

STS Saskatoon Chapter

MAY 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 2800 members and is the largest chapter in the organization.



The Merry Merry Month of May

May is a wonderful time to enjoy the beauties of spring. The earth seems to come back to life with the outburst of blossoms and buds, as the long awaited perennials make an appearance confirming that they survived

another hard winter.

It is also a great time to get outdoors, prepping the yard and garden space or watching outdoor sports. Thank goodness for the arrival of spring!

A huge thank you to everyone on the STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive who organizes events, presentations, and activities for the monthly events.

Be sure to update your 2025 calendar with any of the activities or events that may appeal to you.

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 SPRING 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 SPRING 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

The STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive 2024-2025



Back Row: Loretta Metzger, Rod Holowaty, Randy Danyliw, Diane Selby, Tom German, Margaret Martin Middle Row: Darlene Danyliw, Jane Isinger, Corinne Morton, Carol Shanner, Zonia Krushelniski, Shirley Henderson, Freda Robinson, Gladys Somerville, Pat Orchard, Janet Lowndes, Donna McTavish, Peter Stroh Front Row: Phyllis Wilson, Irma Kittelson, Kaye Wolfater, Eileen Deneiko (Deceased November 10, 2024), Lyle Markowski, Stella Shulhan,Bonnie Semenoff, Linda Ashley, Janet Christ.

Missing: Barbara Alberton, Judy Pidskalny, Lois Pyne

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 for 2025-2026 is something you would enjoy being a part of, please reach out to any member of the Executive or contact Janet Lowndes, President Elect, at 306-291-4495 or email janet.lowndes@gmail.com.

DIRECTORY PICKUP

Please see the schedule for the Pickup Location and Times that the Directory will be available.

If you placed your order for a Directory, we have one ready for you to pickup. Please take note of the three future pickup dates on May 21, June 4 and June 11.

The June 4 pickup location TBA.

Date	Time			Location	Event
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening		
April 2	9 am - noon			Eamer Auditorium	Executive Mtg
April 15			6:30 – 9:00 pm	Spadina Legion	Spring Social
May 7	9 am - noon			Eamer Auditorium	Executive Mtg
May 21		Noon – 3 pm		Eamer Auditorium	Chapter Mtg
June 4	9 <u>am -</u> noon				Executive Mtg
June 11	11 am – 1:30 pm			WDM	Spring Luncheon

KEEP US INFORMED

Keep your information current!

If your address, email address or phone number changes, please be sure to contact the STS Office at 306-373-3879 or email sts@sts.sk.ca when notifying people of the change.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION and PLANNING

STS Saskatoon Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, May 21

This is an extra special meeting to attend as we will be voting to accept some important Constitutional changes ie: combining two committees Telephoning and Visiting into Chapter Outreach, as well as renaming Social and Hospitality. We will also be electing the 2025-2026 STS Executive.

CLICK HERE to review the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies.

Directories will be available for pickup.



STS Saskatoon Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, May 21 1:30 - 3:00 pm Eamer Auditorium

Our entertainment is by the musical group The Plaiditudes, a five-piece band of happy boomers who enjoy making music and bringing joy to people of all ages.

Hear music from the 50's, 60's and 70's including pop, gospel, folk, blues, country and fiddle tunes

Honeywood Heritage Nursery Tour

Please sign up for this tour by Wednesday, May 28th.



Historical Tour of Honeywood Heritage Nursery

(Dr. A. J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc.

A former Saskatchewan teacher!

When: Friday, May 30th from 8:45 to 3:45 PM

What: A fun day in the great outdoors learning about horticultural history in Saskatchewan, socializing and enjoying fresh air. You can also purchase prairie-hardy plants such as strawberries, rhubarb and lilies as well as locally made products such as jams and jellies. As a group, we will also volunteer time to help prepare the heritage site for the summer festival.

Cost: Free: funded by the Saskatoon STS Chapter.

Donations: Monetary or Garden Tools to help with the restoration of the nursery are encouraged. Tax receipts issued for donations of \$20 or more.

To sign-up: Email Janet Christ at <u>jlchrist@sasktel.net</u> or call at 306-934-6722.

Proposed Itinerary:

8:45-8:50 AM: Pick up Circle Centre Mall Co-op Gas

9:00-9:05 AM: Pick up Lawson Heights Mall Cobb's Bakery

9:05 to 10:30 AM: Travel by school bus (Bring back memories?) to Honeywood Heritage Nursery, 130 km North of Saskatoon on the road to Blaine Lake; turn off to Parkside

10:30 to 10:45 AM: Stretch out the legs and use the facilities

10:45 to 12:15 AM: Introductions and walking Historical tour of the main grounds

12:15 to 12:45 PM: Lunch on picnic tables (Bring a packed lunch and sufficient liquids for the day)

12:45 to 2:00 PM: Volunteer time

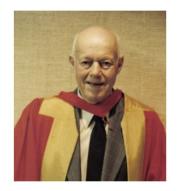
Weeding in the Memorial Garden or re-potting of plants

2:00 to 3:45 PM: Board the bus and return to Saskatoon.

**Leave car in parking lots for the day. Drop-off locations same as pickups.

Feel free to bring your spouse, significant other, family member or a friend.







Up-Coming Special Events at the Heritage Nursery:

- 1) Lilies in Bloom Festival—Third Sunday in July (11:00 AM to 4:00 PM)
- 2) A Touch of Autumn—Third Sunday in September (1:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

SPRING TEA TIME is Cancelled

Unfortunately we had to cancel this event due to not enough people able to attend.





uncheon

Saskatoon Chapter

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

Social: 11 a.m. | Meal: 12 p.m.

Western Development Museum (2610 Lorne Ave)

Tickets available from:
Judy - 306-955-0026 or email
pidskalnyj@gmail.ca
Irma - 306-934-0881 or email
ijkitt@sasktel.net

Buying Tickets...

Pay by cash, cheque or e-transfer using saskatoonsts2022@gmail.com. When using e-transfer, please include your name(s) and the name of the event in the Message box.

**Please do not send e-transfers directly to Judy's or Irma's cell number or email.

The Directories will be available for pickup at the June Luncheon.





Sew Much Fun is So Much Fun!

but it will soon be time to take a break until the Fall.



May 26 - Curvy Table Runner (Rescheduled from date in March)

Joan Payne from Hepburn





Quilts) will lead this day and help us all head home with a table runner featuring curvy lines. The ease of creating these

(tormerty seen regularly at 440

curves will surprise you! What a great chance to creat a spring table runner for your home or for a friend! The photos attached are compliments of Joan and Teresa Styles.

Note: If you were registered for the March postponed class, Wanda will email you to see if you are still able to attend this class.

Fee: \$ 25 payable at the door

May 27 - Personal Project Day

End off the month by trying to finish up a project you've been working on! Join us for the day and work on your own wee masterpiece!

Fee: \$ 5 payable at the door

Remember these few nuggets of information:

- ✓ Register for all classes and personal project days by emailing Wanda Drew at wandaldrew@gmail.com.
- ✓Our days happen in Eamer Auditorium at the STF Building on Arlington.
- ✓We start our days at 9:00 and wrap up by 4:00.
- ✓Some people pack their own lunch for the day and others gather up to go out for lunch.
- ✓On days where a class is being offered, we always reserve space for personal sewers.

And that's it for now! Hope to see you at a Sew Much Fun day down the road.

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

STS Walking Group Spring Into Step with this Friendly Group



The STS Walking Group faithfully walks every Monday. 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.

Green Thumb Opportunity



To All The Bowlers

Bowling Season has Come to an End



The lanes are now silent for the STS Bowlers but don't let that stop you from planning time to go to the lanes, play some games and cheer, "STRIKE!"

Got the Travel Itch...

STS Saskatoon Travel Club



The STS Saskatoon Travel Club has lots of great ideas for possible travel opportunities. You may wish to consider joining a Summer 2025 Bus Tour planned for July 11, 12 and 13 to Drumheller, Alberta to take in the Passion Play and a Dinner Theatre at Rosebud. There is still room for 15 more people to join this tour. Please contact Loretta Metzger at metzgerl@shaw.ca if interested or would like more information.

STS SASKATOON TRAVEL CLUB

Interested in travelling? Want to see and hear where some of our STS members have gone or where they are going? Check out the STS Saskatoon Travel Facebook Page...

Saskatoon STS Travel Club



CLICK HERE for the link to the Saskatoon STS Travel Club.

For more information and to sign up for Chapter activities, please contact: Janet Christ, email: jlchrist@sasktel.net or call 306-934-6722.

For Future Reference:

Buying a Ticket for an Event Here are your options!

Payment by cash, cheque or e-transfer using saskatoonsts2022@gmail.com are accepted.

Please do not send e-transfers directly to Judy's or Irma's cell number or email.

In the Message box, please include your name(s) and the name of the event you are purchasing tickets for.



Payment by Cheque?

If paying by cheque, make it payable to

Superannuated Teachers of SK Saskatoon Chapter

and mail it to Irma or Judy (please contact one of them for their mailing address).

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.

Be Sure to Use the Health Spending Account on a Future Claim between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2026!

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.



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.



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.

EMPLOYMENT and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA)

The Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA) continues to offer a number of interesting educational opportunities. It is an excellent organization that

supports seniors and offers a wide variety of activities. 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]

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
306.249.5554
www.prairiehospice.org



Additional STS Member Information

This information is included each month as we continuously have new members added 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 published three times in the STS 2024-2025 year.

To submit articles for consideration of inclusion or 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 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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