

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Prairie Spirit Board formalizes commitment to Reconciliation

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education’s commitment to Reconciliation rooted in learning is strongly reflected in a new Board policy recently approved by the Board of Education.

The new policy – ***Indigenous Perspectives, Partnerships, and Outcomes*** – outlines the commitments of the Board, detailing that the Board will:

- Ground the work of Reconciliation in authentic learning that is informed by and with Indigenous voices and perspectives within our partners, neighbours, communities and organizations.
- Nurture and foster partnerships at all levels with First Nations and Métis neighbours, communities, and organizations.
- Direct the Director of Education to implement First Nations and Métis education within the Division, relying on the Ministry of Education document: [Inspiring Success: First Nations and Metis PreK-12 Education Policy framework](#).
- Commit to innovative and evolving methods of recruitment and ongoing retention of employees with the background, knowledge and leadership skills to help achieve these goals.

“These steps will increase understanding for all learners about the contributions, content, perspectives, and ways of knowing of First Nations and Métis peoples,” explained Bernie Howe, Board Chair. He said this new Board policy formalizes the work already undertaken by the Board and the school division to improve outcomes for Indigenous students.

“The Division is committed to working together with our Indigenous partners on the journey toward Reconciliation for the benefit of all learners and stakeholders,” said Darryl Bazylak, Director of Education. “Relationships and partnerships with Indigenous neighbours, communities and organizations allow us to learn and grow together.”

Bazylak noted that the Division’s aspirational learning goals include the following goal in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action: “Prairie Spirit Learners will possess intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect with and for Indigenous Peoples of Canada (Calls to Action 63.3).”

Policy BO-19 – Indigenous Perspectives, Partnerships, and Outcomes [PSSD Board of Education Policy Manual.pdf \(spiritsd.ca\)](#)

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Prairie Spirit School Division serves over 11,000 students in 47 schools and 28 communities surrounding the City of Saskatoon.

For more information, please contact:

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