



ABOUT COUNCIL

Although the composition of Council has varied throughout the history of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, the goal has always been to make it as representative of members as possible. The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006 authorizes the Federation to create local associations, and STF Bylaw 2 (Council) establishes the composition of Council and the election of councillors by the members of those local associations.

COMPOSITION

STF Bylaw 2 (Council) Section 2.1 outlines the composition of Council.

- 2.1.1 The Council shall consist of members of the Executive and those councillors elected by local associations in the numbers enumerated in Section 2.3.
- 2.1.2 Only members in good standing of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and of the local association they represent are eligible to be elected as councillors.
- 2.1.3 If a duly elected councillor is unable to attend a meeting of the Council, the local association may appoint a substitute for the absent councillor for the entirety of the meeting of Council in accordance with its local constitution and shall notify the Executive Director of the substitution prior to the opening day of the meeting of Council.
- 2.1.4 A member of the Council who represents a local association and ceases to belong to that association shall cease to be a member of the Council and the local association may elect a successor for the unexpired term in accordance with its local constitution.
- 2.1.5 Vacancies occurring in the Council by reason of the death, resignation or departure from the province of a councillor may be filled by the local association in accordance with its local constitution.
- 2.1.6 The term of office of a councillor shall commence July 1 and the length shall be determined by the local association through its local constitution.

REPRESENTATION

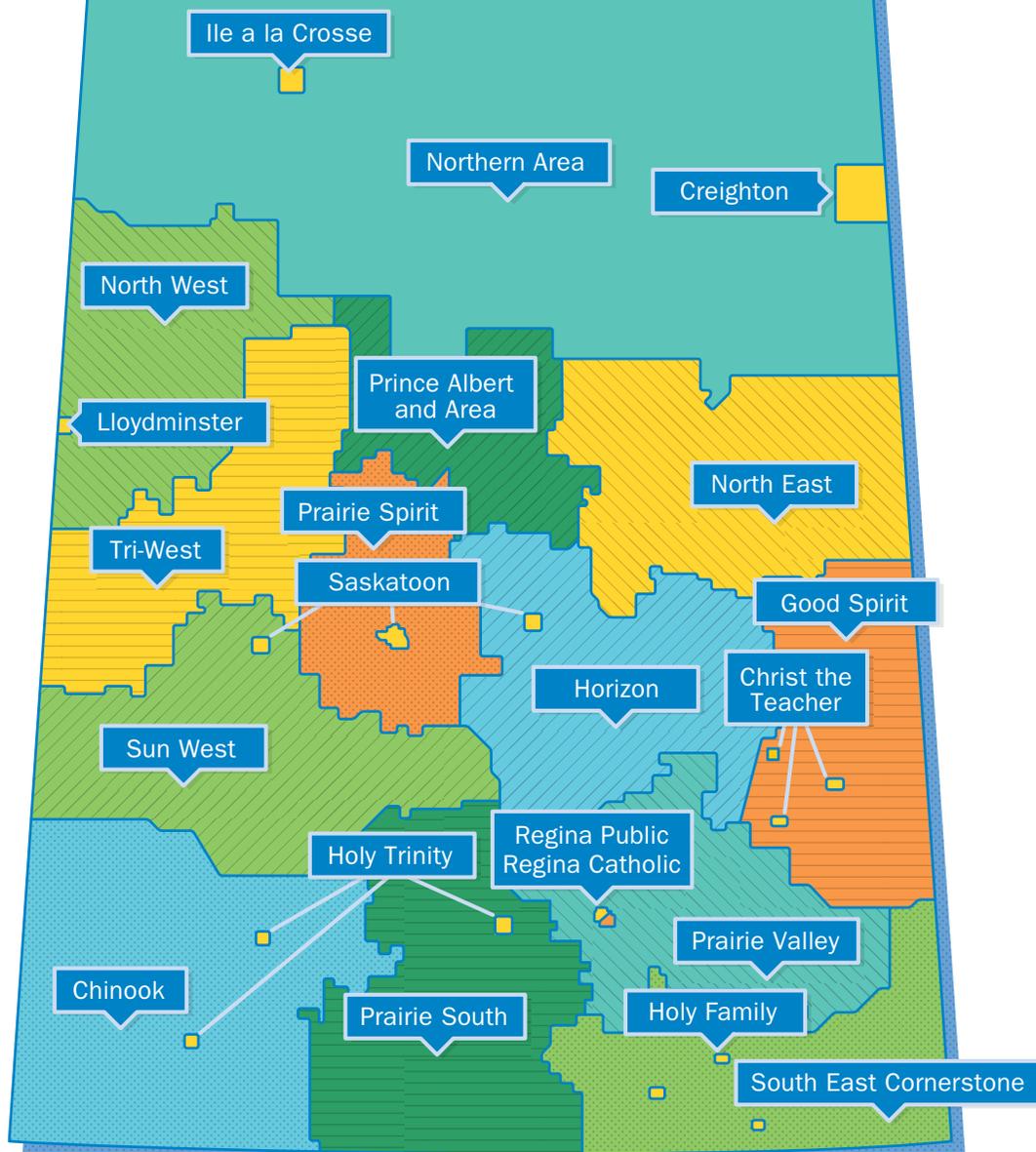
STF Bylaw 2 (Council) Section 2.3 establishes the representation of Council.

- 2.3.1 Each local association shall elect councillors based on the number of members within the local association, as at September 30 for terms to commence July 1 of the following year.
 - 2.3.1.1 The formula will apply as follows:
 - Fewer than 130 members, two councillors plus one additional councillor for each 65 members, or fraction thereof, in excess of 129 members.
 - Part-time teachers shall be counted as full-time teachers but substitute teachers shall not be counted.
 - Should a councillor from a local association be elected to the Executive, the local association shall elect a councillor to fill the resulting vacancy.
- 2.3.2 The student bodies in the college of education, University of Saskatchewan and the faculty of education, University of Regina and the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan shall be deemed local associations for the purpose of representation at Council under *The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006*.
 - For the local association at each of the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina there shall be one councillor for every 300 members or fraction thereof.
 - For the local association representing the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan there shall be eight councillors.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

There are 26 local associations recognized in STF Bylaw 4 (Local Associations). The majority of local associations (23) are based on geographic regions that parallel Saskatchewan's school divisions. L'Association locale des enseignantes et enseignants fransaskois (ALEF) is the local association for teachers in the Conseil des écoles fransaskoises (CEF). CEF operates 15 schools across Saskatchewan, in communities including Bellegarde, Bellevue, Gravelbourg (2), Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Ponteix, Prince Albert, Regina (3), Saskatoon (2), Vonda and Zenon Park.

Three additional local associations are recognized, including the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, the student bodies in the college of education at the University of Saskatchewan and the faculty of education, University of Regina, so that they can elect representatives to Council who will bring forward their distinctive perspectives and experiences for consideration.



COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The core responsibilities of Council are outlined in Sections 9 and 14 of *The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006*.

Responsibilities of council

- 9(1) The council shall:
- (a) adopt policies for the guidance of the federation;
 - (b) approve the establishment of any plan or pension plan by the federation;
 - (c) approve the premiums and contributions, recommended by the executive, to be paid by participants for each plan and the rate of contribution to be paid by pension plan participants to the pension plan;
 - (d) elect members of the executive in accordance with the bylaws;
 - (e) subject to the bylaws, elect from their number a president and vice-president for the federation as members of the executive;
 - (f) approve an annual budget for the federation;
 - (g) determine the location of the head office in Saskatchewan;
 - (h) set the fiscal year of the federation;
 - (i) approve the membership fees, recommended by the executive, to be paid by members to the federation; and
 - (j) perform any other duties prescribed by this Act or the bylaws.
- (2) No financial matter shall be approved by the council unless the executive recommended its approval.

Procedures

- 14(1) The council may, by special resolution, make bylaws for any purpose set out in section 15.

COUNCILLOR ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STF Bylaw 2 (Council) further expands on the Act in its section on councillors' roles and responsibilities.

2.2 Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors

- 2.2.1 Each councillor shall represent the membership of the local association by which that councillor has been elected and shall act on behalf of the whole membership of the Federation in establishing the bylaws, policies, directions, priorities and budget of the Federation.

- 2.2.2 Each councillor shall act as an agent of the Federation in supporting the implementation of its policies and directions.
- 2.2.3 Councillors shall elect members of the Executive in accordance with STF Bylaw 3 (Executive) Section 3.5.
- 2.2.4 Each councillor shall make themselves aware of the Federation services available. Each councillor shall refer a teacher or teachers requesting assistance in their professional duties or relationships to the appropriate Federation supports.
- 2.2.5 Each councillor shall be responsible for informing themselves of the issues and decisions before Council and shall engage in respectful dialogue on matters of interest to the teaching profession.

Additional information is available on the STF website, www.stf.sk.ca, when you log in to view your Council resources. Visit the [Understanding Council and Your Role](#) section for more.

SHARING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK OF COUNCIL

When Council is in session, it may be considered to act as the collective ears, eyes and voice of all Saskatchewan teachers. Among many other things, each meeting of Council is an opportunity for communication among Federation members, and among the provincial organization, its educational partners and the public.

Councillors are encouraged to get involved in the preparations for Council, including applying to serve on the Resolutions Committee and sharing information with and seeking feedback from colleagues about the resolutions and notices of motion scheduled for debate and decision making. There are also opportunities for councillors and all members to become involved in the work of ad hoc and working committees as they engage in policy, program and service renewal at the Federation.

Upon returning home from meetings of Council, it is also important that councillors share with their colleagues the work of Council and the information from a provincial perspective gleaned during presentations, discussions, debates and decision making.

COUNCILLOR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1

BRIDGE

COLLEGIALITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

Providing information to members about Federation programs, services and resources, and the work of Council.

2

DECISION-MAKER

BYLAWS

Enacting bylaws that align with *The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006* and detail the roles, responsibilities and processes within the Federation's governance structure.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Voting to elect the President, Vice-President and members of the STF Executive and appointing STF disciplinary committee panels.

FINANCES

Monitoring and approving decisions regarding the proposed budget, annual membership fees, premiums and contributions to the benefit plans and the Contingency Fund levy.

MEETINGS

Preparing for, attending and participating in the annual and special meetings of Council and the Councillor Conference each year.

POLICIES

Adopting the formal policy statements that publicly express the beliefs of Saskatchewan teachers and guide the governance and administration of their professional organization.

3

ADVOCATE

ADVOCACY

Working with local associations and the provincial organization to communicate with colleagues and the public about pressing issues in education.



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