of Music in Music

Education and a Master of Education from the University of Saskatchewan, she is currently the Vice-Principal at Delisle Composite School. Edla is committed to working with students and staff in the areas of mental health and wellness, reconciliation, innovative pedagogy, and assessment.

Verne Barber



Verne Barber was born and raised in Lumsden. Following graduation from Lumsden High, Verne worked for several years in road construction and maintenance. Eventually, Verne graduated from the U of R with a Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Arts

majoring in History.

Verne began his teaching career at Lumsden High in 1985. Verne primarily taught History and Law, while being heavily involved in extracurricular athletics and student leadership. Verne served many years as a local association president and 22 years as an STF councillor. Verne served 6 years on the Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan (STRP) Board, including 2 years as chair. Upon retirement in 2016, Verne was elected to the Prairie Valley school board and served 2 terms. Verne and his wife Margo and son Nash continue to reside in Lumsden. Verne is currently serving as mayor of the town of Lumsden. He is very excited to continue his education journey as a member of the SPTRB Board.

Katherine Gagné

Katherine Gagné worked internationally for the better part of a decade managing the Economic Affairs Division for SGS Hong Kong/China. Katherine is currently the General Manager of Junior Achievement in Saskatchewan, having served the province with Junior Achievement for the last 20 years. Katherine served 11 years as a Trustee with the Regina Public School Board with nine of those years as the Chairperson.



SPTRB Directors March 5, 2025

Back Row:
Milt Block, Murray Guest, Gord Husband, Ben Goby, Katherine Gagné

Front Row:
Edla Landry, Wanda Clare, Verne Barber, John McGettigan

Thank you For Your Service!

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to departing members of the SPTRB Board of Directors. We appreciate the time and effort that Jason Benson, Bruce Gibson and Robin Bellamy provided as they graciously served on the board and the various sub-committees. Jason served on the board for one year, Bruce served for five years and Robin Bellamy served since the inception of the SPTRB in 2015. We wish Jason, Bruce and Robin all the best in the future.



Robin Bellamy



Jason Benson



Bruce Gibson

SPTRB Board of Directors & Committee Work

The SPTRB is grateful for the wonderful participation and dedication of the individuals who serve on our committees and working groups. The SPTRB Board of Directors held meetings in September and November of 2024. On November 27th, the SPTRB held their Annual Meeting and presented the SPTRB Annual Report. The SPTRB Annual Report for 2023-2024 can be found [here](#). Upcoming meetings are scheduled for March 5 and May 28, 2025.

SPTRB Directors regularly serve on a variety of standing sub-committees such as the Appointments Committee, Audit Committee, Governance Committee and the Human Resources Committee. Some of our Board members also participate on committees with other sector partners such as the Teacher Education and Certification Committee (TECC), and the Continual Professional Learning and Currency of Practice (CPLCP) working group.

2024 Christmas Cheer Campaign

The social committee at the SPTRB involved all staff in supporting Souls Harbour Rescue Mission in Regina as our holiday fundraiser. The focus was to gather items and donations based on Souls Harbour's "Current Needs List."

SPTRB staff (and some other partners in our building) donated used clothing, non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products over the course of three weeks. The donations were delivered to Souls Harbour on December 18, 2024.



Updating Contact Information

Have you moved recently? Do you have a new preferred email? Did you get rid of your landline? If your address, phone number or email have changed please ensure that your most up to date contact information is listed under your SPTRB profile. Just follow the steps listed below:

1. Sign into your SPTRB account.
2. Click "Educator Profile"
3. Click on the pencil icon by "Current Addresses" to update mailing address, phone number, and/or email address



SPTRB Contact Information

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the SPTRB office. The SPTRB staff are always ready to help.

☎ (306) 352-2230
 ✉ general@sptrb.ca

🌐 Toll free: (844) 254-2230
www.sptrb.ca

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|-------------------|---|
| Anabelle Gonzalez | Administrative and Accounting Assistant |
| Crystal Kowalski | Certification Analyst & Investigator |
| Jackie Weisgarber | Records Administrator |
| Kat Somers | Records Administrator |
| Kelsie Konecsni | Business Systems Administrator |
| Laura Weisgarber | Executive Coordinator |
| Michelle Chapman | Certification Analyst |
| Raeanne Skihar | Assistant Registrar |
| Markus Rubrecht | COO & Registrar |
| Yuan Liu | Certification Analyst |



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