



2020 - 2021 - 2022

**Julian Paslawski Meritorious
Service/Appreciation
Awards Ceremony
&
Banquet**

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

*November 13, 2022
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Regina, Saskatchewan*

Awards Ceremony & Banquet

Master of Ceremonies:
Bruno Tuchscherer, SCSBA Vice President

Awards Ceremony
3:00 p.m.
Liturgy

Long Service Awards
9 years & 18 years

Appreciation Awards
2020:
Miles Meyers
Suzanne Stubbs
2021:
Maurice Chalifour
2022:
Deacon Lamont Dyck
Ramona Stiller

Julian Paslawski Meritorious Service Award
2020:
Alice Risling (posthumously)
Dick Batten, QC
2021:
Delmer Wagner
2022:
Jim Carriere (posthumously)
Gerald Beres

Banquet

5:30 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Grace Before Meal
Dinner

Introductions and Greetings

- ♦ **Most Reverend Donald Bolen**, Archbishop
Archdiocese of Regina
- ♦ **Honourable Dustin Duncan**, Minister of Education
Government of Saskatchewan
- ♦ **Paula Scott**, Past President
Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association
- ♦ **Harry Salm**, President
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association
- ♦ **Dr. Shawn Davidson**, President
Saskatchewan School Boards Association



SCSBA 2020 Appreciation Award Miles Meyers

If there is one thing that life has taught me, it is that God has a sense of humour. Case in point, after convocating from the University of Regina with a B. Ed (and having been named the top graduate from the Faculty of Education), I thought that an illustrious career in education awaited me. Instead, I spent the next four years as the Youth Ministry Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Regina. The old saying that working for the

Church doesn't pay much but the benefits are out of this world may be true. However, I wanted both salvation and a slightly higher pay cheque. Thus, I applied to teach in Regina Catholic Schools.

No teaching positions were available, so I began my teaching career at E.D. Feehan High School in Saskatoon where I spent one year as a Christian Ethics and English teacher. I spent the next 29 years working for Regina Catholic Schools. For seven years I was a Christian Ethics teacher and chaplain at both Archbishop M.C. O'Neill and Michael A. Riffel Catholic High Schools. I was very fortunate to work with wonderful staffs and students at both schools. I then became the Religion and Family Life Consultant for two years and for 20 years I was the Coordinator of Catholic Education Services.

I was fortunate to have had a very rewarding career with many highlights: earning a Masters in Religious Education from Seattle University and a Post Graduate Diploma from the University of Regina; serving on a variety of provincial and national committees including the editorial committee for the **Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ** national elementary Religion Program; inaugural winner of Regina Catholic Schools **Catholic Leadership Award**; co-writer of the Saskatchewan Catholic Bishops' documents on Ministering to Students with Same Sex Orientation and to Transgender students; teaching in the **Understanding Our Faith** and **Growing in Wisdom and Grace** faith formation programs; and directing student and staff retreats. Though this may shock some, I also count meetings among my highlights. Not all meetings, mind you, rather the meetings I had with our incredibly dedicated and faith-filled teachers and High School Chaplains.

The two greatest highlights of my life occurred during my career with Regina Catholic Schools. The first was marrying my wife, Diana and the second was the birth of our son, Alex.

Though I loved all the positions I held with Regina Catholic Schools-especially that of coordinator-I love my wife and son infinitely more.

I'd like to thank the wonderful teachers, administrators and support staff who treated me with such kindness over the years. It was both a privilege and an honour to serve you. I wish you well as you continue to serve Christ's people in our Catholic schools.



SCSBA 2020 Appreciation Award Suzanne Stubbs

In the spirit of gratitude, the Prince Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division nominated Board Chair Suzanne Stubbs for the prestigious Saskatchewan Catholic School Board Awards in 2020. A former St. Mary High School graduate in Prince Albert, Suzanne Stubbs became heavily involved in the school division and with her children's Catholic school of École Holy Cross. She was an active parent in the school community serving on fundraising committees, volunteering at school carnivals, fun days, and organizing and chaperoning school dances. Many fellow parents in her school community encouraged her to pursue trusteeship with the Catholic School Board. Suzanne was first elected in a by-election 14 years ago and has served for consecutive years. Suzanne understands the value of her faith and lives her Catholicity openly in the community. Suzanne is a shining light in her parish of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Prince Albert and her lake parish of Candle Lake. Suzanne graciously shares her gift of music each Sunday and is heavily involved in the music ministry at both parishes. She is loved by many.

As an elected trustee, Suzanne's involvement formally began with the Board of Education in 2008. Over the years, Suzanne has served on many Board committees. She has occupied the roles of Vice-Chair of the Board of Education for four years, Board Chair for five years and has served with the Board of Education for 14 years. Suzanne has strong connections to her broader committee and served as the Community Mobilization Crime Reduction/HUB Prince Albert Chair, which helps vulnerable people proactively engaging many inter-ministerial services. Suzanne often explains how vital education is to prevention to crime reduction. Suzanne works tirelessly to advocate and support our children by working to provide quality Catholic education. The entire community respects her. Everyone knows Suzanne will step up when needed!



SCSBA 2021 Appreciation Award Maurice Chalifour

Our Board of Education nominated Maurice Chalifour for the SCSBA's Appreciation Award in 2021. Maurice has been an integral part of the Prince Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division since 1969. Hired as a teacher in 1969, he worked his way to becoming principal in 1987. Retiring from teaching in 1995, Maurice remained on the teacher substitute list until 2004. Maurice co-founded the Prince Albert Catholic Education Foundation, a partnership between Catholic schools, parishes and the larger community to support our Catholic schools. The foundation strives to nurture, promote and support the vision, mission and core values of the Catholic School system. Maurice was instrumental in helping the Catholic Education Foundation raise over \$600,000 for upgrading École St. Mary High School.

In 2011, Maurice was elected as a Trustee in Subdivision No. 2. He served on many board committees, such as the Audit Committee, Discipleship Committee, Staff Appreciation and Recognition Committee, and as a liaison to the Prince Albert Catholic Education Foundation. He is passionate about our division's efforts to raise money for Toonies for Tuition, which financially supports students across Canada to access Catholic education. During his tenure on the Board of Education, Maurice was also appointed to the Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association.

As a trustee of the Prince Albert Catholic School Board, Maurice has served on many committees, such as the Audit Committee, Discipleship Committee, and Staff Appreciation and Recognition Committee, and served as a liaison to the Prince Albert Catholic Education Foundation.

Maurice's wide range of personal and professional experiences and his gracious gift of time to volunteer services offer much to the Catholic education community and his Parish community. He is a fourth-degree Knights of Columbus member and past Columbian Centre Board of Directors chairman. Maurice firmly believes that providing a quality Catholic education is of the utmost importance.



SCSBA 2022 Appreciation Award Deacon Lamont Dyck

Deacon Lamont's ordination date was June 15, 2018. He currently is the Deacon and Pastoral Assistant at St. Joseph Parish in Moose Jaw. Outside his role at St. Joseph Parish and in the Archdiocese of Regina he has provided countless hours supporting Holy Trinity Catholic School Division, during the past 16 years. Deacon Lamont shares his gifts abundantly. His love of his faith and passion for Catholic Education is contagious for anyone who has been fortunate enough to meet him.

Deacon Lamont regularly participates in our Vice-Principal Faith Meetings held four times a year in the division. This group plays a lead role back in their schools and helps develop direction for the faith formation of their schools. In this role he has led presentations on the Parts of the Mass and Lent/Advent, he has also taken the group on church tours. He also mentors our new teachers in their Faith Formation, attending quarterly meetings, presenting on the Parts of the Mass, and facilitating church tours.

Deacon Lamont is a prominent Parish representative in our schools, supporting Faith Formation for both students and staff. Activities include:

- Grade 4 Bible Blessings
- Leading Prayer at Vanier Collegiate before school
- Supporting Grade 9-12 Catholic Studies – 5 Questions with Deacon Lamont
- Presenting on Gender Diversity in the Catholic Church
- Leading School Liturgies
- Epiphany Chalking at all Moose Jaw schools and the division office
- Wreath Blessings
- Candle Blessings
- Vespers and Liturgy of the Hours with Phoenix Academy
- Leading Professional Learning at St. Agnes School on Truth and Reconciliation
- Mentoring Seminarian Danielle while developing relationships at Phoenix Academy, our alternative school, playing cards, eating, and praying.
- Creating a 3-part video series on different parts of the Church shared in schools.
- Celebrating the Phoenix Graduation Liturgy and Homily each year

Our students in the Parish are fortunate that Deacon Lamont provides all Sacramental Preparation. He is gifted in the way he interacts and connects with both staff and students. Even with his busy schedule Deacon Lamont still manages to share his passion for basketball with students by coaching at St. Agnes School for the past three years. Staff, students, and our community are very lucky to have his support and expertise.



SCSBA 2022 Appreciation Award Ramona Stiller

Ramona started her employment with the Light of Christ Catholic School Division in August of 2009. During her 13-year career at LOCCS, she served as a classroom teacher, French coordinator, religious coordinator, and project coordinator. She dedicated herself to the LOCCS division over the past 12 years and is certainly a recognized face of Catholic education in our province.

She was a leader for the Faith Development team which plans, creates and coordinates all of our Faith professional development for staff across the division. She sat on the provincial CECAS committee representing LOCCS to support Catholic education across the province. She is known across the province for her media skills and content creation in supporting Catholic education, as well as development of resources for Catholic education week each year. She engaged with local clergy members to support the teaching of the sacraments within our schools. A great advocate for Catholic education, she never shies away from an opportunity to provide support to staff members across the division. She was caring and compassionate when working with students and an excellent role model of our Catholic faith in her words and actions.

One specific example of her support for faith development across the division, is her revamping and digitization of the Faith Mentorship Program. She spent countless hours researching, combing through videos, creating challenging discussion questions, and provided opening/closing prayers for each session. Faith mentors/mentees rave about the ease and information and growth each year in their understanding of the Catholic faith through this program.

Ramona worked tirelessly to support the implementation of a Strength-based approach across our division. Created numerous testimonials and presentations for school teams to utilize showcasing the connection between Strengths and the Catholic Faith. She provides ideas and develops resources for division faith development days, in consultation with the committee. She is an instructional leader - guiding faith activities at central office staff, faith development, and sacrament meetings. She spent a great deal of time supporting the development/implementation of the LOCCSD SCC annual conference held for two years.

Ramona is an active parish member at St. Rose de Lima Parish in Cochin SK and supports our local parishes in North Battleford by attending diocesan meetings with the clergy as a LOCCS representative.

We are very grateful and appreciative of all she does for Catholic education. We thank Ramona for her years of dedicated service she provided to LOCCS and believe she is absolutely deserving of the SCSBA Appreciation Award for the huge contribution she has made to Catholic education.

SCSBA *Julian Paslawski* *Meritorious Service* *Award*

Beginning in 1982, this award was simply called the Meritorious Service Award. It honours individuals who have made a highly significant contribution to Catholic Education in the Province of Saskatchewan. In 2006, it was re-named the Julian Paslawski Meritorious Service Award to honour the outstanding service of long-time Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA) Executive Director Julian Paslawski. He began his tenure in 1987 and continued his service until his retirement in 2007. During that time, he guided the association through enormous changes to education in the Province of Saskatchewan.

He facilitated the amalgamation of Catholic divisions from more than 20 to the eight divisions we have today. Along the way he supported the formation of a number of new Catholic school divisions prior to their later amalgamation with larger divisions. He coordinated the incorporation of the Catholic Section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association into the SCSBA in 2006. His work maintaining relationships with politicians and bureaucrats was legendary. He was awarded the 1998 Meritorious Service Award and in 2008 he received the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association's highest honour, the Justice James Higgins Award, for outstanding leadership in Catholic Education in Canada.



Julian Paslawski
Meritorious 2020 Service Award
Alice Risling
(posthumously)

First elected to the Board of Education for St. Paul's Roman Catholic School Division #20 (now commonly known as Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools) in 1994, Alice's service to Catholic education spanned eight terms and totalled 26 years. Alice passed away on November 8, 2020.

Having spent her working career in health care as a nurse and administrator, Alice understood the vital connections between health care and education. Combined with this was her deep faith and ardent desire to provide children and youth with opportunities to experience and know God's love and mercy.

She served on several different board committees, including the Together in Faith and Action committee and the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Board of Directors. She worked on the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc./Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Educational Alliance and the māmawohkamātowin Partnership with Saskatoon Tribal Council, illustrating her commitment to Truth and Reconciliation within the division and beyond.

Alice represented the division on the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA), and she was honoured as a Life Member for both the SCSBA and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

As a trustee, Alice worked tirelessly over the decades to help lead Catholic education through word, deed, and presence. Alice was at every event, and she attended board and school council meetings faithfully—one would be hard pressed to find anyone who dedicated more time and energy to being present in schools and in the community. Her passion for Catholic education was evident to all. She truly loved staff and students in the division.

Alice and her husband Frank sponsored scholarships for students. Together, they raised two children: Karen (husband Mark) and Diane (husband Greg). She is survived by her children, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.



Julian Paslawski
Meritorious 2020 Service Award
Dick Batten, K.C.

Dick Batten, K.C.—a name that many in Catholic education will find familiar—has been very involved in and a foundational support for Catholic education in Saskatchewan for decades. As partner in McKercher LLP since 1981, Dick has provided legal support to the SCSBA and many of the province's Catholic school boards.

The phrase, "Let's get Dick's legal opinion on this," must have been uttered innumerable times over the decades. During his years of service to Catholic educational institutions, there was a wide variety of events and issues happening in the education sector, and beyond, that affected Catholic education in various ways. Dick was well-trusted and could always be counted on to provide wise counsel and significant guidance no matter the topic or circumstance.

His support through many situations such as amalgamations, tax legislation changes (provincial and municipal), denominational human rights issues, contractual issues, and so much more, has been greatly appreciated by all.

Most significantly has been Dick's leadership and guidance through what has become known as the Theodore case. Beginning in 2005, through to the conclusion on February 21, 2021, Dick has been a central figure in the defense of this case. From the early days of mediation between the parties through the initial trial through to the Court of Appeals and the application for leave to appeal the case to the Supreme Court of Canada, Dick generously shared his wisdom and strategic legal capacity.

His dedication and commitment to Catholic education has been exemplary. His service embodies all of the attributes the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association seeks to highlight with the Julian Paslawski Meritorious Award, and all will agree he is a most-deserving recipient.



Julian Paslawski
Meritorious 2021 Service Award
Delmer Wagner

In June of 2009, Del retired after 30 years in education— first as a teacher, then principal, senior administrator and his final role as director of education at Holy Trinity School Division. Del had some post-retirement employment as acting director of education and administrative consultant with Holy Family School Division. Del's pre- and post-retirement experience in Catholic education is almost 40 years.

While Del enjoyed his years as a senior administrator, he will tell you that his best years in education were the ones he spent in Catholic schools as a teacher and principal interacting with the students. He has authored numerous articles spanning a variety of topics in educational literature in both national and international journals. His other involvements include working with several boards of education and professional associations.

Del was also one of the pioneering members of Catholic Curriculum Online when it started in 2000. In 2002, Del was seconded by the Catholic Section of the SSBA to write professional development modules on faith permeation, which also became an online resource for Catholic teachers. That same year, the project and its founders received the Catholic Schools for Tomorrow Award in Atlantic City, presented at the Annual Conference of the National Catholic Educational Association.

Doreen, Del's wife of 45 years, has been an integral part of his spiritual life and career through her constant love and support. Both Del and Doreen enjoy the love and support of their children Genna, Trent, and Braden. The pride of Del and Doreen's life are their grandchildren: Mayte, Kai, Cade, and Ava.

Since retiring, Del has remained active with the Knights of Columbus, and has been part of many community boards including serving as a board member with Holy Trinity Catholic School Division. Del feels we are at an important crossroads in terms of reasserting our identity as a community devoted to faith-based education. Del's most recent experiences in Catholic education included a four-year term on the executive of the SCSBA. He introduced a concept to connect with past trustees and directors of education who once served on Catholic boards.

Del and Doreen felt the pull of kids and grandkids, which drew them eastward resulting in a move from Moose Jaw to Regina (where Doreen and Del started their married life). They were both fresh off the farm when they moved to Regina the first time; and now 47 years later, they find themselves returning to where they started their life together. The rest is history. They look forward to this new chapter in their lives, although Del's interest in Catholic education will likely result in him re-emerging in some capacity, whether that happens to be working with boards or parishes, as he believes both entities are essential in the work of building God's kingdom.



Julian Paslawski
Meritorious 2022 Service Award
Jim Carriere
(posthumously)

Jim was first elected as a trustee in 1997 and served on the Board of Education for St. Paul's Roman Catholic School Division #20 (now commonly known as Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools) for 25 years, including two terms as board chair (1998-2001 and 2003-2007). Jim passed away on April 4, 2022.

Jim was connected to Catholic education as a young boy attending Catholic schools and was actively engaged in high school athletics at Holy Cross High School in Saskatoon.

As a trustee, Jim helped govern through myriad changes to Catholic education in this region and in the province. The division grew substantially during his seven years as chairperson of the board. His passion for Catholic education never waned, and his focus on facilities has supported the division's work throughout his tenure. Jim's vision for Catholic education was never more evident than when it came to the decisions related to amalgamation. While he had the utmost respect for local voice and local boards, if that was no longer viable, he ardently believed it was our duty and call to find ways to keep Catholic education viable and available for families who seek it.

During his tenure and committee involvement, significant initiatives were started such as the establishment of a division charitable Foundation, establishing partnerships with First Nations and Métis governance entities, and innovative programming such as social pediatrics, to name but a few. Additionally, the Theodore court case's long journey spanned much of Jim's tenure. He was very engaged in the process and active in supporting the defense.

Beyond his work locally, Jim developed relationships with many involved in the Catholic education sector across the province. At conferences and sessions, Jim would be debating, discussing, and supporting others about the many issues of the day. Many discussions would go into the wee hours of the morning. His passion for Catholic education always burning bright. Jim was a strong supporter of the Canadian Catholic Schools Trustees' Association (CCSTA) where he valued the opportunities to learn from the experiences of the other provinces and territories.

Jim is survived by Susan, his wife of 48 years who accompanied Jim to many division and school events; children Jamie (Dwayne) Henry, Rebecca (Tony) Eppe, Michael (Candace) Carriere, and Mark (Jody) Carriere; and four grandchildren.



Julian Paslawski
Meritorious 2022 Service Award
Gerald Beres

Gerald Beres spent the last 28 years serving as a trustee for Catholic school boards, as well as volunteering and serving his community in various ways.

Gerald has been married to Rhonda for 47 happy years. Together they have four children: Gregory, Christopher, Kevin, and Heather. Gerald and his family moved to Unity in 1991 and have been there ever since. Gerald and Rhonda have 10 grandchildren and one step grandchild, ranging from ages 1 to 11 years old. Prior to retirement, Gerald worked in the Credit Union system in addition to farming for many years.

Gerald's commitment to Catholic education began in 1994 when his children were students at St. Peter's School and was elected trustee for St. Peter's School board. He was the Chairman until 1997. He was instrumental in the amalgamation with North West Catholic School Division (now known as Light of Christ Catholic School Division) in 1997. That year he was elected to the local board for St. Peter's and was chairman of this board until 2000. Since 2000, he has been on the NWCSD/Light of Christ RCSSD board representing St. Peter's School.

Catholic education and giving his own children the opportunity to receive a Catholic education has always been important to him. He believes that Catholic values instill positive influences into the lives of all children. He believes the relationship between the parish and school is very important and, as a board trustee, always helped to foster that close relationship. Being a board trustee and Catholic education advocate for many years has been an exciting journey for Gerald. He enjoyed seeing the board's work come to life and help permeate faith in the entire division, guiding each student to be the best they can be.

In addition to his many years serving our school community, he spent many years serving his parish and community through various volunteering opportunities. He spent years coaching and/or managing hockey and baseball teams in Unity, highlighted by winning a provincial title in 2001. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus (28 years). While on the Knight of Columbus, he held positions as Grand Knight, Recorder, Trustee and currently Treasurer.

Gerald's level of dedication and commitment to our school division and to Catholic education is so evident with the many years he has spent giving his time and traveling to be part of the Light of Christ Catholic School Board. He has been a great asset to our board, our school division, his parish and his community, and is most deserving of the Julian Paslawski Meritorious Award.



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