

## A4LE Saskatchewan Chapter

## Member Update – Fall 2023

### From the Chapter President

The students are back to school and the A4LE SK Chapter is working on programming for 2023 and 2024. We have some great fall seminars in mind, and as always, welcome your thoughts about programming and topics of interest.

At our last Chapter event, we shared active projects in Saskatchewan. This session was popular, and we couldn't get through some of the projects on our agenda, so we are considering a repeat session at our 2024 Chapter conference!

I am wearing two hats this year, as your Chapter President and Canadian representative on the Global Board. A4LE is seeing some fantastic growth, with almost 6000 members worldwide! The Global board struck committees to guide strategy and growth for the future. They are well underway and reviewing all aspects of the organization, including membership, governance, certifications, diversity and more.

LearningScapes 2023 in Chicago is well on its way to record attendance! Attending the national conference when you are able is not only a great learning experience, but it lets you connect with members across the country. For those that cannot join us in person, we will offer some highlights in the next newsletter.

As always, we appreciate your membership, support and feedback.

Heather Morgan, President, Saskatchewan Chapter, Canadian Representative International Board

### Governor's Report

At the regional board we discussed how some of the Chapters are experiencing a decline in membership, and how we could ensure that the organization is attractive to new members. We welcome your feedback, if you would like to be part of this conversation.

The Western Regional Conference for 2024 will be co-hosted by the Southwest and Pacific Northwest Chapters. It will be the first hosted event in Hawaii, so keep an eye on the updates – we expect the hotel to book up quickly!

The 20under40 event may be held in Saskatchewan for 2024. Although it was a smaller group of attendees in Calgary this year, some great sessions were provided in the new Calgary Public Library.

The A4LE administration team is working well into advance – look for LearningScapes 2024 in Portland, OR, October 15-19, and the 2025 conference will be in Phoenix AZ October 30-Nov 2.

A4LE recently introduced Quarterly Learning Training sessions. The first session is planned for September 26 over zoom. It will be a great opportunity for sharing knowledge between chapters to bring members a more complete and common experience with the organization.

With respect,  
Daniel Reeves, Governor, Saskatchewan Chapter

## Network with your peers in Chicago! A4LE LearningScapes 2023



### The Art and Science Driving the Transformation of Learning Environments

Every day, real things happen in our world that profoundly transform the experience of our students, teachers, and communities and have a direct and immediate impact on the planning, design, and construction of learning environments.

As stakeholders in the design and operation of learning spaces, we must respond to these 'real things' in the most effective ways possible, ensuring that learning environments support everyday experiences and normal day-to-day intentions, as well as more extraordinary life events.

This theme explores the tracks of Research, Response, and Resiliency through the lenses of Art and Science. It provides a framework for describing the values, attitudes, knowledge, and skills required for effective collaboration among key constituents to improve the planning, design, and construction of school facilities.

Art describes a process that is intuitive, imprecise, subjective, and reflects skills developed through practice and imagination. Science involves a process that includes research and measurement and strives to be objective. A series of school tours and workshops organized by track explores this theme.

#### Keynote Speaker

**Dr. Tyrone C. Howard**

Tyrone Howard is a professor of education in the School of Education & Information Studies at UCLA. His research addresses issues tied to race, culture, access and educational opportunity for minoritized student populations. Professor Howard is the author of several best-selling books. He is a native of Compton, California where he also served as a classroom teacher. Professor Howard is a member of the National Academy of Education and has been listed by Education Week as one of the 30 most influential educational scholars in the nation on

education practice, policy, and research. Professor Howard is currently the President-elect of the American Education Research Association, which is the nation's largest organization focused on educational research and policy.

Hope to see you in Chicago!

### PNR Regional Conference 2024 – April 9-12<sup>th</sup> - Book Early!!

The Hawaii Chapter is hosting its first ever Regional Conference, April 9-12, 2024, in Honolulu Hawaii. The venue will be the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

They are excited to co-host this event with the Southwest Region, so we expect great attendance. Keep an eye out for updates and sign up early.

### Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome our new members from Indigenous Services Canada. We have had tremendous growth in our SK membership, with 130 members, an increase of 34 members from January of this year! Thank you to all who continue to support students through membership in A4LE. A reminder that our school division members have unlimited membership! See attached PDF for more information or scan the QR code below.



### Welcome New Board Members!

We would like to welcome Ritesh Mistry and Amber Moar to the board as an ad hoc director. Thank you to **all** of our board members for their continued support and hard work for the SK Chapter!

## 20 Under 40

Our 20 Under 40 event took place at the Calgary Public Library on July 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Landon Lucyk & Jessica Gibson attended the workshop from the Saskatchewan Chapter. The workshop included a design charrette, group presentations and a series of educational facility tours. 20 under 40 is an excellent opportunity for young leaders to establish personal relationships with like-minded individuals in the industry.



## Gerry McCudden Scholarship

Congratulations to Josie Lockert from the Prairie Valley School Division. 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 for \$2,000. A big thank you to all who support A4LE throughout the year so we can continue to make this scholarship happen.

## Upcoming Events

### Saskatchewan Chapter Fall Events

The board is working on a fall seminar series for 2023. Look for more information soon!

### Saskatchewan Chapter Conference 2024

The conference will be in person and tentatively in late January 2024. Look for more information soon!

***PS. As always – we would love to see what you are doing! Remember to tag your photos with @a4le\_pnw or #a4le\_pnw.***





# DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

## IS UNLIMITED!

School Districts & Public Authorities of all sizes can join A4LE, membership is unlimited\* to every group regardless of school size. Start taking advantage of everything A4LE has to offer today with your whole faculty!

### PRICE BREAKDOWN

#### Group 1 \$260

Student population of less than 10K  
2 Primary Members  
Unlimited Associate Members

#### Group 2 \$575

Student population of 10-60K  
5 Primary Members  
Unlimited Associate Members

#### Group 3 \$1,450

Student Population greater than 60K  
10 Primary Members  
Unlimited Associate Members

#### Individual \$155

#### Student \$95

*Full time students majoring in areas related to educational facility planning or other areas deemed appropriate are eligible for individual student membership in the Association. Student membership shall be given and renewed only when accompanied by a statement from the student's academic advisor attesting to full time student status.*



**SIGN UP TO  
BE A MEMBER  
TODAY!**

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
**A4LE.ORG/MEMBERSHIP**

\*applies to all PK-12 school districts, colleges, universities, departments of education employees, educational service centers and government agency staff. "Primary Members" are eligible to vote, hold office, and receive any hard copy material from the association. Allotted Primary Members, to be named by the district, will appoint as many "Associate Members" in the district as they wish. Associate Members will be eligible to receive all access to information, documents, electronic material, discounts, certification, etc. Individual members who wish to join as individuals and not be part of a group program may join as an individual member. All memberships are for a one-year period and are based on membership anniversary date.

Association for  
**LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

# AWARDS OF GLOBAL DISTINCTION

## JOIN US!

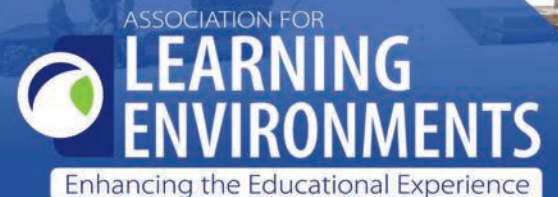
### James D. MacConnell Award



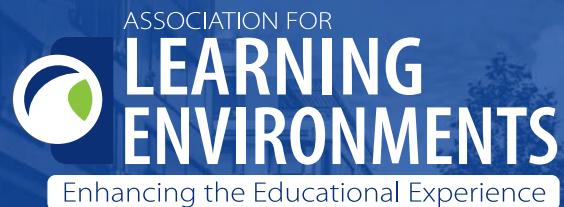
The James D. MacConnell award exemplifies the organization's belief that great schools begin with communication and collaborative planning. This prestigious award recognizes a comprehensive planning process that results in educational facilities that enhance the educational program, meet multiple goals and hold purpose and distinction within a community.

### Planning and Design Awards

These awards honor projects that stimulate systemic change in the educational system by addressing difficult questions, challenging the status quo, and raising expectations. They often embody great architectural design solutions, but their successful components and characteristics have been founded in an interactive process that engaged multiple stakeholders to create an educational environment that holds purpose and distinction within a community.



To Strengthen Learning  
For All Through  
**Better Environments**



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WE ARE **STRONGER** TOGETHER

[a4le.org](http://a4le.org)



# Who Are WE?

Our association's principal purpose is to ensure that our students have the best possible places in which to learn. Our members consist of practitioners involved in every aspect of school planning, design, equipping, operating and maintenance. We are dedicated professionals who want to share knowledge, best practices, and adhere to the highest standards and values in the art of delivering education through the intersection of learning and place.



**The Association for Learning Environments is a  
LOCAL organization with GLOBAL reach!**

## Mission

An interdisciplinary association of professionals working at the intersection of learning and place to drive the evolution of learning environments.

## Why Join?

- ▶ Our association is unique in that we have members from multiple disciplines ranging from educators to architects and equipment suppliers, all providing a networking environment in which to share ideas and build valuable partnerships.
- ▶ A communications platform within the membership that allows real problems to be solved through collaboration and connections with fellow professionals.
- ▶ Opportunities to attend CEU producing, high quality educational events both in person and using distance learning platforms.
- ▶ Maintain real world competencies through accredited programs and the premier certification of the profession, our Accredited Learning Environment Planner (ALEP).
- ▶ Present and share your knowledge with colleagues at local and international conferences and events.
- ▶ Participate in our SchoolsNEXT Student Design Competition.
- ▶ Gain access to high quality research and publications.



Visit our website  
[www.a4le.org](http://www.a4le.org)  
for information about these  
**PREMIER PROGRAMS**  
and more:

**ALEP (Accredited Learning  
Environment Planner)**

**Advanced Academy for  
Learning Spaces**

**LearningSCAPES  
Conference**

**SchoolsNEXT Student  
Design Competition**

# Josie Lockert Essay for Gerry McCudden Scholarship

## Association for Learning Environments Scholarship Application

My high school has contributed to the quality of my education in a variety of ways. Ten years ago, our school underwent renovations where there were many features include to benefit student learning. Multiple commons areas were provided, where students can work on projects as a group comfortably and lay out all their ideas on large tables to get a clear vision of any necessary improvements. The ability to discuss and work in a group setting has caused discussion and peer-based learning to flourish. Additionally, our library was converted into a multi-learning facility for students of all ages. Asides from the large selection of book recourses, there is a conference area for presentations, a wide sliding door to accommodate large groups, and multiple work sections throughout. These features aid learning in a variety of ways. It is beneficial to get out of the classroom and do work, and the set-up of our library makes this possible. The conference area allows for us to host authors and speakers, and their presentations are doubly as personal and easy to learn from as compared to being hosted in the gymnasium.

The biggest recourse I feel our school has created to benefit learning is the individualized learning compartments. There are small rooms/office spaces throughout the school that are specifically for the students. Our students can utilize these rooms independently, or with a learning support teacher, social worker, or career/guidance counsellor. All kids learn at different paces, and that is why it is extremely important that there be a space for them to do so. It is not always a reality to stand up and fidget, be in a totally silent environment or work through problems out loud in a classroom. Yet this is exactly what some kids need to learn and better their understanding of concepts. These individualized rooms allow for students to learn at their own pace, in a safe and controlled environment that encourages creativity and understanding.

If I could propose any change to our high school, it would be that the bathrooms move away from being one large space with stalls. I think five or six private individual style restrooms that include a toilet and a small garbage with communal sinks outside the restroom would aid learning in a significant way. Alike many others, my school is facing problems including vandalism, vaping and hordes of students hanging out in the bathroom during class time. If the bathrooms were individualized the amount of time kids spent outside the classroom would be greatly reduced, thus increasing the time they were in class, learning new material.

## List of My Involvements

I am a part of the Saskatchewan Youth Council, where I provide insight and recommendations on how to better schools across Saskatchewan. I am a member of the student leadership committee, and a student representative for the school community council. I took a large leadership role on a fundraiser for a help centre for victims of domestic abuse, as well as working at senior lunch's our community has put on. I am a part of a club volleyball team and I was the captain of my schools volleyball team.