

SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN
ANNUAL REPORT
2022 – 2023

2022 – 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Evans	President, Saskatoon
Dean Yadlowski	Vice President, Regina
Jocelyn Underwood	Financial Officer, Regina
Jaime Mantesso	Regina
Mike Gardiner	Regina
Bruce Mckee	Regina
Kristen Cozine	Regina
Kyle Bender	Prince Albert
Joan Baylis	Emerald Park
Jeff James	Regina
Kevin Kozan	Regina
John Labatt	Regina

STAFF

Dan Sherven	Executive Director
Claire Amon/	Executive Assistant(s)
Keely Bitternose	
Sean Barschel	Regina Partnership Program Coordinator
Curtis Harman	Saskatoon Partnership Program Coordinator
David Field	Rural Partnership Program Coordinator
Heidi Fisher	Saskatoon Office and Program Coordinator
Shaun Schiller	Data Entry Specialist
Maria Alvarez	Peer Support Worker
Emily “Ice” Marshall	Peer Support Worker
Debbie Head	Contract Bookkeeper
Stella Cummings	Cleaner

Our Mission Is:

To improve the quality of life for those affected by schizophrenia, psychosis and related mental illness through education and support programs, and through pursuit of supportive public policy and research

**SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF
SASKATCHEWAN
AWARD WINNERS
2022 - 2023**

RAYS OF HOPE AWARD

Recipients:

- Kathy Bradshaw
- Brian Marin
- Rick Newell

DR. LIONEL AND MRS. MARY HASTINGS

**AWARD
Recipient:**

- Wendy Fink

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

Recipient:

- Regina Police Service

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN, INC.
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023
MEETING 10:30AM

PROPOSED AGENDA

1. *Welcome and call to order*
2. *Adaption of Agenda*
 - Motion to: Adopt Agenda***
3. *June 14, 2022. AGM Minutes*
 - Motion to: Accept minutes of June 14, 2322. AGM as circulated***
4. *Business arising out of old minutes*
5. *Call for other business to be added to the agenda*
6. *Reports*
 - 6.1 Provincial Presidents Report***
 - 6.2 Executive Director's Report***
 - Motion to accept reports 6.1 - 6.2***
 - 6.3 Financial Officer's Report***
 - Motion to accept report 6.3***
 - 6.4 Auditor's Report***
 - Motion to accept report 6.4***
 - 6.5 2023-2024 Auditor Appointment***
 - Motion to: Appoint Virtus Group auditor for 2023 – 2024 fiscal year***
 - 6.6 National Representative's Report***
 - 6.7 Partnership Program Report***
 - 6.8 Saskatoon Office Report***
 - 6.9 Saskatoon Recreation Group Report***
 - 6.10 Family Recovery Journey Report***
 - 6.11 Family Support Group Report***
 - 6.12 Your Recovery Journey with WRAP Report***
 - 6.13 Peer Support Report***
 - 6.14 Nominations Committee Report***

Motion 1: Bruce McKee, Mike Gardiner be extended for an additional two years beyond the existing four continuous two-year term.

Motion 2: Jeff James be extended for an additional two years beyond the existing three continuous two-year term.

Motion to accept reports 6.6 – 6.14

7. *Other Business*
8. *Adjournment*

Annual General Meeting
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan, Inc.
Tuesday, June 14, 2022
Meeting 10:30AM
Minutes

1. Welcome and call to order- 10:34 AM

2. Adaption of agenda

Motion to: Adopt the agenda M/S: C.Spencer/ M.Gardiner Motion carried

3. June 8, 2021, AGM minutes

Motion to: Accept minutes of June 8, 2021, AGM as circulated

M/S: K.Kozan/ K.Cozone Motion carried

4. Business arising out of old minutes

None

5. Call for other business to be added to the agenda

None

6. Reports

6.1 Provincial President's Report

6.2 Executive Director's Report

Motion to accept reports 6.1 – 6.2

M/S: J.Underwood/ G.Goodman Motion carried

6.3 Financial Officer's report

Motion to accept report 6.3

M/S: D.Yadlowski/ C.Spencer Motion carried

6.4 Auditor's Report

Motion to accept 6.4

M/S: J.Mantesso/ M.Gardiner Motion carried

6.5 2022-2023 Auditor Appointment

Motion to: Appoint Virtus Group auditor for 2022-2023 fiscal year

M/S: K.Evans/ K.Cozone Motion carried

6.6 National Representative's Report

6.7 Partnership Program Report

6.8 Family Recovery Journey Report

6.9 Saskatoon Office Report

6.10 Saskatoon Recreation Group Report

6.11 Your Recovery Journey with WRAP Report

6.12 Peer Support Report

6.13 Committees Report

Motion to accept reports 6.6 – 6.13

M/S: J.Labatt/ K.Evans Motion carried

6.14 Nominations Committee Report

Motion to: Accept report 6.14

M/S: G.Goodman/ C.Spencer Motion carried

SSS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2021- 2022

7. Articles of incorporation, review (see attached summary of changes)

Motion: that the Articles be approved as presented.

M/S: K.Kozan/ J.James Motion carried

8. 2022-2026 Strategic Plan

9. Other business

None

10. Adjournment

Motion: to Adjourn

M/S: K.Evans, J.Mantesso Motion carried



President, Kathy Evans



Executive Director, Dan Sherven



Date



Date

PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My year as the President of the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan has been an amazing experience. We have celebrated our 40th Anniversary in great style with posts to social media and celebrations throughout the year.

We have said farewell to a number of staff and hired new staff to replace them over the past year. Our staff are amazing. This year we are celebrating a staff member with 25 years working for our organization. Our current Executive Director is retiring and will stay on part-time for the next year continuing to assist with fundraising and mentorship of our new Executive Director.

I want to thank all staff for the great commitment you have shown and creative ways you are reaching out in community to fulfil our mission. We continue our outreach into rural areas via zoom and in person. You are all doing an amazing job!

A big thank you to the Government of Saskatchewan for the continued financial support for the Society. We are entering year two of a three year contract for funding going forward. We are grateful for funding received allowing us to continue with our mission of breaking down stigma around mental health in our communities.

I want to express a heartfelt thank you to the current Board of Directors. We have a very diverse group of individuals serving on our board. Each board member is a link in the chain providing strong support network for me as President. This year our board is implementing our Strategic Planning to help our Society move forward as an organization for the next few years.

In closing, I would like to thank the Society for welcoming me as President. I continue to enjoy my partnership work in being able to share my stories as a family member of persons with mental illness. The greatest reward from this opportunity is in hearing back from presentations that our audience members have appreciated learning more about mental illness. It is so exciting when an audience member notes they are considering a career in mental health.

Our fabulous employees and volunteers are the foundation of our successful work in our communities. We each play a very important role throughout Saskatchewan as an organization. Our employees and volunteers share their journeys in hopes of helping our clients and their families understand mental illness. Our role is to help others live their best lives in community. I am so honored to be a part of this work!

Kathy Evans, President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I would like to thank our staff for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

It is with great pleasure having served as the Executive Director of the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan for the past five years. Our Society has made great strides to make people more aware of Schizophrenia, psychosis, and other related mental illnesses and to reduce stigma and assist individuals in accessing timely treatment.

This year, our Partnership Program has presented to more people in more locations across Saskatchewan than any other year in the Society's existence. The Family Recovery Journey program and Family Support Group provide information, insight, and opportunities for family connections and mutual support to the far reaches of our province. The Your Recovery Journey with WRAP has supported clients virtually in record numbers. Peer support has expanded its service. Fundraising donations and grants are at an all-time high. Our Champions for Mental Health held in October was very well attended. A huge thank you goes out to our sponsors who once again provided generous support for our clients, family, services, and programs.

This will be the last time I provide AGM Executive Director's report as I will be stepping down from my position and will be working part-time this upcoming year to facilitate the SSS fundraising efforts. Sean Barschel has been appointed Executive Director beginning July 1, 2023. Sean has done an awesome job in various roles with the Society and will do a great job in his new role.

I would like to thank Sean and the entire staff for their support, insights, and compassion. I have been privileged to have the opportunity to work with such kind, generous, and committed people. This also applies to our presenters and our board.

Many thanks go out to the board members who volunteer their precious time to support our mission. Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for my time with the Society. My sincere thanks to everyone I had the opportunity to interact with and to learn from.

Thank you,

Dan Sherven
Executive Director
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan.

FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report to the members that the financial position of the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan (the Society) remains strong, as reflected in the financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2023.

As part of the Board's goals, the Board approved a deficit budget in 2022-2023 aimed at ensuring that the Society's services were able to continue without interruption despite funding limitations. The Society has a strong reserve fund, allowing programming to continue seamlessly throughout the province.

The Society was able end the year in a net positive position over budget, mainly due to the fundraising success for the Champions for Mental Health dinner. The Society's main source of revenue continues to come from grants, largely from Saskatchewan Health. In addition, fundraising efforts, and the financial support of donors in our communities we serve, were crucial to the success of the Society in the 2022-2023 year.

Volatility in the financial markets during the past fiscal year attributed to the decrease in the market value of the Society's investment portfolio. The Board along with the Executive Director and the Society's investment advisor, continue to monitor our portfolio on a regular basis to ensure it aligns with our bylaws and strategic goals. The portfolio continues to improve as the markets strengthen and the Society's reserve fund remains healthy.

I want to thank the Society's Executive Director, Dan Sherven, and his team as they continue to execute the Society's strategic goals through ongoing pursuits of funding opportunities. The success of the 2022-2023 Champions for Mental Health dinner is a clear example of their efforts. As a community-based organization, the Society performs functions that government agencies cannot and it does them on a very modest budget. It is because of prudent, forward-looking operations and a strong volunteer base that the Society remains poised to grow and to improve.

As first year Financial Officer, I am extremely honoured to be part of such a passionate and inspiring organization. I look forward to continuing to be a small part of supporting those affected by Schizophrenia and related illnesses in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Yours truly,

Jocelyn Underwood, CPA, CA

Financial Officer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Please see Appendix A.

NATIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Our CEO, Chris Summerville, Schizophrenia Society of Canada, continues to be a strong and passionate leader for the National Society.

The National Board has welcomed one new member from Ontario - Dr. Andrea Bardell. Andrea is a psychiatrist and offers a great perspective on the national board. It has been another steady financial year and the Canadian Society remains in good financial standing.

The Schizophrenia Society of Canada had previously received a contribution from Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program for a three-year youth engagement and public health awareness project promoting harm reduction and informed decision-making for diverse youth and those who may be at greater risk of the harms of cannabis. The Federal Government has committed \$978K to continue this important project as of April 2023.

For more information about the Cannabis and Mental Health project, visit: cannabisandmentalhealth.ca and cannabisandpsychosis.ca

The 5th edition of the Rays of Hope book continues to be printed. The book is a popular resource –it can be accessed via the Schizophrenia Society of Canada's website, but printed versions do exist and there should be some available at the SSS office.

Advocacy efforts continue from the national Society. Over the last few years, the main ask has been for the Federal Government to use a Health Care Parity Act that would bring mental health funding to a certain level across the health system in each Canadian province. The Government of Canada continues to make significant investments into mental health and addictions, but the Parity Act has yet to be picked up. The Canadian Society continues to work closely with Impact Public Affairs for this work and many other social media campaigns.

The national Society has also been advocating to all levels of government and CADTH regarding coverage for the new drug VRAYLAR. This medication has been found to be successful in treating schizophrenia and other mental illness, but at present it presents an extreme costs due to it not being covered under the formulary. Recently Quebec has agreed to add it, but no other province has at this time.

The Board, Chris Summerville and staff continue to work, "To improve the quality of life for those affected by schizophrenia and psychosis through education, support programs, public policy and research."

It has been rewarding to continue to hear the varied voices from across Canada. Each province has its own unique challenges, but the shared commitment to enriching the lives of people living with serious mental health challenges remains very clear. If you have an interest in joining the national SSC board, please do speak to me or Sean Barschel/Dan Sherven about how this can be done. All voices and perspectives are welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff James

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM REPORT

Partnership Program Report 2023

The Partnership Program Team has entered its 25th year, and it looks to be one filled with hope and promising changes. In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, the team gave 358 presentations to 8,185 people throughout Saskatchewan. One of our most successful years to date. The combined totals of the Partnership Program team from its inception on January 1st, 1998, to March 31st, 2023, have increased to a grand total of 6,128 presentations to 160,992 people. This past year, there were a total of 62 individuals that presented in the various roles in the Partnership Program across Saskatchewan. The teams continued to learn to present on new formats including: Webex, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, and Adobe Connect. Our ability to present online continues to be a valuable tool, helping us to keep communicating our message of hope to those who we otherwise couldn't reach.

Students continue to be one of our priority audiences as mental illness often develops around the ages of 15-25. There have been 167 presentations given to approximately 4,589 students at high schools and elementary schools over the past fiscal year. Numerous presentations were also given to university and college audiences at a wide variety of educational institutions across the province. Last year we developed and launched a modified version of our presentation for youth in Grade 6-8 that better reflects learning goals for that age group. We also modifying our accompanying survey and brochure to have more relevant information.

We continue to strengthen our connection to the province by working to increase the number of presentations we give in rural communities each year. This year a total of 26 presentations were given to a variety of locations including Weldon, Shellbrook, Swift Current, Yorkton, Montmartre, Fillmore and more. We continued to reach more Aboriginal and First Nations audiences including the Saskatoon Indian Institute of Technology, Cowesses First Nation, Carry the Kettle First nation, and the Roots of Hope Project in La Ronge.

The Partnership Program is always expanding to reach new groups we haven't in the past. This year we presented to several new audiences including: Regina Provincial Correctional Staff, Rainbow Youth Centre, Paul Dojack Youth Centre, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology, Sturdy Stone Centre, Grand Coulee, Swift Current, and Ituna. Further presentations were given at numerous drug

and alcohol rehabilitation centers, homeless shelters, in hospital psychiatric wards, mental health support groups, health fairs, and community-based organizations across Saskatchewan.

David Field is finishing his first year as the rural program coordinator and we have seen great promise in him. Sean Barschel has entered his fifth year with the organization and his third year as provincial program coordinator, with responsibilities in Regina. Curtis Harman is celebrating his 25th year with the Schizophrenia Society, and 24 years as a member of the Partnership Program Team. He started volunteering with Lois Bruce in her home back in August of 1998.

Much data and audience feedback has been collected by the Partnership Program to show how effective the program is. Out of thousands of audience members surveyed last year, 91% of people agreed or strongly agreed that the presentation increased their understanding of schizophrenia and/or other mental illnesses. 86% of audience members agreed or strongly agreed that they would be more empathetic and understanding towards someone with a mental illness. And 98% of people agreed or strongly agreed that because of this presentation they know of additional services and supports. A special thanks to Shaun Schiller our data specialist for summarizing thousands of audience surveys for the Partnership Programs.

We value all of the feedback we gather from our audience surveys, here are a few comments from the past year:

“This presentation was wonderful in showing that people with mental illness are human beings, who are struggling with a disease. They need our acceptance, reassurance, love and care. These presenters did an amazing job in showing there is life with a mental illness, it is a treatable disease. – Sask Polytechnic student

“Great speakers to give real examples of what it’s like living with mental illnesses. Shows the ups and downs and that people can live their lives with them. “Society” can’t just ask them to snap their fingers and be better.” – RCMP Cadet

“It gave a great insight into specific mental illnesses and a very realistic look at what mental illness can look like and how it can differ from person to person.” – Rural High School Teacher

The Saskatoon Partnership Program Team’s “Stigma Busters” video continues to air on Shaw TV’s. It has received 1,815 views on YouTube and continued to air on Shaw TV in 2022 in Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Moose Jaw.

Jesica Neufeld was a valued presenter with the Saskatoon Partnership team that told her story of living with schizophrenia for nearly a decade. She died from complications with the general flu in October of 2022. It was a huge shock and loss for our team. She will be missed dearly.

If you are interested in joining the Partnership Program team or if you would like to book a presentation, please contact Sean Barschel in Regina at 306-988-8445 or Sean@schizophrenia.sk.ca,

Curtis Harman in Saskatoon at 306-374-3220 or Curtis@schizophrenia.sk.ca, and David Field for rural areas at 306-584-2620 or David@schizophrenia.sk.ca.

A big thank-you goes out to each and every one of our presenters with the lived experience, our family members, and our mental health professionals and advocates; you have truly made a difference in the fight against stigma. Without you, this program would not be possible. We would also like to thank our funders and our hosts for inviting us present and allowing us to share our message of hope.

Thank you all for your unyielding support in the fight against stigma and helping Saskatchewan to better understand mental illness.

Sincerely,

Sean Barschel, Partnership Program Coordinator – Provincial

Curtis Harman, Partnership Program Coordinator – Saskatoon

David Field, Partnership Program Coordinator – Rural

SASKATOON OFFICE REPORT

The office responds to phone calls, emails and inquiries from persons living with mental illness, families and loved ones as well as community persons and organizations. We offer information, support, and assist with referrals to SHA mental health and addiction programs and community-based services as appropriate. The office is often contacted to assist those living in cities outside of Saskatoon, in rural and remote areas as well.

We have taken the opportunity to attend a variety of conferences and community events including the Step Up for Mental Health Marathon, CMHA & Metis Nation – Knowledge Sharing Event, and the Innovative Approaches to Housing & Homelessness Conference.

The Saskatoon office continues the task of updating our social media and website, which involves creating posts and interacting with the community, local and national organizations.

We have also organized a new fundraising and awareness opportunity, which involved a showing of Star Wars at Saskatoon's Broadway Theatre. This event was well received and promoted our organization to an audience who in many cases had not had previous contact.

We are grateful for grants and donations from the Morris Family and Lloyd and Duna Barber Family Foundation Fund, which allows us the opportunity to provide services to the Saskatoon and area communities.

Sincerely, Heidi Fischer
Saskatoon Office and Program Coordinator
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

SASKATOON RECREATION GROUP REPORT

The Saskatoon Recreation Group is available to adults 18 and older with lived experience of mental illness to encourage social interaction and create strong support networks. We offer a variety of recreational activities free of charge.

The coffee group meets weekly and is our most popular outing. We have had a steady flow of participants, both old and new. Comments are regularly made that folks look forward to coffee group every week and that it helps them to improve their mood. Our other regular event is bowling, which typically occurs twice a month, we have a small but dedicated group that joins for this activity. While we typically do 5 pin bowling, we have occasionally experimented with 10-pin which has been fun to try.

In addition to our typical groups, we also attend special events and do some bonus activities. Examples include attending the Western Development Museum's Festival of Trees, SCYAP Art Centre, the Cat Café, Mini golf, the Broadway Theater, and more. These additional activities are always a lot of fun and we continue to learn what will work for group members as considerations need to be made for transportation and time of day.

We thank Gloria Goodman, our previous coordinator, for her volunteer assistance with our groups! We graciously thank our funders: The Community Initiatives Fund and The Royal University Hospital Foundation Endowment Fund. Your generous assistance helps to make this important resource possible.

Sincerely, Heidi Fischer
Saskatoon Office Coordinator
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

FAMILY RECOVERY JOURNEY REPORT

Family Recovery Journey (FRJ) is a national 5 session program. It was developed to educate families and caregivers about psychosis, as well as to provide tools to help with managing the impact of psychosis on them and their loved ones.

Our Saskatoon office program was delivered during October 2022 and again in May 2023. Our Regina office program was delivered in November 2022 and again in April 2023. FRJ is also offered in Yorkton through SaskAbilities. This offering continues to be delivered online, which helps us to expand our reach.

It was a pleasure to walk alongside individuals as they learned more about psychosis in a way that provides hope and resources. Our participants continue to affirm the importance of this course in their ability to navigate the diagnosis of those they support.

We thank our funders, especially the Mahoney Institute of the Family Grant via the Saskatoon Community Foundation for allowing us to provide this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Heidi Fischer & Maria Alvarez

Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP REPORT

The family support group is an online support group for family members of those with any mental illness. Our first group was in November 2022. We hold it on the second Tuesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

It is a relaxed setting where the participants can talk about anything they would like such as challenges or successes they have had in the last month. We bring in speakers as well, for example we had a psychiatrist do a presentation one evening.

We share resources with the participants such as the Mckerracher Center in Saskatoon or the book “I am not sick I don’t need help!”.

We have repeat participants who appreciate the experiences of Heidi and Maria when they share their own recovery stories. It is nice to offer the support group online as we have people from all over the province participating.

Maria and Heidi enjoy facilitating the support group and acting as sounding boards for the participants.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Alvarez

Heidi Fisher

Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

YOUR RECOVERY JOURNEY WITH WRAP REPORT

Your Recovery Journey with WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) is a 5-session course that teaches those with mental illness how to achieve high levels of wellness. For example, we learn what our triggers and early warning signs are and make action plans for them.

The course is a combination of WRAP which was developed by Mary Ellen Copeland and Your Recovery Journey which was created by the Schizophrenia Society of Canada. From the survey participants fill out, the majority indicate positive changes after taking the course. The course is designed to be facilitated by persons who have a mental illness and are further along their recovery. As a result, Debbie and Maria are truly able to empathize with the participants.

We held a course in September 2022, January 2023, and April 2023. We are offering the course via Zoom. We have had great success as we had a group from Moose Jaw, another group from Swift Current, as well as a couple from B.C. For those without internet service, Maria does the course over the phone.

Both Maria and Debbie love facilitating the Your Recovery Journey with WRAP course. They feel they are helping people remain hopeful and providing them with tools to aid in their recovery. “Skills not just pills!”

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Alvarez

Debbie Walters

Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

PEER SUPPORT REPORT

Maria has been a peer support worker since September 2015. She also facilitates a support group once a month.

She has helped people with a variety of mental illnesses. Together the peer and Maria decide on goals the peer would like to work on. It can be one larger goal or a series of smaller goals. Because of the gamut that Maria has been through as a result of her mental illness, she is able to empathize with the struggles her peers have.

From participating in the community of practice for her peer support workers offered by the SHA as well as the podcasts through the CMHA's Hope Learning Centre, Maria continues to improve her skills as a peer support worker. She learns about different resources which she can pass along to the peers she works with.

As well as those with mental illness, Maria helps family members as well. By sharing her own story of recovery, Maria gives them hope. She also helps them figure out what steps they should take regarding their loved one. Maria is sure to tell them about the Family Recovery Journey Course as well as the Family Support Group we offer.

Maria loves being able to help the people she works with. It makes her happy that the struggle she went through can now be used for something positive.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Alvarez

Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan

PEER SUPPORT REPORT

Late in 2022, the SHA and the SSS extended into a funding agreement to provide peer support to clients referred by the SHA in Regina, community-based organization, and self-referrals. Staff was hired, extensive training was undertaken and direct service began in February 2023. Demand for service has been greater than expected and the contract has been renewed with an increased staffing component for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

We look forward to providing increased opportunities to support those living with mental illness.

Emily “Ice” Marshall.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominations and Election of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of six (6) members and a maximum of eleven (11) members, each of whom at the time of his/her election or within ten (10) days thereafter and throughout his/her term of office shall be a member of the Society.

Slate of the Board of Directors for the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan for 2022-2023:

1. Joan Baylis
2. Kyle Bender
3. Kristen Cozine
4. Kathy Evans
5. Mike Gardiner
6. Jeff James
7. Kevin Kozan
8. John Labatt
9. Jaime Mantesso
10. Bruce McKee
11. Jocelyn Underwood
12. Dean Yadlowski

Current Board members Seeking Re-election for a 2-Year Term:

- Dean Yadlowski (will be serving the first year of his third term)
- Kyle Bender (will be serving the first year of his second term)
- Jocelyn Underwood (will be serving the first year of her second term)
- Kristen Cozine (will be serving the second year of her second term)
- Joan Baylis (will be serving her second year of her first term)

Current Board members whose terms are continuing:

- Kathy Evans (will be serving the second year of her third term)
- Jaime Mantesso (will be serving the second year of her third term)

Current Board members seeking Re-election for an additional term:

- Bruce McKee (Motion to serve fifth term)
- Mike Gardiner (Motion to serve fifth term)
- Jeff James (Motion to serve fourth term)

There is 2 board members not continuing terms or seeking re-election:

- Kevin Kozan, John Labatt

(The maximum board membership shall be for three continuous two-year terms unless at an annual general meeting, a resolution approved by the membership allows the term of office or the maximum number of terms of a director or directors beyond these limits).

Nominees to the Board of Directors:

- Matthew Schmeling

Slate of the Board of Directors for the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan for 2023-2024

1. Joan Baylis
2. Kyle Bender
3. Kristen Cozine
4. Kathy Evans
5. Mike Gardiner
6. Jeff James
9. Jaime Mantesso
10. Bruce McKee
11. Matthew Schmeling
11. Jocelyn Underwood
12. Dean Yadlowski

MATTHEW SCHMELING

I was born and raised in Saskatchewan. I grew up on a family farm south of Regina. My father ran the farm. My mother was a nurse. After graduating from high school in Milestone, I obtained an engineering degree from the University of Regina. I worked as an engineer in Grande Prairie, AB for a number of years. I then attended law school in 2011 obtaining a juris doctor (law degree) from the University of Saskatchewan - College of Law. I completed my articles with the Saskatchewan law firm McDougall Gauley LLP in 2015 and recently became a partner in 2022. I live in Regina. I am married to a teacher. We have two daughters that keep us very busy!

To my knowledge, I do not have any close family members or friends that suffer from schizophrenia. That being said, as part of my legal practice, I do have experience assisting clients who have dealt with a variety of mental illness, including schizophrenia. My legal practice is primarily focused on the areas of criminal defence, professional regulation/discipline and civil litigation.

My understanding is that our firm has been a supporter of the SSS for quite some time. In my discussions with Dan, I am always impressed with how well-run the organization appears to be. It would be a pleasure to be involved with an organization, which by all accounts, appears to have a solid reputation within the community and which appears to be run in a professional manner.

As a practicing lawyer, I am generally aware of the duties owed by a board of directors to its organization. I am aware of the oversight and strategic responsibilities of a board. As a partner at a law firm, I am in tune with the challenges that can arise in the course of steering and managing a large organization. As a lawyer, it is also part of my job to advise people and organizations on difficult decisions and how to deal with difficult situations. I do believe that my practical knowledge and judgment would serve the SSS board well.