

Saskatchewan Chapter

A Year in Review - November 2019

From the Chapter President

I'm happy to report that our Chapter is doing well and is continuing to grow, with a total of 125 members. We are the 3rd largest in the Pacific Northwest Region (PNW), with the leaders being Washington and British Columbia. Thank you for your support over the years, it's because of our great membership that we are able to continue to grow.

I want to thank and congratulate to the Planning Committee for a great 3-day regional conference in Saskatoon. I heard nothing but positive reviews from the regional attendees. Cole Webber and Mike Macdonald were excellent keynotes and showed the type of leaders our next generation will have.

Our annual conference schedule was shifted to host the regional conference in 2019, we are altering things a little in 2020. Our annual conference will be held in the spring.

Thanks again for supporting the A4LE SK Chapter.
Tyler Ottenbreit, President



Governor's Report

Saskatchewan was the host of the PNW Conference, May 29-31, 2019. It was a great success. The Saskatchewan chapter pulled off a conference that rivalled larger venues in content and execution. Congratulations to all involved.

Portland hosts the next regional conference, April 23-26, 2020. The theme this year is [Heroes Within Us](#).

LearningSCAPES 2019 in Anaheim was a great international event and opportunity to learn from our peers. Remember to check out bursary opportunities to attend regional and international conferences. This is an incredible opportunity offered by your Saskatchewan Chapter.

The Saskatchewan Chapter grew by 30 members last year! The PNW Region and A4LE International have stayed fairly consistent overall with 1,018 and 5,318 respectively, as of September 2019.

Don't forget A4LE is active on social media. When posting on your favourite social media remember to tag your photos with @a4le2 and @a4le_pnw  or #a4le_pnw .

Regards,
Heather Morgan, Governor, Saskatchewan Chapter

Message from the Past President of PNW

It was my pleasure to serve on the PNW Board for the last year as the President of our Region. I have learned so much by sitting at the table with all of the amazing volunteers who give of their time, experience, talent, and energy for this organization.

As I stepped into this role, I was concerned by the thought of helping to guide our Region, and what I could possibly bring to the table. I have learned, that when you are in a room full of inspired people, inspiration comes. We have kept our momentum this year, challenging what we have done in the past, and ensuring the decisions we make are setting our Chapters up for future growth. We continue to bring our membership value, amazing experiences, and, most of all, relationships that will last a lifetime.

I am leaving this position in the capable, energetic hands of Deb France from the Oregon/ SW Washington Chapter. Already, Deb has brought a positive, thoughtful, and forward looking approach to our board, and I am honored to be continuing on the Board to support her as I step into Past President.

Thank you,
Kirstin Mahan Thompson

AGM – January 2020

This year the AGM will be hosted in two cities, simultaneously on January 23, 2020 at 11:30. This will be a teleconference/in-person meeting. Regina's meeting will be hosted by P3A and Saskatoon's will be located at Action Office. Watch your emails for more information.

Gerry McCudden Scholarship

The [Gerry McCudden Scholarship](#) is a competitive, merit-based scholarship program designed for graduating grade twelve students who desire financial support for their pursuit of post-secondary educational opportunities.

Congratulations to Zoe Stradeski and Leah Macfarlane for their successful applications! Zoe is from Miller Catholic High School and is enrolled in the University of Regina, College of Science. Leah is from Carnduff School and is enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan in the College of Music.

Saskatchewan Conference - 2020

We are pleased to announce that Weyburn will host our spring 2020 chapter conference. Stay tuned for more information.



LearningSCAPES 2019

Every year the Saskatchewan A4LE Chapter sponsors a member to attend LearningSCAPES. LearningSCAPES 2019 was hosted in Anaheim, California. This year Devin Martens was the successful applicant.

Devin Martens' Review

Friday started with school tours. The first school was Wiseburn USD and Da Vinci Schools. This is essentially 3 schools (science, communications, and design) stacked in one building.

This tour was student lead, one student from each of the schools. They discussed details about the programs, why they chose their schools, and how the learning environments played a key role in their education.



Venice High School is currently under construction and is a \$138 million modernization/upgrading project. The school is being converted from an institutional feel to a friendlier learning environment.



The Forshay Learning Centre is an urban site. The tour focused on the challenges of building on a tight urban site, removing the portables, and maximizing the site space.



Some of my favourite quotes from the sessions were: "It costs as much to build a bad building as it does to build a good building" and "The worst use of taxpayers' money is to build a poorly designed school on time and on budget." The two big takeaways I received was: it is important not to overstimulate the sensory aspects for

the age of students that will be in the designed space, and there is a movement to have social areas in schools to allow students to take accountability and control of their academic path, not to have it told to them.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend the 2019 LearningSCAPES conference. It was a great learning experience for myself and a great opportunity to meet and network with numerous professionals from the various A4LE chapters.

Heather Morgan's Review

The International LearningScapes Conference sessions focused on the students' need for more individualized learning environments to help each reach their full potential. Facilities need to be designed to develop skills more suited to a technology heavy future, while not losing sight of core values and a world view.

One of the schools that stood out for me was the Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School, in Irvine, CA. The school reinforced its core principles of community, kindness, respect, justice and global responsibility throughout every aspect of its programming and architecture. One particularly poignant installation is the Garden of Hope, memorializing those lost to the Holocaust. Clay flowers were chosen because they could be created by all ages in the student population. The Garden is a touching memorial that could inspire similar tributes here in Saskatchewan.



LearningSCAPES 2020 – SAVE THE DATE

Save the date - LearningSCAPES 2020 will be hosted in San Antonio, Texas. The dates for this event are October 28-31, 2020.



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