



SCSBA

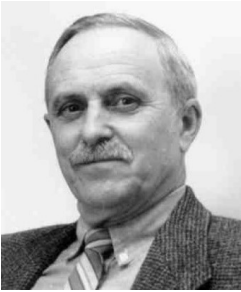


Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association

**38th Annual
Meritorious Service
Award**

*In honour of contributions
to Catholic Education
in the Province of Saskatchewan*

*October 26, 2019
North Battleford, Saskatchewan*



SCSBA Appreciation Award

Deacon Gil Bellevance

Gil has spent the entirety of his life serving the community. He was a dedicated Military member that served our country for 45 years. Gil also filled the role as the Army Cadets Saskatchewan branch president for 20 years. For his great commitment and dedication to our community, Gil has received various awards: Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal and Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation to name a few. He has been heavily involved in the Battlefords North West Historical Society, the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame and the North Saskatchewan Board of Governors of the Corps of Commissionaires.

Gil is a man of faith and has been a member and supporter of Saint André Apôtre Catholic Church for many years. He has served many years on the parish committee and the St. André Society, as well he is a long time Knights of Columbus member. Gil is an active volunteer within several parishes where he acts as a Deacon and performs lay mass at Villa Pascal and on reserves south of North Battleford. On his own time Gil also facilitates marriage and baptism preparation classes and weddings in local First Nations communities.

As a man of God, Gil shares his knowledge and wisdom of the Catholic faith with both students and teachers. At Saint Mary's, Gil meets with each class to help them prepare for their monthly masses. He provides valuable service by teaching students regarding parts of the mass and the significance of its elements. Gil is a great support to the teachers by helping assist students in reading skills providing one-on-one interaction and furthering their knowledge of Catholic practices and beliefs. He supports the families in our community by ministering in the Battlefords, and in First Nations communities, and arranging sacraments for immediate and extended family members.

The sheer number of hours Gil has spent in Saint Mary's school, Notre Dame Parish, St. André Parish, Villa Pascal, the Cadet program, various boards around the community, ministering to outlying First Nations communities, etc. – not to mention his military service to our country – show how a Catholic man can live with integrity in every aspect of his life. He lives every moment of his life in service to others, never with bravado or boastfulness. Gil shows how small acts of service, prayer, and compassion can add up to a rich life and an even richer community.



SCSBA Appreciation Award

Laurie Makichuk

Laurie has been committed to Catholic Education as a trustee for 23 years. She has served as Vice Chair and Chair of LCSD. She served as a Director on SCSBA and was also part of the Communications Committee.

Laurie's commitment to faith involves her entire life. She and her husband, Dusty, have raised three daughters in a Catholic home and they were educated in the Catholic system. Two of Laurie's girls now teach in LCSD. Laurie is now watching her two grandchildren walk the halls of schools she has nurtured for more than two decades.

In her tenure, the school division has more than doubled in size from 1,320 students to over 2,900. This growth is a credit to the leadership and vision of Trustees.

Laurie is passionate and dedicated to ensuring all students have the opportunity to learn in a Catholic School. She makes time to attend as many school events as possible. She runs curling clinics at the elementary schools and coaches curling at the high school. She is a constant presence not just cheering on our students at competition but also celebrating their successes in the Arts and Community Volunteering.

Recently, Laurie developed a bee inquiry learning project for Kindergarten, alongside our Kindergarten teachers. She welcomes more than 250 students into her yard as they learn, paint, colour, decorate cookies, and dress up in beekeeping outfits to see first hand how a hive works. In this Bee Day lie the lessons of stewardship for the environment and how a community can act together in common purpose to better our world. Laurie does not just ask how we can save the bees but also has children consider how saving the bees is part of what God asks us to do.

Laurie's lessons are not just a weekday affair. She is a central figure in the life of St. Anthony's Parish. She has served during mass and helped with children's liturgy. Most recently she has organized an annual multicultural night that celebrates the diversity in our parish. Laurie brings the children of our Parish into the hearts and minds of those who may not have children in school. In promoting this understanding, Laurie is a key connector to how everyone can be involved in raising the children of our community.

Wherever Laurie goes she promotes the importance and the gift that is Catholic Education. SCSBA holds a warm place in her heart.

A special appreciation and recognition for Twylla and Derrick who have been invaluable in their work to support and provide advice to the SCSBA with regard to the Theodore Appeal. This included work on the Catholic Education Matters campaign, the Open Catholic Education website as well as media preparation for the appeal and the ongoing social media campaign. And the work continues as we prepare our communications for the imminent decision.



SCSBA Appreciation Award

Derrick Kunz

After graduating from the University of Saskatchewan with Bachelor of Commerce, major in marketing, Derrick ventured to Southern California working for YOU! Magazine, a Catholic youth magazine. You can take the boy out of the prairie, but you can't take the prairie out of the boy, so Derrick returned to Saskatoon after a year. He brought with him his co-worker, fellow Canuck and future wife, and they both worked at the head office of Catholic Christian Outreach—the campus ministry Derrick was involved in as a student.

From there, he moved on to Canadian Blood Services, conducting a variety of local marketing and communications initiatives. Combining his magazine experience and that as a marketer and communicator, he returned to the U of S as editor of the Green & White alumni magazine and communications consultant in the alumni relations office. For the past four years he has been the lone communications consultant at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Derrick is blessed to be married to Shawna for 21 years, and together they attempt to limit the permanent psychological damage they inflict upon their four children: Sara, Jacob, Annika and Rebekah.



SCSBA Appreciation Award

Twylla West

Twylla West has a background in TV and radio. Her only indiscretions as a student were for talking too much in class, but she parlayed that into a broadcasting career which began in Medicine Hat in 2001. Still being paid to talk, she moved home to Regina in 2004. She was the weather anchor at Global Regina for six years before leaving behind the cameras and lights to pick up a headset and microphone at Harvard Broadcasting's MY 92.1.

Twylla spent several years in the radio booth before leaving, eventually getting back to her roots with the Regina Catholic School Division, when she took the role as Communications & Media Coordinator in 2016.

Twylla is an active parishioner at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Chair of the St. Gregory CSCC, and blessed to be wife to Gordon and mother to Henry and Charlie. She loves the Lord, taekwondo, tea, and Harry Potter, though not necessarily in that order. Her favourite accomplishments outside of her family include being teased by the Medicine Hat Police Service on TV, completing a full marathon, and meeting JK Rowling.



Julian Paslawski **Meritorious Service Award** **George Bolduc**

George has served as an elected trustee for the Prince Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division #6 since 1996 and has served as Board Chair for over 13 years of his 22 years of service. As past President of the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA), he was a strong advocate for Catholic education and for our Prince Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division. George passed away on May 24, 2019.

George was very proud our school division. In fact, on many occasions he would address our staff and students, and he would express that our school division was the “best in the province”. He was a very active trustee both at the local and provincial level. He advocated for quality education especially for Catholic education. George was named president of the SCSBA in 2013, serving a two-year term as President. He also sat on the Board of Directors of the SCSBA for many years.

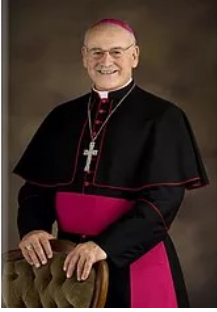
The school division would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge George for all he has done to support our students. His influence and his efforts with the Board of Education can be directly felt across our schools today.

George loved our school division and approached his work as if our school division was a part of his extended family. He ultimately knew the power of Catholic education and wanted all children and families who wanted to be a part of our school division to experience it in their daily educational lives. He knew the decisions the Board would make would ultimately impact student lives for many years to come.

George also understood that our faith permeates all that we do and he wanted our children to understand the loving grace of God. During his presidency of the SCSBA, George along with Ken Loehndorf (Executive Director of SCSBA) and the Bishops of Saskatchewan approached the Honourable Minister Morgan (Deputy Premier of Saskatchewan and Minister of Education at the time) to support the development Catholic Studies Course for high school students. Due to his efforts, the Catholic Studies Course is taught in all our Catholic high schools today.

We want to say thank you to George for all you have done to help make our school division be the best it can be—to have our students “learn for life through life through Catholic Education”.

We ask all who knew him to join us in prayer for the repose of his soul and pray for his family - wife Shelley, daughter Danielle, son Brett, daughter-in-law Mikaela and granddaughter Clara.



**Julian Paslawski
Meritorious Service Award
Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr.**

Bishop Albert was born in 1945 in Treherne, Manitoba. His parents shared and instilled their strong faith in all twelve children including the virtues of charity and love that drive his support of our division and catholic education to this day. Bishop Albert began his path to the priesthood in 1964 by joining the Missionaries in Africa, known as the White Fathers. It was the beginning of his service to the church and youth. Ordained in 1980 he continued his calling in Africa, Western Canada, and Rome.

Since he became Bishop of the Diocese of Prince Albert in 2008, Bishop Albert has worked tirelessly in the name of the church and Catholic schools, especially (at least we think so) his favourite division, Light of Christ Catholic Schools.

Bishop Albert is a stalwart supporter of both the right and need for Catholic education. His belief that Catholic education “waters the seeds of faith” has become a guidepost in his insistence that Catholic Education plays a relevant and needed part of a student’s life. By word, deed and example Bishop Albert lives in the Light of Christ and shares that light with our schools, staff and students. He lives that faith not because he is a Bishop but because Catholic education is foremost in his heart, mind and soul. Therefore, we believe Bishop Thévenot is most deserving of the Julian Paslawski Award.