

#### **STS Saskatoon Chapter**

#### **OCTOBER 2025**

The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan is an organization of retired teachers who are dedicated to promoting the welfare of all superannuated teachers, and to maintaining the ties which bind them to fellow professionals. The STS Saskatoon Chapter has over 2900 members and is the largest Chapter in the organization.

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 Territory and encompassing the land of the Cree, Dakota, Nakota, Saulteaux and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are dedicated to ensuring that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 6 are honoured and respected.



#### **OCTOBER**

OCTOBER is the month to reflect on thankfulness and being grateful. It is also the perfect time to enjoy the beauty of nature with the palette of golden yellow, red, orange and brown.

Superannuates/Retirees – its time to start planning your Fall activities. Consider attending some of our planned activities, luncheons, or one of our groups.

Please peruse the email and focus on the information that is pertinent for you.

#### Please take time to visit: The STS Website at http://www.sts-saskatoon.ca

CLICK HERE is a quick way to check out planned activities, acquire forms, become more familiar with membership benefits, and read **The Voice**.



### The **FALL** issue of The Voice is available to read CLICK HERE

Be sure to check out the **STS Saskatoon Chapter Facebook** page - another fine way to stay current and in-touch with activities and announcements. CLICK HERE

Don't forget that **OUTREACH FALL Edition** CLICK HERE is the provincial publication of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan and is available online in PDF form. It is an excellent resource for current updates and provincially planned recreation activities. You can look up previous issues of OUTREACH CLICK HERE

# Your STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive 2025-2026



Back Row: Kaye Wolfater, Darlene Danyliw, Peter Stroh, Barbara Alberton, Freda Robinson, Corinne Morton, Randy Danyliw, Shirley Henderson, Jane Isinger, Zonia Krushelniski, Pat Orchard, Gladys Somerville, Karen Cymbalisty, Janet Christ, Tom German.

Front Row: Judy Pidskalny, Irma Kittelson, Lyle Markowski, Janet Lowndes, Bonnie Semenoff, Phyllis Wilson, Linda Ashley, Stella Shulhan, Rod Holowaty.

Missing: Linda Kindrachuk, Margaret Martin, Loretta Metzger, Diane Selby, and Carol Shanner.

The **STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive** is an active group of superannuated teachers, who work on a variety of sub-committees to plan, organize and share information for the members of the STS Saskatoon Chapter.

If joining the STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive in the future is something you might be interested in, please reach out to Janet Lowndes, President, text 306-291-4495 or email janet.lowndes@gmail.com.



#### IMPORTANT: KEEP YOUR INFORMATION CURRENT!

If your address, email address or phone number changes, please contact the STS Office at 306-373-3879 or email sts@sts.sk.ca.

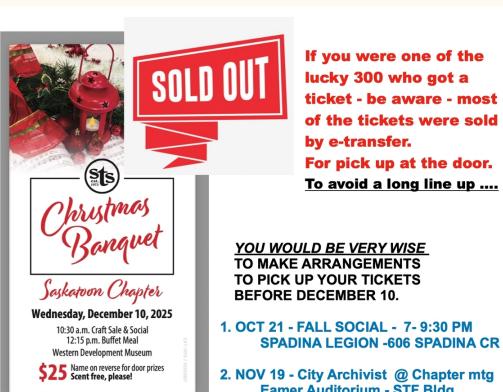
#### **INFORMATION and PLANNING**

Be sure to check out the variety of activities and events that are planned this Fall.



#### **WOW! The Christmas Banquet is SOLD OUT**

Please take note of alternative ways to PICK UP your ticket(s) before the Christmas Banquet!



2. NOV 19 - City Archivist @ Chapter mtg Eamer Auditorium - STF Bldg

1:30-3 p.m.

3. from Irma Kittelson at home .... **1825 McKercher Drive** phone first please 306-221-4513. 306-934-0881

So...the Christmas Banquet is Sold Out!

While the Christmas Banquet is Sold Out...things can change. To be on our Wait List, email your name, number of tickets (with names), and contact information to Irma @ ijkitt@sasktel.net.

Plan to come out to Nutana Legion for an opportunity to tour Saskatoon's Military Artifacts Museum.

# Saskatoon Museum of Military Artifacts (SMMA)

Mark your calendar: Tuesday, October 28

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Located in the Nutana Legion - 3021 Louise St

Donation of \$5.00

Register with Rod Holowaty:

Call: 306-381-6016 or

Email: r.holowaty@sasktel.net

#### Help for 2025 Poppy Campaign

The 2025 Poppy Campaign will begin Nov. 1 and run until Nov. 11. The money raised from the distribution of poppies is entrusted to a Trustees group.

This group is made up of

members of the three legions and the Army and Navy club. The funds are used to help Veterans and their families only.





The city of Saskatoon has grown quickly thus the poppy campaign is asking for help on the campaign. The smallest branch in Saskatoon is Branch 78 and they would appreciate any volunteers who are willing to help.

The Branch 78 Contact is Brent or Wendy Wignes at 306-384-4676 or email brenwig@sasktel.net. or contact the Saskatoon Poppy Office located at Nutana Legion - 3021 Louise Street. Call 306-477-6774 or 306-374-6303, send your contact information to poppy.legion@sasktel.net or email nutana.legion@shaw.ca

#### Woo Hoo!! Sew Much Fun season is coming!



Sew Much Fun plans to launch our season of creative "sew"cializing...

October 30 - Getting Inspired by Half Square Triangles with

**Ann Atchison** 

Fee \$5.00

You can try out some of the methods and use the half square triangles for a small quilt you will make for donation to the NICU at the Jim Pattison Hospital. Suitable quilt sizes range from 18"x18" to 24"x24" square.

**October 31- Personal Project/Sewing Day** Fee: \$5.00.

### November 13 – Christmas Angels and Gnomes, Oh My! With Loretta Metzger

#### Fee \$25.00

Loretta Metzger has kindly offered to show us how to make cute little angels and gnomes for Christmas decorations or gift bag features. All the materials needed for these crafts will be provided at the class for a small fee (we haven't worked out the price yet, but it won't be much!).

Note:

There will be room set aside for personal project work, too (\$5.00)

November 21 – Personal Projects and Sewing Day Fee: \$5.00

Time is a ticking!

You better come on out and use this day to finish up (or get started on!)

your Christmas projects!

Remember to register for all classes and sewing days by emailing **Wanda Drew at wandaldrew@gmail.com.**\_

Your Sew Much Fun Planning Team,

Linda Ashley, Mary Lou Ast, Ann Atchison, Wanda Drew, Kim Newlove, Phyllis Wilson



#### Copper Canyon Mexico

The Saskatoon STS Travel Group will meet to start planning a trip to Copper Canyon, Mexico for Mid-February – March 2026.

\*\*Note: this is for planning purposes only.

Date: Friday, October 17, 2025

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

Where McDowell Room, TCU Financial 2311 Arlington Ave

Loretta will email those who signed up at our last meeting; if you were absent and wish to come to this meeting email Loretta, metzgerl@shaw.ca.





#### MORE HOLIDAY DREAMS WITH

Uniglobe.



Carefree Travel Group

It's time to dream, discover & plan your next adventure! Join the Superannuated Teachers group for a fun afternoon hosted by Judy Ostrander & Leslie from Globus Family of Brands.

- Get inspired with:
- 🛱 Globus Tours guided vacations filled with culture & history
- 🛱 Globus Escapes off-season adventures at incredible value
- X Avalon Waterways river cruising in luxury & comfort
- 77 When: Wednesday, November 13th, 2025
- Time: 1:30 PM 3:00 PM
- Where: 844 51st St #7, Saskatoon, SK S7K 5C7

**CLICK HERE** to see the STS Saskatoon Travel Club Facebook page.

### STS CHAPTER EVENT

November 19, 2025 Location: Eamer Auditorium 1:30 pm

J. Jeffrey O'Brien, MAS Saskatoon City Archivist

Jeff O'Brien, City Archivist of Saskatoon will be our guest speaker. He will highlight historical events from various eras that took place in Saskatoon.

STS Walking Group — FALL into Step and Get In Motion

The STS Walking Group faithfully walks every Monday, all year round. Whether you are a regular or a first timer, enjoy

coming out for a morning walk. Pick your pace and modify the length of your walk if needed.

\*\*Date: Every Monday morning at 9:00 am

Where: Each week the

group will meet at a pre-arranged location.

**What:** Loretta Metzger will make contact with pertinent information. Join in when available! If you are interested in walking with the motivated group, please **contact Loretta Metzger at metzgerl@shaw.ca** for further information.

The STS Saskatoon Chapter Facebook page also includes weekly updates for the walking group.



#### **VISITATION OUTREACH**

# An ounce of giving equals a pound of caring!

If you know of anyone who is a member of the Saskatoon Chapter of the

Superannuated Teachers and is hospitalized or considered a shut-in, please contact Carol Shanner at cshanner63@shaw.ca or 306-514-8415 or Shirley Henderson at rshenderson@sasktel.net or 306-374-5388 and contact will be arranged.

We have a wonderful team of retired teachers who are willing to make contact with a phone call or a personal visit.

#### STS Diaries, Bookmarks and Directories

If you would like <u>a</u> STS Diary (mini purse-sized calendar), Bookmark or Directory please contact Janet Lowndes, by email, janet.lowndes@gmail.com or text 306-291-4495.

#### **To All The Bowlers**

Bowling Season started September 2 but join anytime. Not on a team, just call Eastview Bowl, 306-373-4333.



If you have ideas for tours, outings or activities, please contact Janet Christ, email: jlchrist@sasktel.net or call 306-934-6722.



# Don't Forget to check out TWO Health Plan Opportunities

Please review the information below on the Extended Health Plan and the Health Spending Account. Please

contact the STS Office at 306-373-3879 if you have any questions about either plan.

### STS Members -Know how to use the Extended Health Plan

The **\$500 vaccine benefit** that was authorized as of July 1, 2024 for members of the STS Extended Health Plan is **per** 



person - \$500 for you and \$500 for your spouse if you are paying premiums for a couple – and it is an annual amount, so you have \$500 each starting in January, 2025. Just a reminder that the plan will cover 80% of the vaccine cost and you will pay the other 20%. If you have any questions about the STS Extended Health Plan, please contact the STS Office at 306-373-3879.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNT (HSA)

Any expense incurred in 2025 must be claimed with receipts through the HSA by the end of 2025 - it can't be submitted after that, even though the HSA does go until December 31, 2026.

All STS Group Benefit Plan members have a Health Spending Account--\$200 if you have "Single" coverage, \$400 if you have "Couple" coverage, and \$460 if you have "Family" coverage. This amount must be utilized before December 31, 2026. These allocations may be used by anyone covered by the Plan Holder. If you have any questions about your HSA coverage or the STS Group Benefit Plans (Extended Health and/or Dental), please contact the STS Office by email sts@sts.sk.ca or by telephone 306-373-3879.

If you have health claims for 2025 be sure to claim by December 31, 2025. Read the information below to KNOW your Health Spending Account (HSA)!

#### Know your HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNT

As a result of a number of resolutions passed at the Annual General Meeting in May 2023, and given the current positive financial situation of the STS Group Benefits Plan, the Provincial Executive has authorized the implementation of a Health Spending Account (HSA) for members (Primary Plan Holders) of the Extended Health and/or Dental Plan to be utilized between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2026.

A Health Spending Account allows individuals the flexibility to apply the allocated funds as they wish for any health expenses allowed by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) incurred between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2026 which are not included in, or completely covered by, the STS Extended Health and Dental Plan. Please see the CRA website under Eligible Medical Expenses.



The allocations to the HSA are as follows: \$200 if the Primary Plan Holder has "Single" coverage \$400 if the Primary Plan Holder has "Couple" coverage \$460 if the Primary Plan Holder has "Family" coverage

These allocations may be used by anyone covered by the Plan Holder. The overall cost to the Plan, should the allocations be fully utilized, will be approximately \$2.9 million.

#### Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA)

The Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA) offers a number of interesting opportunities and activities supporting seniors. For more information, check out scoa.ca. CLICK HERE There is also a **Coming of Age Publication** that you may wish to peruse. [CLICK HERE]

#### **EMPLOYMENT and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Prairie Hospice Society - Volunteer With Us**

**Prairie Hospice Society** is a charitable, non-profit community organization working to ensure access\*\* to compassionate, community-based, end-of-life support in Saskatoon. Our goal is to enhance quality of life at the end of life, wherever people call home. We provide one-on-one companionship and non-medical support for clients and their families, raise awareness and educate the community about end-of-life care, and advocate for quality end-of-life care.

CLICK HERE for more information about Prairie Hospice.

Please contact Mary-Anne Parker for further information.

Mary-Anne Parker, Quality Coordinator, Prairie Hospice Society Inc. 302-506 25th St. E., Saskatoon, SK. S7K 4A7



# Transportation to Chapter Events a Problem?

#### We have a Possible Solution

The Saskatoon Chapter would like to re-introduce a trial program to

#### provide transportation to Daytime Chapter events.

We realize that some of our members may not drive anymore or currently have a medical condition that prohibits them from driving for a period of time. We would like to offer a taxi voucher for a return trip to a daytime Chapter Event for these members. A member is limited to one event/year and vouchers will be dispersed on a first come basis. If you are interested in receiving a voucher, please request a copy of the application form by sending an email to STS.Saskatoon@gmail.com . You may return your application to STS.Saskatoon@gmail.com or mail to J. Pidskalny, 111 Costigan Road, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3P5.

Please ensure that the form is submitted at least two weeks in advance to ensure enough time to receive the taxi voucher by mail. If you do not have email or require more information, please call Judy @ 306-955-0026.



Additional STS

Member Information

This information is included each month as we continuously add new members to

our contact list.

## Never Miss an Event! Join the Saskatoon STS Chapter by becoming an Associate Member

If you are or know a teacher who has left the teaching profession but has not met the requirements for superannuation/retirement eligibility, you are invited to become an Associate Member of the Saskatoon Chapter of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. Also, we welcome any superannuates from other STS chapters to consider becoming an associate member with the Saskatoon Chapter. An associate membership will ensure that you get up-to-date information about our many events while still maintaining contact with your 'home' chapter. For more information CLICK HERE.

#### **Important Group Benefit Reminder**

A reminder to all STS members who have recently retired or are leaving another Group Benefit Plan of the sixty-day window to join the STS Group Benefits Plan—the Extended Health Plan including travel and/or the Dental Plan--without having to provide medical evidence of good health. It is possible to join later but you will be asked to provide medical evidence. This same sixty-day window also applies to the spouse of a deceased superannuate or of a deceased active teacher who is then able to become a member of STS and apply to join the STS Group Benefit Plan without having to provide medical evidence of good health.

#### **THE Voice**

**The Voice** is a newsletter that is currently published three times in the 2025-2026 year. Please note that *The Voice* will produce two editions in 2026-2027. To submit articles for consideration or if you have suggestions for topics of interest to our general membership, please contact the editor, Darlene Danyliw: stsvoiceeditor@gmail.com or 306-249-4494.

To change reading *The Voice*\*\* to online only, or if there is a label error in your name or address, please contact Irma Kittelson at ijkitt@sasktel.net. If your address has changed or will be changing, please inform Irma as soon as possible.

#### Read THE VOICE ONLINE CLICK HERE

The **STS Provincial Newsletter,** OUTREACH, is also available to read online; contact the provincial office sts@sts.sk.ca to make a change to reading their newsletter online as well.

### Don't forget to follow us on FACEBOOK - STS SASKATOON CHAPTER

For photos, find us on Facebook or our chapter website - http://www.sts-saskatoon.ca CLICK HERE

The right side of every page of our website has a contact link for contacting the Executive - messages will be forwarded to the appropriate Executive member.

On behalf of the STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive, Bonnie Semenoff, Darlene Danyliw and Irma Kittelson are the Email Co-Chairs. If you wish to contact us with a question or clarification, our contact email address is **info@stssaskatoon.ca**.

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