



***Honouring our Retiring
Members***

**2008 L.E.A.D.S.
Annual Policy Conference**

**March 2, 3 & 4, 2008
Delta Bessborough Hotel
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

Thank You for Your Contributions

On behalf of the LEADS membership, I am honoured to congratulate you on your superannuation.

You have invested a significant part of yourself in the LEADS organization in your role. As a Director, Assistant Director, Superintendent, or Supervisor, you have contributed to the learning opportunities of children and youth within your respective divisions. Through your direction and excellent leadership you have inspired others to continue your initiatives so that your vision might be realized.

Although each of you has brought your own unique vision, your commitment to the LEADS organization has ensured that this vision was aligned with and supportive of your colleagues.

Your professional behaviours and skills are greatly appreciated; however, your friendship, support, and genuine concern for the profession are equally valued.

You are all very good people who have made tremendous contributions to the Pre-kindergarten to 12 sector and indeed the LEADS organization. We wish each of you peace, good health, and joy with your families. May the legacy you leave bless your hearts and your minds for many years to come. Best wishes.



Ben J. Grebinski
President of LEADS
2007/2008



Lionel Diederichs

On behalf of school business officials and the members of the Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials, I extend congratulations to LEADS Superannuates. Congratulations on your step to the next stage of your life and, more significantly, congratulations and thank you for your contribution to the youth and the people of this province through the many years of your careers.



As you will have experienced in your careers, education has become an ever changing, ever more complex and challenging enterprise. New research, new ideas, increasing expectations and limitations all impact education and those who have given by providing it to society. You have maintained your commitment through a career where the pressures and expectations became much different than those to which you originally committed.

School Business officials wish each of you good health, great happiness and a very fulfilling retirement, whatever that may mean for you.

Sincerely,

Lionel Diederichs, President

Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials



**Message from the Minister of Education
The Honourable Ken Krawetz**



On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Education, I would like to extend my appreciation and congratulations to the distinguished educational administrators, directors and superintendents who are superannuating this year.

As education professionals, you have shown a commitment not only to educational leadership, but to the education and well-being of students throughout the province. You have been a leader in providing Saskatchewan's youth with a solid foundation for success, both in education and in life, strengthening the future of our province.

As you look back on your career, you can be proud of your accomplishments. Your dedication to education, your positive influence on your profession and your contributions to your community will be remembered for years to come.

Best wishes for a fulfilling retirement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken Krawetz".

Honourable Ken Krawetz
Minister of Education



**Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Education**

Roy Challis

As you gather together at your Annual Policy Conference, this is a time to say farewell to those of you who have chosen to start a new chapter in your lives - to close one door and open another.

It has been said; "The secret to a rich life is to have more beginnings than endings." I can think of no quote more fitting at this time, for retirement is not about endings. It is about new beginnings. This is a new beginning for you. You have worked hard to arrive at this milestone in your life and now is the time to discover what this new beginning holds in store for you.

Your contribution has been through your leadership and dedication to the improvement of education in this province. The success of this province lies in its youth and their ability to move forward in the face of great change. If our students are a success, then we have been a success. They will be the testament of your hard work.

As President of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, and as a board of education member, I wish you all the best in this, your new beginning.

Roy Challis, President
Saskatchewan School Boards Association



Dianne Woloschuk

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation I would like to congratulate the members of LEADS who are superannuating this year. Your commitment and dedication to students, teachers and the communities in which you work are worthy of celebration. It is an honour and privilege to serve with leaders such as you. The teachers of Saskatchewan appreciate the opportunities they have had to work collaboratively with you to ensure that the decisions we make enable the best possible education for students in this province. We wish you a healthy and happy retirement and thank you again for your service to education in Saskatchewan.



Best Wishes,

Dianne Woloschuk
STF President



Dick Nieman

Congratulations and best wishes as we say thank you for your years of dedicated service to the children and youth of Saskatchewan.

The celebration of our superannuates is your organization's way of saying how much your colleagues value your professional achievements and personal relationships. This banquet has become a very special event in the culture of L.E.A.D.S. We are grateful that you have chosen to be part of our public celebration.



You have served as an educational leader when issues have become more complex and diverse. Your leadership has contributed in a very positive way to the growth and development of our young people. You leave active service knowing that you have made a difference.

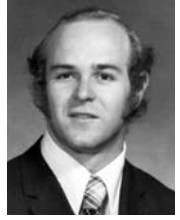
Continue to share your gifts, talents and wisdom; your communities need you.

God bless all of you and your families

Dick Nieman
Executive Director
L.E.A.D.S.



WHEN WE WERE YOUNG...



Wayne Back

Wayne was born in 1947 and raised on a farm in Serath. He attended school in the hamlet until grades 10 to 12 were discontinued. He was bussed to Raymore School where he graduated in 1964. Wayne then attended the University of Regina and convocated with a B.Ed. in 1970.



Wayne then returned to Raymore to begin his teaching career. He was a natural hire – male, a degree, a hockey player and willing to work and settle in the community. Also marrying a local girl, Bonnie Kram in 1972 was well received.

Wayne taught grade 6 for two years and then was appointed principal of the Raymore Elementary School. He was a natural appointment – male, the all women staff who had standard A teaching certificates selected him and provided him with all the materials and support required.

Wayne realized he had to get more education, so he enrolled in night and summer classes during the 1970's and received a B.A. from the University of Regina in 1980. Michael (1973) and Colin (1977) were born and spent a lot of time with their extended families, who lived very close to Raymore.

Wayne became the Assistant Director of Education in the Last Mountain School Division in 1981. The family continued to live in Raymore while he worked out of the Division office in Govan. Again, seeking more education, he enrolled in summer and night classes and obtained a PGD from the University of Regina in 1985 and finally a Masters of Education from the University of Oregon in 1988.

In 1988 the Back family made the big two hour move to Canora when Wayne was appointed the Director of Education. These years were some of the most challenging, but also the most gratifying for the family. Bonnie and the boys loved the community and school, and Wayne loved his job. The Back family was very active in the community

Wayne Back

through work, school, sports, church and still have many friends in the community.

Wayne assumed a Director position with Timberline School Division (50%) and Canora School Division (50%) in 1994. In 1995, he moved to the Assistant Superintendent position in the Regina Public School Division. The rural boy became a member of the administration team of the largest school division in Saskatchewan. Wayne adapted to his role with the help of a great supporting cast and became a valued colleague.

In 2002 Wayne had an opportunity to join the Department of Education as Regional Director. He continued as a LEADS member until November of 2007 when he was appointed Chief of Staff for the Honorable Ken Krawetz, Deputy Premier and Minister of Education.

Michael and Colin are graduates of the University of Regina and are both working and living in Regina. The family has always been very close and have done everything together, including trips to Hawaii and New York on numerous occasions. It is this closeness that has helped the Back family to deal with the untimely passing of Bonnie on January 22, 2008.

Darryl Bangsund

I was raised on a farm south of Weyburn and attended school in Colgate. My parents instilled a love for learning in me and my brother and sisters, and consequently all five of us chose a career in teaching.

In 1971, I started my teaching career in Langenburg High School, teaching high school mathematics, and later became Vice-Principal and Principal. In 1987 I became Director of Education for the Potashville School Division in Esterhazy. Restructuring led to my present position as Superintendent of Schools with Good Spirit School Division in Yorkton, an excellent way of wrapping up 37 years of service in education!



During my teaching career, I especially enjoyed coaching and promoting high school curling. I also loved teaching high school mathematics, and being involved in departmental exam construction and grading and curriculum development in mathematics. My Master's research was also in the field of mathematics education.

My wife, Valerie, is an Activity Director with the Special Care Home in Langenburg. We have two children – Clayton is a lawyer with Layh and Associates in Langenburg, and Candice is a mutual fund research analyst with Franklin-Templeton in Calgary. Our children have always been the centre of attention for Val and I, we were always busy with their activities when they were children, and they still seem to come to us for advice (it's amazing how smart we have become as parents!)

Val and I plan to continue residing in Langenburg. We like to curl, golf and travel so we hope we are able to continue with that for a long time!

Sandy Gardiner

My career began with a shiny, new two-year Standard A teaching certificate in Uranium City in the fall of 1973. I remained in that system for five years, teaching grades 4, 6, 7 and some French at the high school level. In 1978, my husband, our children and I returned to Saskatoon to go to school for two years. At that time, I obtained a B.Ed. and completed everything but the last two chapters of my thesis for an M.Ed in Curriculum Studies (reading). By the fall of 1980, we were back in Uranium City where I was assigned the task of creating a program for a group of very young children with developmental delays.



We remained in Uranium City until the mine closed in 1982. We reluctantly found our way back to Saskatoon where I resumed my teaching career with Saskatoon (West) School Division and finally completed those last two chapters to obtain an M.Ed. in 1983. During my 12-year tenure with Saskatoon (West), I was given the opportunity to teach in Asquith and Delisle. My assignments included a range of grades from two through ten as well as resource programs at all levels.

Given that the university was so accessible, I continued to do graduate work, gaining areas of specialty in language and learning disabilities and behavioral and psychiatric disorders in children. Later on in 2002, following the establishment of the College of Psychologists, I qualified to become a registered psychologist.

In the fall of 1994, I became the Supervisor of Pupil Services for Biggar School Division. Five years later, the position evolved into Superintendent of Instruction. When restructuring occurred in 2006, I was pleased to be invited to be part of the Sun West senior administration team and to contribute to the creation of a new school division.

In the words of our children, my career has "rocked." I have loved

being an educator and serving students and teachers for the past 35 years. I have been blessed with the opportunity to work with some amazingly talented and dedicated people. Best of all, I got to go out with my hair on fire. I look forward with enthusiasm to what the future will bring in the next phase of my life. I am overwhelmed with gratitude. I am content.

I have had the good fortune to work at Saskatoon Public Schools for my entire 34 year career in education. I began my professional journey as a teacher in 1973 at Aden Bowman Collegiate. Since then, I have served on six school staffs and in a variety of school-based and centralized leadership roles.



Marilyn and I were married in my first year of teaching. We have raised four wonderful children, Gabe, Mickey, Danny and Katie, and celebrated the addition of two wonderful daughters-in-law, Roz and Sabette, as well as our granddaughter Addie. What a wonder it is to be a grandfather! On two occasions, we traveled for a year of studies, first to Dalhousie University in 1975-76 without children and later to the University of Oregon in 1989-90 with four. Both years are highlights in our family life.

I have worked with many incredible people over the years and have been a member of many great teams that have worked on an array of interesting initiatives. As a director, I have worked very closely with terrific superintendents, wonderful deputy directors, and exceptional support staff. We debriefed many a board meeting to the sound of some excellent jazz at a local bar. More recently, I have been a part of intersectoral teams, the most exciting being the one that developed Saskatoon's first integrated community centre of which the new Centennial Collegiate is an integral part. Each of these opportunities resulted in some wonderful friendships that go well beyond the working day.

Over my career, I have been intrigued with learning models. As a teacher, I was immersed in a dynamic environment where teachers were actively exploring new approaches to learning. This interest deepened during a four year term as an instructional consultant and in my Masters' program. As a new consultant, I recall that Doug Gleave, our superintendent, insisted that we read Joyce and Weil's *Models of Teaching*, the closest thing to the Bible in our profession. A highlight was last year's study tour to the preschools in Reggio Emilia, Italy to see a different and very powerful pedagogy in action. This interest in learning

models converged with our division's Literacy for Life initiative which featured the implementation of more powerful ways for our students to develop as readers and writers. Literacy for Life has been the single-most exciting initiative of my career.

I have some ideas for my future, but no solid plans. I do hope to have a little more time for family, fitness, and travel. I also hope to focus more clearly on my professional interests in some new way.

In conclusion, I wish to take this opportunity to thank my family, my colleagues, my Board, and many others who have been a part of my professional journey. My colleagues at Saskatoon Public Schools have been terrific leaders and even better friends. On this occasion, I would especially like to thank my LEADS colleagues for their leadership, their example, and their friendship. I have been a very fortunate man.

I'm ending my journey with Regina Catholic Schools! I have been a teacher, special education teacher, consultant, Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and for the past fourteen years, Director of Education ... but never a principal. My passion however, has been nurturing school based leadership and creating sustainable happy cultures of hope and accountability. Because I have been a CEO for over a decade with the same system, I've been able to see sustainable change and the impact of people selection, or "putting the right people in the right places on the bus"! I have always been on the hunt for people who love kids!



It has been a joy to support many changes with a firm research foundation and bring fresh and top world class leaders to the presence of my system in long term journeying and trusting relationships.

I'm glad that my friend Wayne Hulley showed me early in my career, that part of work really is PLAY. I have discovered most messes that splashed in my office could be sorted out with lessons from the "sand box!"

Indeed, it has been an honor to work with so many wonderful LEADS partners through out the years ...only "We" know what it is really like ... LEADS is a safe place for system leaders to be. As a working mother, I have always been grateful for how LEADS welcomes families.

I pause here to work again happy, wiser and muscled!

GATHERING MOMENTUM...



I began my teaching career in Gull Lake, Saskatchewan in April, 1976. I had just completed my internship program in Swift Current at Irwin Junior High and Swift Current Comprehensive High School. My cooperating teachers (mentors) were Bryan Tallon and Don Szakacs. This was also where I first met another mentor Brian Keegan, the vice-principal at Irwin.



Like many young teachers I thought I would accept the position in Gull Lake for a year or two and then, with my experience, move on to bigger and better things. Well, to my good fortune a young, up and comer named Ralph Eliasson came to Gull Lake as the new school principal in September of 1977. He and a renewed staff turned Gull Lake High School into one of the most active, energetic places to teach. During this time I met a Gull Lake girl who became my wife. Sherri was employed as the librarian at Gull Lake School. We became well established with our family of two, Lacy and Byron, and were very content with our home and with our work.

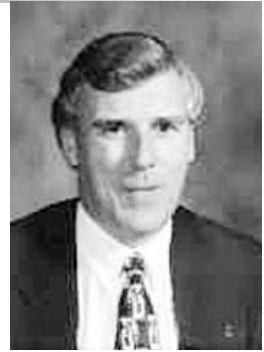
Following fourteen years at Gull Lake High School as a teacher, school administrator and athletic director, an opportunity was presented to move my career into the full time administration of school sport. A position on the staff of the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association was available due to the retirement of Barry Stinson. My entire teaching career had included involvement in school sport as a coach, official and administrator. I spent three different two-year terms as an elected representative on the SHSAA Executive Council from 1978 to 1980 when I withdrew to get married. I returned from 1982 to 1984, withdrawing due to the birth of our daughter, returning again from 1988 to 1990 as the SHSAA President. In 1990, my wife, Sherri, and I packed up our six-year old daughter and two-year old son to move to Regina so I could become the assistant executive director of the SHSAA.

As a result of this move I had the good fortune to become eligible for membership in LEADS. The position with the SHSAA and membership in LEADS provided me with the opportunity to become acquainted with,

and involved with virtually every director of education and high school principal in the province, something that, reflectively, I consider the most rewarding aspects of my time in education. To have the guidance of my early mentors, and to be able to work daily with so many dedicated individuals all seeking the best educational opportunities for their students and staff, proved time and again to be among the top rewards in my job. These same individuals recognized the value and the effectiveness of using sport to attain 'Education through Athletics' for their students, something I was passionate about. This made my position with the SHSAA challenging, ever changing, sometimes frustrating, but always rewarding. I thank you for the support, the mentorship and your continued friendship. It's been a great thirty-two years in education.

Harold Laich

Harold was born in Kandern (Black Forest region), Germany and with his parents and brother immigrated to Canada in 1953. He grew up in Leader, graduating in 1969. The education of their children was an extremely high priority for his parents and they were quite pleased when he decided to become a teacher. Memorable are starting Grade One without being able to speak English, and the lure of summers off luring him to teaching (how naïve we are in our youth).



Harold received his B. Ed. from the U. of S. (Regina Campus) in 1973. His high interest in baseball and hockey and his experience as recreation director during the summers pulled him back to the community he grew up in. He started his career in 1973 in Leader and for the next ten years was heavily involved in coaching and officiating extra-curricular activities.

A Graduate Diploma in Ed. Admin. (U. of Calgary) was completed in 1983 and he moved to the principalship in Wawota (the best move ever). The challenges and rewards of administration outweighed the frustrations. He maintains fond memories of teaching, coaching, administrative leadership, and of the relationships established with students, teachers and administrators, parents and community members.

Teaching, a healthy staff, and a positive profile for his school in the community were his priorities as a principal. The welfare of fellow teachers also became important and he assumed roles on LINC and as a STF councillor. A personal priority was that he always refused to tolerate unjust treatment of students and fellow teachers.

Harold completed his M.Ed. in 1997 (U. of Regina) and became Director for the Moosomin division in January 1998 with an excellent board under the superb leadership of an outstanding chairperson. With amalgamation Harold became Deputy Director of the South East Cornerstone division until his retirement in 2007.

Harold Laich

In 1974, Harold married Jane. They have three children: Jodi (1981, industrial engineer in Lloydminster); Brooks (1983, hockey player with the Washington Capitals); and Jordan (1985, electrician in Estevan). Jane's ongoing support for his work, her willingness to forego her career until the children were all in school and her love for her family are truly admirable.

Harold leaves the education profession with many fond memories. The work with students, teachers, administrators, parents, support staff and board members has been such a privilege and has enriched his life. Becoming a member of LEADS was special and he has tremendous respect for his colleagues and the organization itself. He holds, in special esteem, the superintendents he worked with while in central office. Sir Edmund Hillary commented that "It's not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves". It was always important to him that students, teachers, administrators and fellow LEADS members be fairly treated and he was protective of their interests to the very end.

Life goes on as Jane and Harold still live in Wawota. She continues her work as a municipal administrator. They spend their time traveling, camping, golfing, fishing (well, Harold only), attending their children's activities, and are active community volunteers. Future plans include travel in the sunny and warm south and abroad.

Bert McNair

Bert was born at Tisdale and attended a one room country school before going to the 'town' school to complete his Grade 12. He followed his sister and brother who attended Teachers College on Avenue A in Saskatoon before him. After graduating with an Interim Standard A certificate, he taught in a one room country school for one year and found out he didn't know very much so hurried back to university for a second year, then took off to Alberta. This is where he learned to enjoy teaching music and returned to Saskatchewan as a traveling music teacher.



When it was time to return to university, he found himself in Calgary to complete his B.Ed. with majors in music, drama and visual art. During the evenings he worked with the Calgary Allied Arts Council and with Theatre Calgary. This seemed like a good thing so he became administrator for Centaur Theatre in Montreal for a while. And somehow this led to managing bar bands out of Toronto.

When he found out he would rather work with kids in schools, he got into administration with his first principalship at Eyebrow. Having been out of education for a few years he learned his training was somewhat dated so he returned to university to complete his graduate work at U of R. This of course qualified him for his next position as Fine Arts Coordinator for the cowboys in the southwest. After a few years he became Director for Eastend School Division. It was ok but he knew this was not his life work, so he took a position as Curriculum Coordinator with the department in the then Regional Office of Education in Yorkton. These good years prepared him for a stint in Papua New Guinea where he spent four years as Deputy Principal of a Teachers College helping develop a three year teacher education program.

When he returned to Saskatchewan he was surprised to find no one in education had really missed him, so he fitted in where he could as a consultant with the department as principal researcher for the first

Indicators Report and as coordinator for a middle years math program evaluation project, quite a stretch for a fine arts major. He became known as the 'renaissance man'. After a couple of years he moved to the Meadow Lake Tribal Council as Superintendent of Education for six years.

Following this he tried his hand at full time consulting and after another short stint as a Director (and found it definitely is not his life work) he is now completing his full time career with the Good Spirit School Division as Superintendent of Program Development.

"Education is a wonderful life. The kids keep you young, teachers keep you busy, and principals keep you honest. Saskatchewan is a great place to work and live."

Bert has no definite plans following his superannuation. His life experiences tell him there is something out there, something to reach for, something to be done.

I came from a family where both my mother and father were teachers. I also grew up in a time when my guidance counsellor thought that career options available for women were in four areas: secretarial, social work, nursing, and teaching. One could assume that because of these experiences I fell into teaching. Nothing could be further from the truth. I wanted to be a teacher or a lawyer. I married the lawyer and know that I would not have been happy with that career choice.



I have enjoyed all of my experiences in teaching. A member of the last year of the two year Standard A program followed by two years of study in special education gave me a variety of tools to support my work as a resource room teacher in Melfort School Division and later in a mixture of roles associated with special education in Kinistino School Division.

Teaching continues to feed my fascination with how people learn. Throughout the years I have had some excellent mentors. The students I worked with showed me there are several ways to make sense of the same material and ways of learning. A McDowell Foundation Grant and a classroom of middle years kids taught me that students can take control when teachers offer them choices that support their learning. I missed their intensity when I moved to central office for Saskatchewan Rivers.

My interest in how people learn continued to be nurtured in my role as curriculum consultant. Teaching teachers allowed me to study how adults learn and incorporate change into their teaching practices. Adults are particular about how they learn and less direct in their feedback regarding the job you have done. My years as Superintendent have given me many opportunities and some of the steepest learning curves to navigate while teaching me a great deal about my own personal learning.

During the past thirty years I have been supported by a number of people, family, and my many friends. Ron, my lawyer-turned-judge husband, knows me the best of all and still continues to put up with me. My three children, Janice, Taylor, and Lauren grew up with a mother who not only was constantly in their school building but more than once used the intercom system to celebrate special events in their lives. Thank you for still acknowledging me in public.

I cannot say enough about the team of integrated learning consultants and coaches who helped me to refine my ideas about adult learning and move them into realities. I am continually grateful for the confidence placed in me by the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division, my director, and my fellow superintendents. They have been very patient with me as they responded to my many questions and random ideas.

Superannuation does not mean I will leave the world of education. I see this as an opportunity to explore other venues and continue my pre-occupation with learning.

Teaching has been a central part of my life for 34 years. I look forward to the opportunities retirement will bring me, but will miss personal and professional relationships, especially students I taught, worked with, and learned from. We teachers keep young through the vitality of our students.



I have been fortunate, through education, to work in challenging and rewarding positions. Encouraged by a grade eleven teacher, who thought I needed real experiences in physics, I worked on the Gardiner Dam on a PFRA survey team and led to summer jobs during university; surveying with Department of Highways, mining at La Ronge, timber cruising and fire-fighting with BC forestry in Terrace, BC, and working with Alcan engineers in Kitimat.

I began teaching taught at Balfour Technical School, where I was mentored by a retiring teacher. Working with a master teacher gave me a huge step up on my professional career, an apprenticeship that all teachers should have.

Balfour's principal taught me that extra curricular activities allowed teachers to work with students beyond the curricular demands of the classroom. We started a student outdoors club with winter camping, mountain backpacking and ventures on the Churchill River. Each student had to develop the skills and earn funds for the trips. I happily recall overlooking Yoho Valley with students desirous of discussing geology and environment, of portaging canoes as students walked in the footprints of voyagers and in situations that opened learning for inquiring minds.

With changes in the eighties, many shops were abolished and Balfour was reduced from thirteen to just three teachers, a dramatic swing that removed technical skills and industrial knowledge from students, who were moved into the abstract. We are just now recovering from such philosophies. John Dewey had it right.

Given data which locate the nature of the problem, there is evoked a thought (memory) of an operation which, if put into execution, may eventuate in a situation in which the trouble or doubt evoked in the inquiry will be resolved.

I can't think of many years that I didn't take classes. I enjoyed the camaraderie of classmates who had the similar quests and the late nights of online courses with profs and classmates questioning our direction.

In 1987 I was seconded to work at the INOTECH Centre at the University of the Philippines, consulting with the Ministries of Education for seven Asian countries. There I was exposed to a culture driven to achieve, where education was their only way to compete in an emerging world.

Lyle Neher

Lyle's teaching career started in a grade five classroom in Aberdeen in 1969. The classroom assignments varied over the years from physical education to teaching calculus and experience as a vice principal and principal. Beyond the classroom, Lyle enjoyed coaching a variety of sports including fastball and football, as well as trying to complete three university degrees in Saskatoon and Victoria. The Principalship at Clavet proved to be an excellent opportunity and has created many terrific memories.



After twenty-nine years with Saskatoon East SD, Lyle's first central office assignment was in Dauphin Manitoba as Superintendent of Education in 1998. Returning to Saskatchewan and wanting to be closer to our families, Lyle accepted the Director of Education position with the Kindersley School Division in 2001. When amalgamation came along in 2006, Lyle wanted to be part of the development of a new larger school division, and accepted the position of Superintendent of Human Resources with Sun West SD in Rosetown. Experiencing the growing pains of a new organization has been both challenging and rewarding.

Lyle has relished his involvement with LEADS having served a term on the provincial executive, acting as chair for the summer short course in 2005, singing with HOJA, and winning one LEADS curling title.

After thirty-nine years in education, Lyle looks forward to some new challenges and spending more time with his family. After attending the Great Canadian Convention in Toronto (November 2007), we have tickets for the next installment in Montreal.

Audrey Roadhouse

Audrey Roadhouse superannuated from Regina Public Schools in November 2008 following a career in education that spanned four provinces.

Audrey obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Regina and a Masters Degree from Simon Fraser University. Her career has included teaching positions at several universities and management assignments in Saskatchewan's Department of Health. Teaching and education administrative assignments include regular elementary and secondary, special education, secondments to research and demonstration centres, elementary principal, secondary principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent.



Early in her career, Audrey and her husband Trevor were relocated several times which presented new career opportunities. In addition to Regina and Saskatoon Public, she taught in North York, Ontario, Maple Ridge, British Columbia and Calgary, Alberta Public schools.

Audrey remembers loving teaching from the time she was very young. There was a small room off the kitchen that her parents let her use as a classroom. Her first student was her cat. She placed the cat in a doll high-chair. She wrote notes from discarded texts on a slate blackboard with coloured chalk. Her dad bought her a school bell that she still treasures. Years later, her mother told her that she knew Audrey would have no difficulty managing a classroom since her cat never moved during the lessons.

Throughout her career she feels she has been fortunate to have the freedom to be innovative, allowing her to initiate new programs based on research, some of which she conducted and published. Audrey is proud to have had a career in education and to have worked with so many outstanding individuals. She credits a great deal of her success to those leaders who saw her potential and mentored her. Audrey also wants to thank the trustees of the Regina Board of Education. As well, she thanks LEADS for their unwavering support from the time she first

became a member in 1986.

Regardless of the positions she held, she lived each day answering the question, "Did I do something today that will make a positive difference in the lives of children?" With the goal of student achievement, she has always kept a focus on reaching that goal for every student.

In addition to her work, Audrey has a strong commitment to the community. In 2004 she was recognized by the United Way of Regina for exemplary community leadership. Her service to community and spirit of volunteerism was recognized as a recipient of the Canada 125 Commemorative Medal.

No one can be successful without the support of family. Audrey thanks her late mother as the person who stood beside her all the way and was always there with love and tangible support for her and Trevor. Their children, Tanis and Taylor are her biggest fans and are always anxious to hear what mom is doing. Tanis lives in Ottawa where she works for IBM and is completing her Masters degree. Taylor is at Dalhousie in Halifax and will graduate this year with a political science degree.

Audrey began her new career as Deputy Minister of Education at the end of November 2008.

No matter how early we begin every year, as the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents prepares to offer good wishes and fond farewells to its superannuating members, we are obliged to scramble in our efforts to provide pictures and biographical information for this little booklet that supplements speeches at the Annual Policy Conference banquet. Superannuating members are as busy as everyone else, perhaps more so at this time in their careers.

We thank those who agreed with our desire to reproduce pictures and to provide biographies to us.

The biographical information supplied to us has, in many cases, been edited to meet the limitations of space. Where significant editorial license has been taken, we hope choices about what remains and what was removed still provide readers with the essential information about the career being honored. If we have missed that goal, please accept this apology for removing something considered important.