Leaders & Learners



VOL II ISSUE 73 FEBRUARY 2017

IN THIS ISSUE: PAGE 2 MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Updates from the Board of Directors and Executive.

PAGE 4 WALL OF FAME

Horizon School Division in Saskatchewan celebrates its alumni in a unique way.

PAGE 6 SPONSORED MATERIAL

Corwin offers professional learning opportunities through a series of webinars.

PAGE 7 FACES IN THE CROWD

Profiles of every superintendent in Nova Scotia, the 2017 CASSA conference host province.

WATCH FOR
DETAILS ON THE
2017 CONFERENCE
IN THE APRIL ISSUE.

Message from the President: Excellence and Equity For All

HELLO, CASSA FAMILY. It has been a busy term since our last newsletter as we move toward our summer conference in Halifax this July 5 to 7, "Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities, Healthy Future."

In keeping with this theme, CASSA's established purpose as "the Canadian organization of school system leaders that promotes and supports quality education for the success of all students" is a natural fit.

This month of February, with remarkable hallmarks such as Black History Month and National Pink Shirt Day, we are reminded of this call to action, and the necessary movement to create a welcoming culture of inclusion in every school board, in every school, where each student feels success.

This fall, the healthy schools theme echoed as I journeyed from a national Indigenous awareness conference, an international mental health and well-being event, and our monthly national educational



Anne O'Brien President

dialogue with our own Board of Directors. I look forward to our strategic planning session later this month, where the CASSA Board of Directors will gather from across the country. We will continue to deepen our commitment and plans centred around our beliefs:

- The role of school system administrators is essential in ensuring success for ALL students.
- CASSA is a learning organization that promotes individual and collective learning for its members.
- CASSA has a responsibility to participate in dialogue on educational matters of national significance.
- It is essential to communicate and collaborate with educational and community partners to ensure excellence and equity in publicly funded education across Canada.

Continued on page 3

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: Updates from the Board of Directors and Executive

ON BEHALF OF the CASSA Board of Directors, I am pleased to welcome **Kevin Kaardal**, Superintendent of Schools/CEO of the Central Okanagan School District in Kelowna, BC, as a Director-at-Large. The board is now comprised of at least one member from every province and territory. This underscores CASSA as the national voice for school system leaders across Canada! We look forward to Kevin's contributions to the national conversation.

CASSA leaders have been very busy, as we have been invited to participate in several national and international conferences and meetings. President Anne O'Brien and I joined school leader colleagues from across the globe at this year's Ontario Principals' Council Symposium on school leader well-being in Toronto. She and I also participated in the CEA Symposium on Indigenous Education in Vancouver. President-Elect Reg Klassen represented CASSA at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Education Roundtable in Calgary.

Our next commitment is to go to New Orleans for the AASA National Education Conference in support of our EXL Award recipient, **Joan Carr**. She will be honoured at this event as Canada's Superintendent of the Year. We also attend in support of our American colleagues and our shared commitment to the value of publicly funded education.



Ken Bain Executive Director

Lastly, we are preparing for our own national conference in Halifax from July 5 to 7. The theme is "Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities, Healthy Future." Keynotes and breakout sessions will focus on efforts to improve the well-being of students and communities. Watch your inbox for conference registration and an invitation to present. Currently the travel page is live at http://conference.cassa-acgcs.ca/CASSA-hotel_travel.html.

See you in Halifax!

Message from the President: Excellence and Equity For All, continued

Continued from page 1

I look forward to reporting on successes from this planning session in future newsletters. In addition, I look forward to sharing our experiences at the AASA National Conference on Education in New Orleans this March, where the theme is "Leadership: Personalized, Accountable and Visionary."

Until then, please continue to watch for our call seeking presenters for our summer conference, which will go out soon. We look forward to hosting workshops from across the country, and it would be great to see your board. Be sure to visit our website to read all our conference details, and book your hotel room early in historic downtown Halifax.





TUESDAY April 11th

WEDNESDAY

April 12th, 2017

Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel, TORONTO, ON



Wall of Fame: Horizon School Division Celebrates Its Alumni



Cori Morris was the lead for the Canadian women's curling team at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. Her team captured the silver medal. She won her first national title in 2009, as part of the Cheryl Bernard rink. Cori also won the Governor General's medal the year she graduated high school.



Jeffrey Straker is an award-winning singer-songwriter-pianist. He has toured internationally and had a top-10 hit on MuchMoreMusic. His 2012 album *Vagabond* was recorded using Glenn Gould's piano at the CBC studios in Toronto. It was met with critical acclaim, including a 4 out of 4 rating from the *Toronto Star*.



Dr. Jacqueline Ottman, originally from Fishing Lake First Nation, is an Associate Professor, Director of Indigenous Education, Coordinator of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Program at the Werklund School of Education, and Second Vice-President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Indigenous Education.

AS PART OF its efforts to create a strong brand, the Horizon School Division, based in Humboldt, Saskatchewan, has developed a Wall of Fame program.

The Wall of Fame is a way for the division to tell the stories of a select number of former Horizon graduates who have gone on to great success or have otherwise made a significant impact in their field.

Anyone can put forward a nomination. The division keeps a nomination form available on its website at www.horizonsd.ca.

Each year since 2014, the first year the program started, the Wall of Fame committee reviews all nominations. Anyone nominated who does not receive the award is automatically submitted for consideration the following year.

Each Wall of Fame inductee receives a plaque, and a photo and written profile of them is displayed at the Horizon School Division office and at the inductee's former school. Some inductees are asked to speak at the annual Horizon School Division celebration.

Since the program's inception, all of the recipients have their photos and stories highlighted on the division's website.

After just three years, the Wall of Fame inductees have proven to be quite a diverse group. They represent leaders in business (the founder of Lee Valley Tools, for example, is on the Wall), science and academia. They include extraordinarily talented artists and athletes of all ages. They represent Saskatchewan's heritage and the latest innovations in their fields.

Wall of Fame: Horizon School Division Celebrates Its Alumni, continued



The Horizon School Division Wall of Fame at the division office in Humboldt, Saskatchewan.

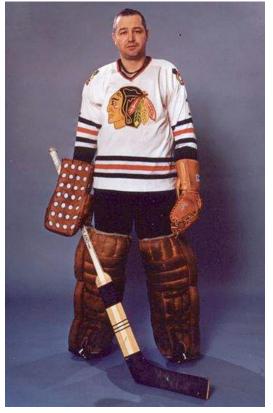
Photos for this feature courtesy of the Horizon School Division

The 2014 Wall of Fame inductees included **Brad Wildeman** (Agriculture), **Glenn Hall** (Athletics), **Doreen Wolf** (Athletics), **Leonard Lee** (Entrepreneur) and **Adeline Halvorson** (Fine Arts).

The 2015 Wall of Fame inductees included **Jeffrey Straker** (Music), **Ryley Thiessen** (Architecture), **Cori Morris** (Athletics), **Dan Haylyk** (Business), **Al Duerr** (Politics), **Dr. Jacqueline Ottman** (Academics) and **Byron Bashforth** (Film).

The 2016 Wall of Fame inductees included **Betty-Ann Heggie** (Business), **David Thauberger** (Art), **Dr. Glen Baker** (Medicine) and **Dr. James A. Dosman** (Agricultural Medicine).

The Horizon School Division was formed in 2006 when six former school divisions—Humboldt School Division, Humboldt Rural School Division, Lakeview School Division, Lanigan School Division, Sask Central School Division and Wakaw School Division—were brought together through amalgamation. The Horizon School Division's Director of Education is **Kevin Garinger**.



Glenn Hall signed with the Detroit Red Wings in 1949, and played on their farm teams in Indianapolis and Edmonton until 1955. In 1957 he was traded to the Chicago Blackhawks, where he played for 10 seasons. He finished his NHL career with the St. Louis Blues, retiring in 1971.

Glenn received the Calder Trophy for Rookie of the Year in 1956. In six seasons, Glenn led the NHL in goalie shutouts. Despite his team losing in the 1968 Stanley Cup playoffs, Glenn received the Conn Smythe Trophy, awarded to an outstanding player in post-season play, for letting in only 11 of 151 shots in the four-game series.

Glenn went on to win three Stanley Cups: once with Detroit, once with Chicago and a third time as a goaltender coach for the Calgary Flames in 1989. He was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1975.

Does your division have a program recognizing the accomplishments of former graduates? Has your division undergone any branding exercises similar to this program? If you'd like to share the story of a similar initiative in your division with leaders across the country, please get in touch with your newsletter editor or CASSA executive.

CORWIN'S Monday Afternoon Webinar Series

Your no-cost platform for superior professional learning

ANUARY

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Jan 23: JON SAPHIER on Making the Growth Mindset Come Alive in Classroom Practice

FEBRUARY

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Feb 6: JEFFREY D. WILHELM on Diving Deeper Into Nonfiction: Using Readers Rules of Notice Feb 13: RICK STIGGINS on Keys to Achieving Excellence in Local Assessment Systems

MARCH

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Mar 6: KRISTIN ANDERSON on Hattie's New #1
Effect Size: Collective Teacher Efficacy
Mar 20: FRANCIS "SKIP" FENNELL on Your
Mathematics Formative Assessment
Game Plan

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Apr 3: DIANE STAEHR FENNER
& MARGO GOTTLIEB on Strategies for
Building ELLs' Language Power
Apr 17: GRAVITY GOLDBERG & RENEE HOUSER on
What Do I Teach Readers Tomorrow?

MAY

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May 1: ZARETTA HAMMOND on Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain May 22: SIMON T. BAILEY & MARCETA F. REILLY on Releasing Leadership Brilliance JONE

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Jun 5: JAMES NOTTINGHAM on The Learning Challenge: How to Make the Most of the Learning Pit

Jun 12: KARA VANDAS on Teacher Clarity: A Catalyst to Student Clarity and Success

FREQUENCY:

An average 2 webinars per month

WHEN:

Almost always on a Monday afternoon

DURATION:

One hour

TIME:

3:30 PDT 6:30 EST

COST:

Free!

For more information, visit www.corwin.com/webinars. Can't make a webinar? No worries. Post-event, all webinars will be available on demand at no cost.



Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders in Nova Scotia

Beth MacIsaac

Beth is the Superintendent of the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board, a position she has held since 2014.

She began her career in education as a high school teacher, and later served as guidance counsellor, school registrar and department head. Beth then moved on to various coordinator responsibilities in Programs and Student Services with the board. From 1999 to 2014, she was the Director of Human Resource Services.

Beth received her Bachelor of Science and Secondary Education degree from Acadia University, her Master of Arts in Education Administration from Dalhousie University and her Master of Education (counselling) from Acadia University. She is an active volunteer in her community.

Beth is the first woman to serve as superintendent for the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board, which is based in Sydney, Cape Breton, in Nova Scotia. The board serves over 16,000 students in the counties of Cape Breton and Victoria.



Beth MacIsaac

Elwin LeRoux

Elwin is the Superintendent of the Halifax Regional School Board. He has served in this capacity since 2013.

His professional history with the board goes back to the late 1980s. Elwin previously served the HRSB as a teacher, vice-principal, principal, supervisor, coordinator of school administrators and senior staff advisor.

Elwin is originally from Glace Bay, Cape Breton. He received all of his post-secondary education in Nova Scotia, including an undergraduate degree in Science from St. Francis Xavier in Antigonish, and a Bachelor of Education and two master degrees from Saint Mary's University in Halifax. He is fluent in both English and French.

Elwin lives in Fall River with his wife Monique. They have four children, all of whom have been students within the HRSB.

The Halifax Regional School Board is the largest and most diverse school board in Atlantic Canada. It was created in 1996 through the amalgamation of three individual boards that operated schools in Halifax, Dartmouth, Bedford and Halifax County. It has 48,000 students at 136 schools, and 8,000 staff.



Elwin LeRoux

Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders in Nova Scotia, continued

Ford Rice

Ford is the Superintendent for the Strait Regional School Board. He has been in this position since 2012.

Ford began his career as an educator in Newfoundland and Labrador, where he served for 31 years. Prior to joining the Strait Regional School Board, he served as Chief Executive Officer and Director of Education at the Eastern School District in St. John's, Newfoundland, for three years. Ford has also held several senior management positions and served as a principal, a program specialist, Senior Education Officer for Human Resources and Assistant Director of Education (Programs) with various school districts throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Education and a Master of Education as well as a Diploma in School Resource Services from Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The Strait Regional School Board serves students in 21 schools in Antigonish and Guysborough counties in mainland Nova Scotia as well as Inverness and Richmond counties in Cape Breton. It was established in 1996 and is based in Port Hastings in northeastern Nova Scotia.



Ford Rice

Gary Adams

Gary is the Superintendent of the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board, a position he has held since 2015.

Gary began his career as an educator in Halifax where he taught music and directed instrumental and choral ensembles at the elementary, junior high and senior high school levels, as well as the Halifax All City Program. He also served the Halifax Regional School Board as a vice-principal and principal.

Gary was the Supervisor of two families of schools and then became the Senior Staff Advisor to the HRSB. He supervised principals, took responsibility for Continuous School Improvement with his families of schools and was instrumental in establishing Collaborative Learning Groups to improve learning outcomes for students. In his most recent role, Gary provided leadership, direction and support to the senior staff and Governing Board members of the HRSB and, in the Superintendent's absence, served as the Superintendent.

He studied music education at both Acadia University and the University of



Gary Adams

Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders in Nova Scotia, continued

Calgary, and has master degrees from both Acadia and Mount St. Vincent University in Administration and Curriculum. His leadership at the regional and provincial level has included support of curriculum development, collaborative learning communities, the advancing of assessment practices and supports to positive school climate.

Gary has continued to provide leadership in Nova Scotia's music community over the years, directing Symphonic Wind Ensembles at both Dalhousie University and Acadia University.

The Chignecto-Central Regional School Board serves over 20,000 students in central and northern Nova Scotia, and has its central office in the town of Truro.

Michel Comeau

Michel is the Superintendent for the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial. He was named to the position in the summer of 2016 and is CSAP's fifth superintendent since its formation in 1996.

Prior to serving as Superintendent, Michel was the Director of Education Services at CSAP, a position he had held since 2003. In that role, he directed initiatives that included designing and developing student curriculum, a key function of the board. CSAP was the first board in Canada to develop programs otherwise developed by a provincial or territorial department of education.

The Conseil scolaire acadien provincial is a unique board in Nova Scotia. It is the province's only French-language school board. It serves the francophone and Acadian communities across the province, as well as newcomers who understand and speak French and those who speak neither French nor English. Children with a parent or grandparent who attended a French-language school and still speak and understand French, as well as international exchange students who speak, read and write French at their grade level, are also served by the 22 CSAP schools across the province.

Roberta Kubik

Roberta is the Superintendent for the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board. She has held this position since June 2016.

Roberta's personal and professional roots are in Nova Scotia. She's originally from Glace Bay, Cape Breton, and got her start in public education with the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board over 25 years ago when she was living



Michel Comeau



Roberta Kubik

Faces in the Crowd: Profiles of Leaders in Nova Scotia, continued

in the Hants County communities of Falmouth and Sweets Corner.

Prior to returning to AVRSB last year, Roberta was the Assistant Superintendent with the Sooke School Board on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. She spent 25 years in public education in BC, serving as a teacher, vice-principal and principal.

The Annapolis Valley Regional School Board has over 40 public schools in Annapolis and Kings counties as well as the West Hants Municipal District of Hants County, all adjacent to the Bay of Fundy. The board serves nearly 13,000 students

Scott Milner

Scott is the Superintendent for the South Shore Regional School Board. He has served in this position since July 2016.

Scott previously worked for the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board in central Nova Scotia for over 28 years. He held many teaching and leadership positions within that board, including several years as a principal. Prior to joining the SSRSB, Scott served as the Director of Education for the CCRSB from 2010 to 2016.

The South Shore Regional School Board is based in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. The board was formed in 2004 after the dissolution of the Southwest Regional School



Scott Milner

Board. It serves students in Lunenburg and Queens counties, which are on the Atlantic coast side of the province south of Halifax.

Nova Scotia, the host province for the 2017 conference, has one more school board. The Tri-County Regional School Board serves 26 public schools in Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne counties in the province's southwest corner. The board was formed in 2004 when the Southwest Regional School Board was dissolved. It is currently seeking a superintendent. The Interim Superintendent is **Jim Gunn**.

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