



# Preschool Tuition Subsidy Project

## *How We Do It*

Jean Bacon, Board Member  
Saskatoon Preschool Foundation

[www.spf.sk.ca](http://www.spf.sk.ca)



# Overview

**1. Who We Are**

**2. What We Do**

**3. How We Do It**



# 1. Who We Are

**The Saskatoon Preschool Foundation** is a non-profit organization formed in the early 90's **to support early learning for vulnerable children ages 3 and 4 in Saskatoon and**, more recently, the surrounding area (GSCSD, SPSD, PSSD).

## **Mission:**

***To advocate for and support access to preschool programs.***



# 1. Who We Are

## Vision: *We See ...*

- *All preschool children having an opportunity for a brighter future.*
- *Quality preschool programs.*
- *Increased parent participation in preschool programs.*
- *Greater support for early childhood education.*
- *Preschool programs **expanding** as needs are identified.*



# 1. Who We Are

## Guiding Principles:

- *Acting in the best interests of children*
- *Support for families*
- *Respecting the values and cultures of families*



## 2. What We Do

### Advocacy & Support

- *Promotion of the **benefits of early learning** with parents and the wider community & the **availability of the grants and subsidies***
- ***Workshops** to provide **accessible** professional development for preschool teachers*
- ***Funding** in 4 main areas*
  - *Field trip grants*
  - *Books and materials grants*
  - *Start up/Critical support grants*
  - ***Preschool tuition subsidies***



## 2. What We Do

### Preschool Tuition Subsidies

- *Provided for children in families who **cannot afford preschool tuition** and who live in areas where there are no Prekindergarten programs*
- *Requests range from approximately \$400 to over \$1500: **The maximum subsidy is \$800/child/school year.***



## 3. How We Do It

### Advocacy

- Promotion with the 3 school divisions, the Saskatoon Preschool Teachers Group, the Preschool Information Registry and Support (PIRS), ministry of education, etc.

### Fundraising

- Presentations to companies and agencies
- Grant opportunities,
- Special events (Raffle, Trivia Night)



### Tuition Subsidy Process







## 3. How We Do It



### Tuition Subsidy Process



1. We get the word out. Parents apply using the application form found on our website [www.spf.sk.ca](http://www.spf.sk.ca) .
2. Applications are reviewed by a board member and approved by a subgroup of the board (approximate 20 minutes/application).
3. The parents and preschools are notified by the board.
4. A cheque is sent to the preschool. Preschools are asked to return any amount that is unused.



## 2. What We Do

### Some Interesting Numbers (2016)

- From 2014-2016, the number of subsidies provided increased by 54% (92 to 142).
- The amount of the subsidies increased by 95% (approximately \$60,000 to \$94,000).
- An unofficial average of preschool tuition was \$100/month with a range of \$55 to \$130.
- Approximately 1/3 of the children were recent newcomers to Canada
- Subsidies were provided to 38 preschools.



## 3. How We Do It

### Who Provides Financial and In-Kind Support

- Individual donors
- Potash Corp
- Brossart Construction
- Saskatoon Golf and Country Club
- Prairie Meats
- Canlan Ice Sports (Gemini)
- Eb's Source for Adventures
- Saskatoon Downtown Progress Club, Kinsmen Clubs
- Preschool Boards
- Foundations (e.g., Maunders-McNeil, Saskatoon Community, Arnasson-Bourassa)
- Saskatoon Public School Division (office space, workshop presenters)

# THANK YOU!

## Contact Information

- Saskatoon Preschool Foundation [www.spf.sk.ca](http://www.spf.sk.ca)  
306-683-8384 or [spf@spsd.sk.ca](mailto:spf@spsd.sk.ca)
- Jean Bacon (SPF Board Member)  
306-651-7304 or [jeanbacon@sasktel.net](mailto:jeanbacon@sasktel.net)

