

Leaders & Learners



CASSA-ACGCS
Promoting Quality Education for Our Students

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Message from the Editor: Your Newsletter is Your Voice

A WARM WELCOME to CASSA's newest regional affiliate to the organization: ANSEA, or the Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators.

I am pleased to hear about this development for two reasons. One is that the 2017 CASSA conference will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, next July. The second is that Nova Scotia is where I've made my home for the past 15 years. I have a child attending public school in this province. I'm pleased to know the school system administrators here now have the opportunity to work with and develop direct relationships with the high-calibre educational leaders in CASSA.

Longtime readers of this *Leaders & Learners* newsletter will know that it regularly includes a feature called "Faces In The Crowd." It's a spot in the newsletter dedicated to helping the CASSA membership get to know one another a little better, one leader at a time. This isn't always an easy task when an organization includes hundreds and

hundreds of members from across the country. The original and present intent of the feature is to help bridge those great distances.

In the issues still to come, those pages will, I hope, include some faces of leaders from Nova Scotia.

Perhaps you know a leader from your own school district or regional affiliate who deserves to be in the spotlight. Maybe you'd even like to share your personal journey in public education. As your newsletter editor, I welcome all suggestions for "Faces in the Crowd" profiles. Contact information is on the back page of each issue.

Just as it states on this front page, *Leaders & Learners* is the voice of CASSA. We want to hear your voice too. Is there an issue in public education in Canada you'd like to see covered in these pages? Maybe there's a success story happening within your school division that you'd like to promote. Previous newsletters have covered everything

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OUR PURPOSE

CASSA is the Canadian organization of school system leaders that promotes and supports quality education for the success of all students.

OUR MISSION

CASSA strengthens the capacity of school system leaders and influences the directions that impact education and student learning.

Message from the Executive Director: Board of Directors Update

I CERTAINLY HOPE that you are all off to a great start to the school year and that you had a restful and enjoyable summer.

CASSA had an outstanding conference in July in Winnipeg. The keynotes were fantastic, each with their own message of how to inspire leaders to ensure our students develop a strong sense of social justice, equity, and social responsibility in our districts and divisions. We had over 30 breakout sessions presented by leaders from across the country, representing some of the promising practices from classrooms, schools and systems.

My thanks to all of the presenters, who gave so generously of their time. Finally, I would like to thank **Ken Klassen** and the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS) for their support to make sure the conference was a success.

I am delighted to report that the Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators (ANSEA) has joined CASSA! We welcome **Guy LeBlanc**, Executive

Director, and **Lisa Doucet**, President, to the CASSA board and look forward to their insights from Nova Scotia.

Every year, CASSA experiences a turnover in some board of directors positions. Leaving the board is **Roger Nippard**, who has been with CASSA for many, many years and departs having been our Past President for the last two years.

Also leaving are **John Waterhouse** (CASS), **Barb Isaak** (MASS), **Don Rempel** (LEADS), **Shawn Moynihan** (OPSOA), **Steven Colpitts** (AAESQ), **Cindy Fleet** (PEI), **Jeff Thompson** (Newfoundland and Labrador), **Gregg Ingersoll** (NBSSA) and **Shelly Peplar** (Nunavut). Joining the board are **Colleen Symyrozum-Watt** (CASS), **Mike Borgfjord** (MASS),



Ken Bain
Executive Director

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Message from the Editor: Your Newsletter is Your Voice, continued

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from the unique design of the Yukon Department of Education to the success of a small off-campus school in rural Alberta, from a coordinated community and schools response addressing youth suicides in Thunder Bay to the impact of information and communication technology on schools in Manitoba.

Past issues of the newsletter have also included tributes to retiring leaders, cross-country panel discussions, profiles on the national conference's high-quality speakers and valued sponsors, and, of course, the conference itself.

This newsletter is the
voice of CASSA. We want
to hear your voice too.

Speaking of the annual conference, you can follow updates on the 2017 national gathering in these pages and on the CASSA conference website. The website is at conference.cassa-acgs.ca. Consider scheduling extra time around the conference dates to explore the province's seacoasts, to sample the array of local foods (trust me, it goes well beyond lobster), and to take in the amazing local arts and music scene. A highlight for educators will surely be a visit to the stunning new Halifax Central Library, located a couple of blocks from the conference site at the Westin Nova Scotia.

I look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming many of you to Nova Scotia next summer.

Message from the Executive Director: Board of Directors Update, continued

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Darryl Bazylak (LEADS), **Karen Edgar** (OPSOA), **Christopher Fuzessy** and **Veronique Marin** (AAESQ), **Anne Bernard-Bourgeois** (PEI), **Bronson Collins** (Newfoundland and Labrador), **Craig Caldwell** (NBSSA) and **Bill Cooper** (Nunavut).

The last few changes I will highlight reflect the transition in the role of President from **Cindy Finn** (AAESQ) to **Anne O'Brien** (OCSOA). I want to welcome **Reg Klassen** (MASS) as President-Elect. Reg has served as a member of the board, a director at large and now President-Elect. I want to offer my profound thanks to Cindy Finn, who represented CASSA so well

across the country. Cindy moved the organization forward and is a truly dedicated professional committed to the goals and values of the association.

Lastly, I am looking forward to working alongside Anne O'Brien. Anne is the Director of Education for the Durham Catholic District School Board in Ontario. She brings 30 years of experience and a strong commitment to seeing that CASSA remains a strong voice for Canadian school system leaders.

A profile on our new President will appear in a future issue of the newsletter.

Thanks to those who have served. I look forward to the sense of renewal that can occur as new leaders emerge around the board table.

Regional Affiliates: From Saskatchewan to Newfoundland and Labrador

CASSA now has regional affiliates in nine provinces and all three territories. In future issues, we will profile more member organizations from Quebec, New Brunswick, PEI, Nunavut, Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators

ANSEA's mission is to be the independent voice of senior educational leaders in Nova Scotia, dedicated to the betterment of public education. Its membership consists of the senior management teams for eight school boards from across the province. This includes the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial, which is the only Francophone school board in the province.

Newfoundland and Labrador Association of School System Administrators



The primary purpose of NLASSA is to promote the best possible education for the students in Newfoundland and Labrador. Every child in Newfoundland and Labrador has the fundamental right to an education that leads to their fullest development.

The primary focus of schooling is the child, whose related needs are addressed particularly through curriculum, teachers and pedagogy. A learner performs best in an environment that is personally meaningful.

NLASSA has an essential and unique leadership role in education in the province. It has an advocacy role in education to be exercised regularly. Research and its effective use are vital components of administrative leadership in education. NLASSA has a responsibility to support the professional growth and enhance the professional and personal welfare of its members.

League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents of Saskatchewan

The purpose of LEADS is to promote leadership



League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents of Saskatchewan

for excellence in education in Saskatchewan and to provide services and support to its members. LEADS, working through its members and with education and human service organizations, will provide leadership to facilitate enhanced outcomes in the academic, personal, social, and spiritual development of all children and youth in Saskatchewan. The organization believes that

- members are advocates for all children and youth
- there must be a strong commitment to leadership development and the acquiring of professional knowledge
- the organization and its members shall act with integrity
- collaboration with partners in education and other human service agencies is essential
- members support each other through collegiality, mentorship and networking
- there is a need to provide support and services to its members

College of Alberta School Superintendents

CASS is the voice of system educational leaders in Alberta, providing leadership, expertise, and



Regional Affiliates: From Saskatchewan to Newfoundland and Labrador, continued

advocacy to improve, promote, and champion student success. The organization's values are

- students are first
- trustworthiness
- learnedness
- respect for research and best practices
- respect for the individual members
- spirit of collaboration
- integrity

Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association

OPSOA is the professional organization representing 300



superintendents and directors of education from the 31 English language public district school boards of Ontario. OPSOA advocates for public education as a fundamental right of all students in Ontario.

Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association

OCSOA has a mission to serve the Roman Catholic education community of Ontario through the exercise of the charisma of leadership. Its members understand leadership in the scriptures and, most particularly, as it is revealed in the words and actions of Jesus Christ. OCSOA affirms that leadership is for the service of others and that the exercise of its members' gifts, talents and time are for the building up of community.



Manitoba Association of School Superintendents

MASS is an advocate for universal high-quality



MASS
MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

public education in the province of Manitoba.

The organization provides leadership in public education by advocating in the best interests of all of its learners, by supporting its members with a wide range of services, and by providing high-quality and timely professional learning opportunities for its members and educational partners alike.

Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec

AAESQ is a professional association representing school, centre and board administrators of English schools in Quebec.

Its purpose is to

- promote excellence in education
- advance the professional status of educational administrators and secure their recognition as a vital and distinctive component of the educational system
- establish and maintain the principle that persons engaged in education administration have adequate qualifications and training
- promote a high standard of professional ethics among educational administrators
- promote growth of leadership in education institutions



Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders

Loretta Notten is the Director of Education for the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, a position to which she was appointed in September 2015.

She has spent her career in publicly funded Catholic education. She began her journey in education as an English teacher and department head of English, where she wrote 14 courses of study.

After 12 years in the classroom, Loretta transitioned into a vice principal role at Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School, a centre for self-directed learning in northeast Toronto. It was there that she developed an enhanced passion for student empowerment, voice, choice and authentic real-world learning experiences in the classroom. She was also the first female administrator in an all-boys' school and a principal in an inner-city school. With those experiences, she developed a greater passion for interdisciplinary studies, high expectations for all students and culturally relevant pedagogy.

Loretta has also been a Literacy Program Coordinator with responsibility for all Language Arts, English and Library programs from K-12, and a Superintendent of Education with Toronto Catholic for nine years. Portfolios included Student Success, Continuing and Alternative Education, eLearning, the Board Long Term Program Plan, Policy, Governance and Strategic Planning. She was also a Field Superintendent with 25 schools.

She is proud of her advocacy for professional learning communities focused on enhanced student achievement. Loretta was President of the Ontario



Loretta Notten

Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association in 2014–15, representing the province's 220 Catholic superintendents. She was extremely proud to witness the contributions of her colleagues and the network of support present across the province. She currently sits as one of two OCSOA representatives on CASSA's board of directors.

Loretta has a Master of Education from OISE (University of Toronto) in Curriculum and has enjoyed

her studies with the Learning Partnership's programs at Rotman School of Business, Executive Superintendent Program, and at the Ivey School of Business, Leadership for Directors of Education.

Waterloo Catholic District School Board represents 55 schools and 35,000 full- and part-time students attending schools in the tri-city areas of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo. Loretta is thrilled to be serving Waterloo Region's Catholic schools, where she has led the process to develop a new strategic plan that focuses on preparing students to be agents of change.

Loretta and her husband Mark have two daughters. One of her daughters is a graduate of Ryerson University's School of Image Arts (Film). Her other daughter is currently studying at the University of Waterloo–St. Jerome's. They all enjoy skiing and the ability to discover new places through travel.

Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders

Darryl Bazylak is the Superintendent of Learning Services for the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division. He has held this position since 2010, and also held it in a term capacity for 10 months in 2007 and 2008.

Darryl currently sits as the President of the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents of Saskatchewan and as one of two LEADS representatives on the CASSA Board of Directors.

His career in public Catholic education began in 1992, and saw him hold various teaching positions at high schools around Saskatoon. His leadership roles started as assistant principal at Bishop James Mahoney High School in 2000 and Joe Duquette High School in 2003. He was the principal of Oskayak High School from 2005 to 2007, and principal of St. Mary's Community School from 2008 to 2010.

Darryl received all of his post-secondary training at the University of Saskatchewan. His qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts and Science, SUNTEP (Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers Education Program), a Bachelor of Education (specializing in English, math and social studies) and a Master of Education (Indian and Northern Education Program).

His personal learning journey has also included publication in the *Canadian Journal of Native Education* and researching (with Dr. Florence Glanfield) a two-year study on the factors that contribute to the success of Aboriginal high school students in math and science, among other scholarly



Darryl Bazylak

achievements. For 15 years, Darryl has presented at numerous conferences, conventions and other professional gatherings for educators and leaders across Canada, including the North.

Darryl has been active on many other boards and committees in addition to serving with LEADS and CASSA. He currently sits on the St. Paul's Hospital Board of Directors and the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Foundation Golf

Tournament Committee. Among his many previous activities, he has been involved with the Saskatchewan Education Technology Association Board Executive, Year of the Métis Division Planning Committee, Saskatoon Tribal Council Partnership Committee, Keeping Kids in School Saskatoon Pilot, Restorative Action Program Community Planning Committee, Child Youth Services Area Team, Citywide Chem Free After Grad Committee, Police Protocol Committee, and Mamawi Atoskewin Education Equity Committee.

His deep commitment to his profession, to his community, and to Aboriginal children and youth can be seen in the extensive list of professional activities in which he has participated, going back to the mid-1990s.

Darryl enjoys golfing, fishing, hockey and baseball, and is grateful for his loving wife, Tracy, and a beautiful daughter, Alora, age 14.

The Xerox EXL Award: Nominate Someone Today

DO YOU WORK with an outstanding CASSA colleague? Do you know a leader in Canadian public education who deserves to be recognized for their leadership? Consider putting their name forward for the annual Xerox EXL Award, presented each year at the CASSA conference in July.

The EXL Award recognizes the outstanding leadership of superintendents and directors of education from across Canada. CASSA members who have exhibited exemplary leadership ability and who have enhanced school administration are eligible to receive this award.

What kind of qualities should an EXL Award nominee have? They will have brought honour to themselves, their colleagues and their profession. They have given exemplary service to their provincial, territorial or national professional association. They have made significant contributions to the field of education through their service, writings or other activities. They serve as role models and teachers to others and have at least five years of membership in CASSA.

The nomination form is available on the CASSA website. Nominations for the 2017 award should be sent to your regional affiliate or to CASSA's Executive Director Ken Bain. Nominations will be accepted between October 1 and May 16.



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