

Executive Director's Message

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation is dedicated to advancing the interests of teachers and advocating for excellence in public education. The Federation is a professional organization, representing over 13,500 teachers employed in PreK-12 schools across the province.

The Federation strives to be a strong collective professional voice for Saskatchewan teachers and quality public education for the benefit of all students and society. We offer a wide variety of programs, services and resources that support teachers' professional learning, economic and personal well-being, and the diverse issues affecting student and teacher success.

We continue to be dedicated to members across the province and work hard to meet our organizational priorities every year. We are here to serve our members and work to provide them service and support.

Pandemic Response

The Federation continued to shift priorities and adapt to the ever-changing landscape due to COVID-19. Our top priority always is to ensure service for our members was maintained and that our organization was advocating at all education sector tables, while keeping the health and safety of staff top of mind. We continued to represent members' interests and teacher voice at the Education Sector Response Planning Team. The RPT began meeting in March 2020 and continued meeting regularly until July 2021, when the provincial health orders were suspended. The RPT proved to be a valuable addition to navigating the pandemic and its impacts on the education sector. This forum supported expedient and effective implementation of COVID-19 prevention measures throughout Saskatchewan's education sector. The Federation will continue to advocate for reinstatement of the RPT as it served as a crucial component in ensuring collaboration and collegiality during a time of crisis that benefitted all students and staff.

The Federation provided guidance and advice to members as we all worked to navigate ever-changing public health orders and directives. We continue to work with education sector partners to advocate for the health and safety of members, students and communities.

Digital Future

In response to the pandemic, the Federation moved quickly to adjust member services to meet emerging needs. Typical in-person events and sessions quickly adapted to a virtual environment, working to continue fostering connection and building relationships. STF Professional Learning offers a variety of workshops and seminars that are critical to the personal and professional growth of members. STFPL also adapted quickly to ensure these offerings are at the fingertips of members, including responding quickly with offering members courses on how to conduct online learning for their students.

Annual Meeting of Council was also held virtually for the first time ever. The Federation adapted with technology that enabled councillors to actively participate and engage to ensure work was able to be completed. Although no virtual meeting will ever replace face-to-face interactions with colleagues, virtual Annual Meeting of Council was a success in ensuring necessary governance was completed and created an opportunity for councillors to connect.

Work also continued to update a number of maturing business systems and technologies to better serve our members. These systems included the implementation of an Enterprise Resource Planning system and an upgrade to the Members' Health Plan system. These modernizations are important to ensure effective and efficient delivery of service to members. We continue to intensify our Information Technology securities to address and be prepared for growing global cybersecurity threats.

Advocacy

We have continually advocated for the teacher voice to be heard during this pandemic. The Federation has worked to become the go-to source for media on anything education related. The Federation was mentioned in the media over 400 times throughout this fiscal year. These mentions include interviews with STF President Patrick Maze, STF media releases, and relying on the Federation for insight into and about the education sector. While advocacy takes many forms, this is one of the most visible methods. Being present in the media helps build public support for teachers and the profession, while bringing credibility and attention to our concerns.

These are just a few highlights from the year; working together, with members, to provide a strong collective voice for Saskatchewan teachers and public education.

The following annual reports and audited financial statements refer to the fiscal year from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Bobbi Taillefer
Executive Director