



SASKATCHEWAN
POLYTECHNIC

2023 DONOR
IMPACT REPORT

THANK YOU!

**Empowering Change: A Journey
of Impact and Transformation**



The background image shows three young women standing outdoors in front of a large, multi-story brick building. The woman on the left is wearing glasses and a black hoodie. The woman in the middle is wearing a colorful, patterned top. The woman on the right is wearing a tan sweater and a backpack. All three are smiling and making peace signs with their hands. In the background, there are trees and another person wearing a red turban and a light blue shirt.

YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank you for your meaningful support! Your generosity means more students possess the knowledge and skills needed for success at work, in their communities, and in life. Your gifts drive progress, catalyze development, and change lives. Your belief in the power of practical education fuels an economically and socially stronger Saskatchewan. Thank you!





CELEBRATING YOUR GENEROSITY

We're proud of our work at Saskatchewan Polytechnic, empowering thousands of graduates with the education and hands-on learning they need to succeed. We can't do this without you, and your dedication is the cornerstone of our mission to advance applied learning and practical skills.

Your steadfast support profoundly impacts student lives, fostering academic success and personal growth. Your generosity magnifies the powerful potential of what a united community can do! Thank you for joining us as we build a brighter future for generations to come.



A legacy of support

Establishing a memorial bursary is a meaningful way to honour the legacy of a loved one. It had been her late husband's wish to assist students in their educational endeavors and so Nancy Thiele, wife of the Drafting Technology alumnus, established The Wilfred Thiele Bursary. The bursary is intended to assist students who have a pressing financial need and are enrolled full-time at Saskatchewan Polytechnic Moose Jaw campus.

Wilfred A Thiele was one of fifteen children born to Mary and Albert Thiele in Spring Valley, SK, 65km south of Moose Jaw. He attended school in Spring Valley and later graduated with a Diploma of Technology in Drafting Technology from Saskatchewan Technical Institute (now Saskatchewan Polytechnic) in Moose Jaw in 1969.

After relocating to Calgary, Wilfred earned a Diploma in Construction Administration and Inspection Technology from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1988 and became a long-time member of The Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET) that same year.

Throughout his 40-year career in construction and administration, Wilfred was a strong advocate of mentoring and further education. In 2013, he began volunteering with the Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists in mentoring and exam development. The Wilfred Thiele Bursary is open to students in many programs including architecture, drafting, construction, and engineering and honours his commitment to supporting student success.



Wilfred Thiele

Ray Joubert



Honoring a distinguished career

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals set up a memorial award recognizing the dedication, commitment, and passion Ray Joubert demonstrated over his four-decade career in the pharmaceutical industry. Remembered by his colleagues for his wisdom, diplomacy, generosity, and integrity, this award honours Ray's commitment to his profession.

Ray was born in Regina and raised in Montmartre, SK. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Saskatchewan in 1974, Ray discovered a passion for regulatory pharmacy, dedicating over 40 years to the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (Saskatchewan Pharmaceutical Association). Ray served as Registrar for 33 years and received recognition and many awards throughout his distinguished career.

This award was established in his name and is sponsored by a generous donation by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals, through the SCP Centennial Scholarship Fund Inc. This award is intended to assist Year 2 Pharmacy Technician program students who have a pressing financial need and are enrolled full-time at Saskatchewan Polytechnic Saskatoon Campus.

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

As valued industry partners and leaders in your respective fields, your shared expertise plays a key role in ensuring Saskatchewan Polytechnic stays informed about the latest industry trends. Your generous contributions and equipment donations keep our institution at the forefront of advancements and innovation in various sectors – building a better future for us all!

Closing the technology gap

Dynamo, Altelec and GE Grid Solutions donated a \$200K state-of-the-art substation protection and control panel to the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Electrical Engineering Technology program in Moose Jaw. The custom-built digital simulator does more than improve the educational experience. By offering hands-on opportunities to experience real-life power system events, students develop the skills to make a difference on projects with real-world implications.

Dynamo key account manager Kyle Solie, a passionate Saskatchewan Polytechnic alumnus and ardent supporter of the diploma program, identified a technology gap and helped turn the project into reality. The custom built one-of-a-kind digital protection and control panel closes that gap by ensuring students are in sync with the technologies in industrial and utility applications within electrical grids and equipped with the practical experience and technical proficiency required to excel in the dynamic energy sector.

Gifts like this mean we deliver on our promise to empower a better Saskatchewan – a better world!



ENHANCED LEARNING WITH INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Saskatchewan Polytechnic provides enriching and fulfilling learning opportunities for our students. By continually elevating these experiences, we make sure our workforce-ready grads and alumni – sought across diverse industries and fields – are well-prepared for the demands of the professional landscape. Your investment ensures our students are ready to thrive and contribute to our shared communities!

Strengthening the mining workforce

Twenty students in mining-related programs are benefiting from significant financial support with \$100,000 provided through the Mining Industry Human Resource Council (MiHR) Mining Sector Skills and Solutions Strategy for the Clean Economy Project.

The \$5,000 bursaries from this donation support growing industry needs for in-demand doers and thinkers in the mining industries.

MiHR executive director Ryan Montpellier says, “The talent pipeline is shrinking. Post-secondary enrollment declined from 2015 to 2020 in the three types of engineering most closely associated with mining, with materials and metallurgical engineering declining by 7 per cent, mining or mineral engineering by 41 per cent and geological engineering by 29 per cent.”



Mining Industry Human Resources Council Bursary



I was very thrilled of the news that I had been selected as a recipient for this award and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you for funding this generous bursary. As a First Nations student I thrive on setting a positive example for my younger sibling and other young First Nations youth as well to accomplish the high goals I have set for myself personally. This bursary award means a great deal to me, not only it assists in the financial challenges student’s face but the award encourages me to continue to go after my goals.”

– Ashton K. – Year one Mining Engineering Technology diploma student

Supporting women in trades and technology

Orano Canada provided a \$1M gift to Saskatchewan Polytechnic's Women in Trades and Technology (WITT) program to empower the future for women to choose – and then succeed in – the technical trades. Orano Canada's goal is to be part of the change by helping increase the awareness of career opportunities for women in the mining industry, as well as provide job links to trades that are accessible near their home communities. Orano Mining globally has a target of increasing the number of women in senior roles by 10 per cent annually between now and 2025.

“Women account for 47 per cent of the Canadian labour force but represent only 5 per cent of the most in-demand trades across Canada,” says Allison Zerr, WITT program head. The focus of the WITT program is to teach women workplace skills, encourage them to consider different career options and address potential barriers for women in trades and technologies careers.

The \$1M gift, disbursed over ten years, is a profound investment in more than simply workforce diversity. It's a commitment that reaches into the heart of our shared communities. Providing expanded access to programming – mentorship opportunities, customizable presentations and workshops, and exploratory training sessions – means more women will be able to explore and choose trades and technology careers, and that reach is now extended into rural and northern communities. In recognition of this generous gift, the program name changed to WITT – Powered by Orano.



SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY

A heartwarming welcome for students

The first day of anything is stressful! Welcome Week is a series of events designed to foster belonging and create community connections – a communal picnic on the greens, informative campus and community service fairs, the vibrant student connect festival – ensuring an unforgettable launch as students gather across all four campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina, and Saskatoon.

Picnic on the Green:	Campus Community Fair:	Student Connect Festival:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moose Jaw: 150 attendees Prince Albert: 80 attendees Regina: 175 attendees Saskatoon: 400 attendees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moose Jaw: 400 attendees Prince Albert: 300 attendees Regina: 550 attendees Saskatoon: 600 attendees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moose Jaw: 500 attendees Prince Albert: 200 attendees Regina: 400 attendees Saskatoon: 700 attendees

Thank you to sponsors SaskMilk, SaskTel, The Wireless Age, Medicine Shoppe Canada and 22Fresh for your support. Robust community support like this means Saskatchewan Polytechnic students are better equipped to be the job-ready, skilled graduates who achieve their dreams and make our communities stronger!

TRANSFORMING OUR CAMPUSES

Your generosity not only enhances educational experiences at Saskatchewan Polytechnic, but also serves as a transformative power, leaving a lasting impact on students, faculty, and the wider community. Thanks to you, our learning spaces are continually updated with the latest technology and modern resources, providing an outstanding environment for students to excel academically. Your contributions reach beyond our campus walls, empowering students to navigate the ever-evolving employment landscape with confidence. We are grateful for your commitment to our collective success!

Securing our future

Thanks to the generous investment of \$1.35M from PrairiesCan and SaskPower, Saskatchewan Polytechnic students will train at the new, state-of-the-art energy and resources lab at the Moose Jaw campus. The net-zero lab is a hub for energy-related applied research and training programs that will – with a focus on sustainable energy technologies, smart grids, and energy-efficient home construction – ensure Saskatchewan remains at the forefront of sustainable energy solutions.

PrairiesCan's investment of \$1 million through the Regional Innovation Ecosystems program was used to purchase equipment to train the next generation of energy professionals. SaskPower's \$350,000 contribution was used to build the lab. Through this new lab, students will learn practical and applied skills on alternative energies such as solar, geothermal, wind, biomass, and biofuels.

The lab's alternative energy learning systems and equipment will increase Saskatchewan Polytechnic's research capacity in the energy sector and assist our instructors in training the skilled workforce necessary to succeed in the transitioning energy sector – empowering our students and our shared communities by investing in the future.



Building on a legacy of Indigenous student success

Saskatchewan Polytechnic reaffirms its dedication to Indigenous student success with the launch of *Wichitowin ahci kaskihtamâsowin ati nikan* (Michif): helping each other with success for the future – the Indigenous Student Success Strategy 2024-29. The strategy builds on consecutive strategies over the past 15 years to enhance recruitment, retention, and success of Indigenous students across all programs. Specific actions in the strategy are aimed at removing barriers to access and delivering comprehensive support services to ensure the success of Indigenous students.

Dr. Larry Rosia, Saskatchewan Polytechnic president and CEO says “The strategy embodies the spirit of *miyo wâhkôhtowin*, a Cree phrase that emphasizes the value of interconnectedness and relationships. Saskatchewan Polytechnic honours this principle as we work together to create an inclusive learning environment where Indigenous students succeed.”

Saskatchewan Polytechnic monitors outcomes as Student Success Strategies over the years are implemented. These outcomes and successes are measured and updated through the Indigenous balanced report card:

92%

of Indigenous graduates find employment

1,974

Indigenous students* make up 12% of our student population

61%

Indigenous cohort graduation rate

100,332

interactions with Indigenous coordinators, advisors and coordinators and community outreach teams

Over the past 15 years Saskatchewan Polytechnic has distributed:

421

Indigenous student awards and scholarships valued at **\$455,600**

203

Indigenous Student Emergency Bursaries totaling **\$151,000** at **\$500** each to meet urgent, essential needs

\$66,086

25 gifts directed to Indigenous Student Success Strategy in 2023

The Give Back Collection, a new initiative at our bookstores, donates 25 per cent of proceeds from sales of original artwork by Dakota artist Chantel Yuzicapi and combined with Orange Shirt day t-shirt sales, raised \$25,391 directed toward Indigenous student success.

With the support of our donors, Saskatchewan Polytechnic hosted our first powwow and celebrated a decade of Indigenous role models with our annual calendar.

We are honored to have received international recognition for our efforts to help Indigenous students reach their educational and career goals and note that Indigenous student enrolment increased by 7 per cent this fall. The growth in Indigenous enrolment is testament to Saskatchewan Polytechnic’s commitment to supporting and empowering Indigenous students.

**Number of students self-declared as Indigenous; actual number may be higher.*

GIVING DAY

Requests for emergency funding increased by over 33 per cent in 2023, and more than 320 students at Saskatchewan Polytechnic had accessed critical financial support by October. Funding provided students facing unexpected economic hardships with necessities such as food, heating bills, rent, childcare, bus passes and utilities — all critical for students to stay in school.

Your support means a world of difference when students like LynnEn are presented with unexpected financial challenges:

Emergency Student Bursary

“

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your generous support and the invaluable impact it has had on my academic journey at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

When I first embarked on my educational path, I had dreams and aspirations but was unsure if I would be able to afford the necessary resources and financial commitments. However, thanks to your selfless contribution, I have been able to pursue my studies without the burden of overwhelming financial stress.

Your support has provided me with more than just financial assistance. It has given me the reassurance and motivation to push forward, knowing that there are individuals like you who believe in my potential and are willing to invest in my future. Your act of kindness has truly made a difference in my life.”

– LynnEn W., Bachelor of Science in Nursing

STUDENT AWARDS

Your support makes it possible for students to pursue their academic and professional aspirations by reducing the burden of financial constraints. The financial support students receive through donor-funded awards has played a pivotal role in lowering the barriers that hinder their progress towards achieving their academic goals.

Nutrien Bursary for Indigenous students

“

I want to express my gratitude for the bursary award that you have graciously provided me for my continued studies at Saskatchewan Polytechnic. As an Indigenous student, this award means a lot to me and will help some of the financial burden associated with pursuing my education.

I am excited to continue my education and gain the skills necessary to succeed in my future career. The opportunity to study at Saskatchewan Polytechnic is one that I do not take for granted, and I have worked hard to make the most of my education as the first one to finish all the welding components.

Once again, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for this bursary award. Your generosity will not be forgotten, and I am eager to contribute to my community in the future.”

– Benjamin C., Welding

UNLIMITED POTENTIAL

Construction of a new Saskatchewan Polytechnic Saskatoon campus will transform our outdated facilities, giving way to a technology-rich, multidisciplinary hub. This will draw investment, talent, and more students to the modern learning environment that will provide an exceptional education experience.



Watch for future updates...

Once-in-a generation opportunity

We are creating a centre of excellence in applied learning and research on the grounds of the University of Saskatchewan. This modern learning environment and innovation corridor will foster a community of applied learning and research while addressing increasing demand for our education.

With refined and expanded programs, we will continue providing the education – mindful of emerging trends and adaptive to industry needs – that ensures we are at the forefront in providing the expert workforce existing and emerging industries need!

Join us as we rise to establish the necessary foundation for generations of learners and leaders to flourish.

Your support will be instrumental in growing the accomplished talent pipeline that strengthens our economy and increases our competitiveness!

Follow our progress and learn how you can be part of this once-in-a-generation opportunity at timetorise.ca.

THANK YOU!

Statistics and numbers are useful but don't fully capture the impact of your generosity. Beyond every story we share, behind images illustrating the impact and transformation made possible by our donors, thousands more unfold in the corridors of Saskatchewan Polytechnic, *each bearing witness to the profound reach of your gift.*

What does your support mean for the future? It is the foundation upon which Saskatchewan Polytechnic provides transformative, hands-on post-secondary education, resonating within and beyond our communities. *You are the architects of not only a better educational environment, but also a thriving Saskatchewan and, by extension, a more enlightened world.*

Why does your gift matter? The answer lies in the strength and resilience of our graduates, equipped with practical skills and critical thinking abilities necessary to conquer challenges in their careers and communities. *Your investment transcends the labs, shops, and classrooms, and embeds the promise of a better community in each graduate who is empowered to make a difference.*

I am humbled by the significance of your trust in what we do and your decision to be a force for good.

With deep gratitude, I thank you.

Sincerely,

Kris Brown

Kris Brown
Associate Vice-President, Advancement

**For more information or if you have questions,
email saskpolytech.donations@saskpolytech.ca
or call 306-775-7410**

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