



**2020-2021**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021



*Annual Report*

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Rivers West District is a non-profit organization dedicated to facilitate and foster the development and delivery of sport, culture, and recreation programs and services.

**RIVERS WEST**  
**District for Sport, Culture & Recreation**  
**Annual General Meeting**

Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 1:00pm CST  
ZOOM Meeting

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  - a. Introduction of Current Board of Directors
  - b. Introduction of Guests
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and Special Meetings
  - a. Annual General Meeting June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020
4. Business Arising from Minutes
  - a. No business arising
5. Reading of Correspondence
  - a. No correspondence
6. General Business
  - a. Chairperson's Report – Arlene Southgate
  - b. Executive Director's Report – Donna Johnston-Genest
  - c. 2020 - 2021 Annual Report
  - d. Tri-Global Report – Jaclyn Davis, SPRA; Amy Shipley, SaskSport; Damon Badger Heit, SaskCulture
7. Financial Report
  - a. Auditor's Report – Jordan Schechtel, Treasurer
  - b. Reappointment of incumbent auditor – Vantage Chartered Professional Accountants
8. Report of Committees and Special Committees
9. New Business
10. Election of Representatives to the Board of Directors
  - a. Reading of incumbent Directors
  - b. Reading of names of nominees
  - c. Nominations from the floor
11. Adjournment
12. Presentation by Brenda Robinson (1:45pm)

## RIVERS WEST

District for Sport, Culture & Recreation  
Virtual Annual General Meeting

### MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm CST

Location: ZOOM

#### ***ATTENDANCE***

Erin Poitras, Biggar; Erin Munn, North Battleford;  
Crystal Imrie, Kyle; Ollie Marciniuk, Hafford;  
Donna Johnston-Genest, RWDSQR; Antje Rongve, RWDSQR;  
Cheryl Clarke, RWDSQR; Cynthia Tymoruski, RWDSQR;  
Bonnie Mills Midgley, RWDSQR; Amy Shipley, Sask Sport;  
Kerry Bailey, SPRA; Nicole Matsalla, SaskCulture;  
Damon Badger Heit, SaskCulture; Paul Gingras, SaskCulture

#### **Regrets:**

Jordan Schechtel, Battleford; Arlene Southgate, Unity;  
Lisa Watson, Elrose; Annette McGovern, Battlefords  
Immigration Centre; Nicole Headrick, Unity Recreation Board;  
and Ryan Monks, SPRA.

#### ***CALL TO ORDER***

Vice-Chairperson, Erin Poitras called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm CST and introductions were made. Bonnie Mills Midgley took minutes for the meeting. Donna Johnston-Genest was the moderator. Antje Rongve was the motions manager.

#### ***AGENDA***

**MOTION #1:** That the agenda be adopted as presented.  
MARCINIUK/IMRIE **Carried.**

#### ***MINUTES***

**MOTION #2:** That the minutes of June 18th, 2019 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.  
MUNN/ MARCINIUK **Carried.**

#### ***BUSINESS ARISING***

No business arising.

#### ***CORRESPONDENCE***

No correspondence was received.

#### ***GENERAL BUSINESS***

In the Chairperson's absence, Donna Johnson-Genest read the Chairperson's Remarks as contained in the Annual Report.

**MOTION #3:** That the Chairperson's Remarks, as contained within the 2019-2020 Annual Report, be accepted.  
IMRIE/MUNN

**Carried.**

Executive Director's Report: Donna reviewed highlights of her report.

**MOTION #4:** That the Executive Director's Remarks, as contained within the 2019-2020 Annual Report, be accepted.

IMRIE/ MARCINIUK

**Carried.**

2019-2020 Annual Report: A paper copy of the report will be mailed from the head office if requested. An electronic copy of the Annual Report will be posted on the Rivers West District website.

Tri-Global Report:

**Amy Shipley**, Sask Sport Inc., thanked the RWDCR Board and Staff for the opportunity to attend the meeting. Amy highlighted items in the SSI portion of the report.

**Kerry Bailey**, Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, highlighted items in the SPRA portion of the report.

**Damon Badger Heit**, SaskCulture, highlighted items in the SaskCulture portion of the report.

### ***FINANCIAL REPORT***

The Financial Statements and Auditor's Report, as prepared by Vantage Chartered Professional Accountants, for the period April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020, were reviewed and discussed.

In the Treasurer's absence, Donna read Jordan's report to the Annual General Meeting.

**MOTION #5:** That the audited financial reports, as corrected, be adopted as presented.

MARCINIUK/MUNN

**Carried.**

### ***AUDITORS***

**MOTION #6:** That the firm of Vantage Chartered Professional Accountants be appointed as the auditors for Rivers West District for Sport, Culture & Recreation for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

MUNN/IMRIE

**Carried.**

### ***REPORTS***

There were no additional reports presented.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

There was no New Business.

The Chair was handed over to Donna for the next portion of the meeting.

***ELECTION OF  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS***

**a) Reading of Incumbent Directors:** Donna read the list of incumbent nominees:  
Arlene Southgate, Unity  
Erin Poitras, Biggar  
Jordan Schechtel, Battleford  
Ollie Marciniuk, Hafford  
Erin Munn, North Battleford  
Crystal Imrie, Kyle  
Lisa Watson, Elrose

**b) Reading of Names of Nominees:** There were no nominations submitted prior to the Annual General Meeting.

**c) Call for Nominations from those in attendance:**  
1<sup>st</sup> call for nominations from the floor  
2<sup>nd</sup> call for nominations from the floor  
3<sup>rd</sup> and last call for nominations from the floor  
Donna asked for a motion that nominations cease.

**MOTION #7:** That nominations cease.  
MUNN/ MARCINIUK **Carried.**

**MOTION #8:** That all incumbent nominees will form the 2020-2021 Board of Directors for Rivers West District for Sport, Culture & Recreation Inc.  
IMRIE/MUNN **Carried.**

Erin Poitras resumed chairing the meeting.

***NEXT MEETING  
DATE***

June 2021.

***ADJOURNMENT***

**MOTION #9:** That this meeting be adjourned (1:31 pm)  
MARCINIUK

**Carried.**

Minutes approved June \_\_\_\_, 2021.

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**Signature**

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**Signature**

## Chairperson's Remarks



It has been an historic year, one of cancellations, isolation, and uncertainty. It has also been a year of adaptation, perseverance, and dedication.

Rivers West District has extraordinary staff who have kept our goals and vision moving forward. Donna, our Executive Director has worked tirelessly to keep the board connected and informed electronically. Her administrative assistant, Cheryl is invaluable in this pursuit. Antje, our Dream Broker, continues to excel at providing services to our youth. Bonnie and Cindy, our community development employees, continue to engage communities. Programs, grants, and workshops are administered through them.

While the 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games were cancelled, coaching certification and clinics continued online. SaskSport, SaskCulture, and SPRA have continued to support and guide us.

We are grateful for our funding engine, Saskatchewan Lotteries. They enable us in our mission.

On a personal note, it is an honour to serve beside these truly inspiring people. Together we will emerge from this storm wiser and stronger. We will emerge shoulder to shoulder. Rivers West is the Best!

Respectfully submitted,

*Arlene Southgate*

## Executive Director's Remarks

Welcome to the Rivers West District Annual General Meeting and thank you for participating in our 12<sup>th</sup> AGM.

I was hoping, as I am sure all of you were, that we would be able to meet in person this year but that was not meant to be. We are so close to being able to meet in person and to enjoy each other's company and I am very proud that Rivers West District has been a part of the solution to this problem we all face.

We are also blessed that we have the technology to allow us to continue to provide programs and services to our members, as you will see from the numerous workshops and clinics that we were able to offer to our District over the past year, later in this report.

I would like to congratulate the Board and Staff on displaying the strength of character that was needed since March of 2020. It has been a steep learning curve for everyone, and you have shown, time and time again, that you have the pioneering spirit needed to embrace any opportunities to ensure that the District thrives.



The innovation of the staff was on full display this past year. Through building new partnerships, exploring opportunities with existing partners, and close collaboration with our excellent facilitators, we were able to provide virtual workshops and clinics to develop skills and keep our members informed with current and relevant information important to the ongoing success of our communities. Thank you to Cindy, Bonnie, Antje, and Cheryl for “*doing whatever it takes*” to serve our membership.

We have been reminded that communication is a vital aspect of our work. By embracing new technologies, we have added another tool to our communication toolbox. By being flexible, innovative, and willing to learn, we have become resilient.

***“Resilience is not what happens to you. It’s how you react to, respond to, and recover from what happens to you.” Jeffrey Gitomer***

Respectfully yours,

*Donna Johnston-Genest*

### **This is our story...**

Rivers West District for Sport, Culture & Recreation Inc. (Rivers West DSCR) was formed through the amalgamation of Battlefords Regional Recreation Association, Wild Goose Recreation Association, River Junction Recreation Association, and the Zone 7 Sport Council. The new District began operations on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, and is a registered non-profit corporation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

The geographic area served by Rivers West District is located in *West Central* Saskatchewan and encompasses the area from Pierceland and Dorintosh in the north, south to the South Saskatchewan River, and from the Alberta Border in the west to Tessier, Hafford and Medstead in the east.

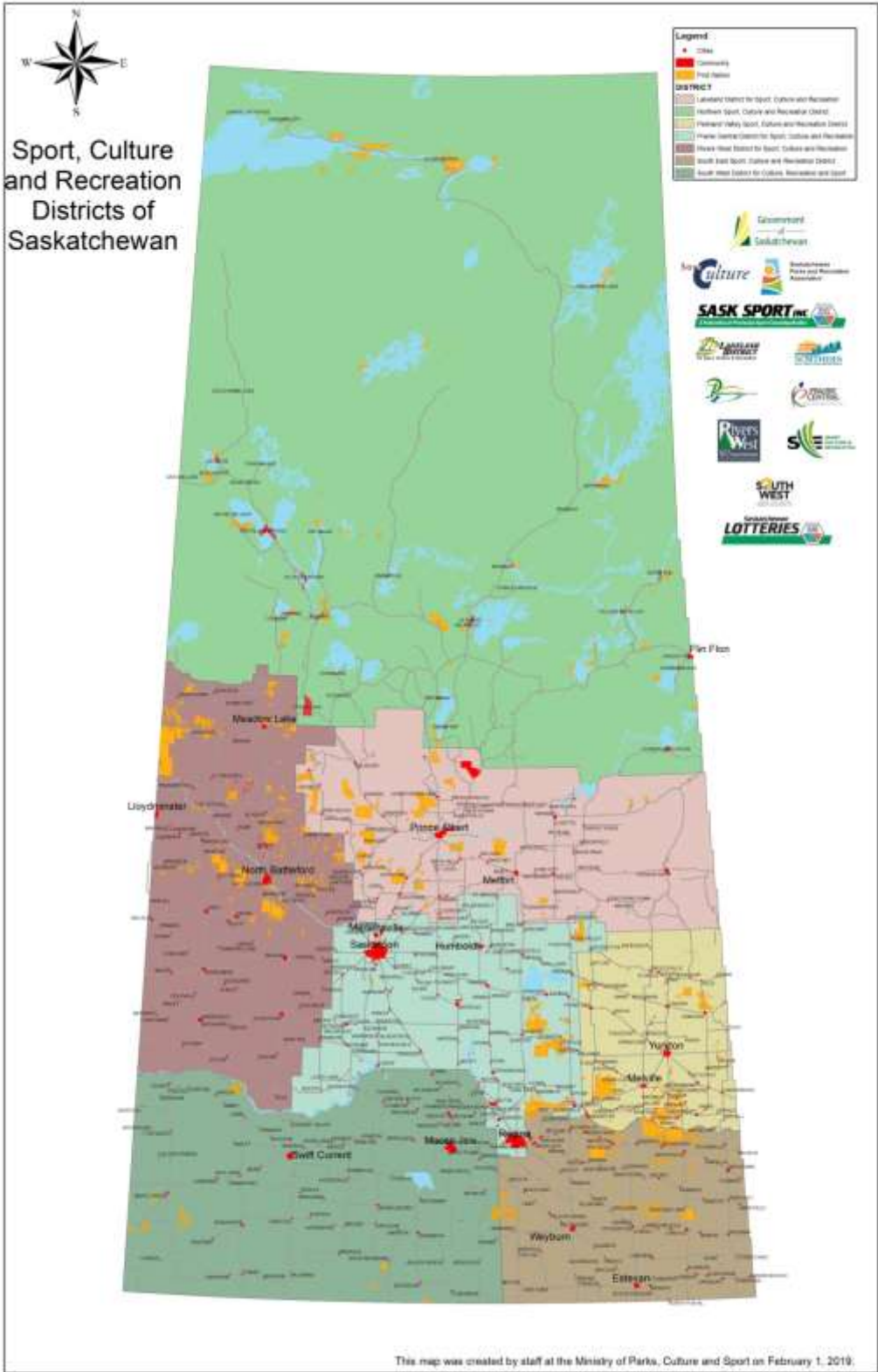
Rivers West District is one of 7 Sport, Culture & Recreation Districts in the Province which were formed through the Building Better Communities (BBC) initiative driven by SaskSport, SaskCulture, and Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association. These Districts are an integral part of the Sport, Culture & Recreation delivery system in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Rivers West District receives the bulk of its funding from revenue generated through the sale of lottery tickets in the province. The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation administers the lottery ticket revenue and this money funds over 12,000 Sport, Culture and Recreation groups.





# Map of Rivers West District



**2020-2021 Board of Directors & Staff**



Arlene Southgate, Chairperson  
Unity, Saskatchewan



Erin Poitras, Vice Chairperson  
Biggar, Saskatchewan



Jordan Schechtel, Treasurer  
Battleford, Saskatchewan



Ollie Marciniuk  
Hafford, Saskatchewan



Erin Munn  
North Battleford, Saskatchewan



Crytal Imrie  
Kyle, Saskatchewan



Lisa Watson  
Elrose, Saskatchewan

## VISION

All residents of West Central Saskatchewan will live healthy, active lifestyles through community access to, and participation in, diverse sport, culture, and recreation opportunities.

### 20020-2021 Staff



Donna Johnston-Genest,  
Executive Director



Cynthia Tymoruski,  
Community Development  
Coordinator



Bonnie Mills Midgley,  
Community Development  
Coordinator



Cheryl Clarke, Administrative  
Associate



Antje Rongve, District Dream  
Broker

## 2020-2021 Membership

Sask. Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum  
 Town of Battleford  
 Town of Biggar  
 Village of Borden  
 Coleville Recreation Association  
 Cut Knife Recreation Board  
 Clayton McLain Memorial Museum  
 Denzil & District Recreation Board  
 Village of Dinsmore  
 Dodsland Recreation Board  
 Town of Eatonia  
 RM of Chesterfield No. 261  
 RM of Turtle River No. 469  
 Elrose Monet Recreation Board  
 RM of Monet No. 257  
 Eston Riverside Regional Park  
 Town of Eston/Eston Recreation Board  
 Frenchman Butte Museum Society Inc  
 RM of Newcombe No. 260  
 Goodsoil Historical Museum Inc  
 Biggar Gymnastics Club  
 RM of Harris No. 316  
 Village of Harris  
 Ancient Echoes  
 RM of Grandview No. 349  
 Town of Kerrobert  
 Town of Kindersley  
 Kyle & District Recreation Board  
 RM of Lacadena No. 228  
 Town of Lashburn  
 Resort Village of Kivimaa-Moonlight Bay  
 RM of Britannia No. 502  
 City of Lloydminster  
 Norbion Cooperative Community Centre

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #165  
 RM of Loon Lake No. 561  
 Village of Loon Lake  
 Luseland Recreation Board  
 Town of Maidstone  
 Major Recreation Board  
 Medstead Skate Club  
 Village of Milden  
 Neilburg Recreation Board  
 Battlefords Minor Softball Assoc.  
 Battlefords Immigration Resource Centre  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of the Battlefords  
 Mamawe Ohkamihk Volunteer Committee  
 Red Cross Community Centre  
 RM of Frenchman Butte No. 501  
 Village of Paradise Hill  
 Paynton Park & Recreation Board  
 Village of Perdue  
 Village of Pierceland  
 Richard Recreation Board  
 Town of Rosetown  
 RM of Marriott No. 317  
 RM of Pleasant Valley No. 288  
 RM of Douglas No. 436  
 Town of St. Walburg  
 St. Walburg Allied Arts Council Inc.  
 Brightsand Lake Regional Park  
 RM of Mervin No. 499  
 Town of Turtleford/RM Mervin Fire  
 Town of Unity  
 Waseca Recreation Board  
 Town of Wilkie  
 Village of Wiseton



## 10-Year Service Awards

This year, two Board Members and one Staff Member received their 10-year service awards. Unfortunately, we were not able to present the awards in person. Board Members, Erin Poitras and Jordan Schechtel, along with Staff Member, Bonnie Mills Midgley, have been with the District since 2010.

Congratulations and Thank You!



## OUR VALUES

### **Respect**

We will act with fairness, honesty, and professionalism. We will value each other's perspective, opinions, beliefs, and contributions.

### **Participation**

We will strive to diminish "participation for all" barriers.

### **Leadership**

We will take a *grassroots* approach to enhance communities through collaboration and development.

### **Inclusion**

We will strive to be an organization that embraces all cultures, practices gender equality, and inclusion of all ages and abilities.

### **Transparency**

We will be honest, fiscally responsible, ethical, open, and accountable in all that we do.

## 2020-2021 Programs & Services

**Indigenous Community Sport Grant Program (ICSGP)** - Indigenous Community Sport Program Grant (ICSPG) provides greater sport participation and development opportunities for Indigenous youth in Saskatchewan. Rivers West District adjudicated thirteen grants for a total of \$60,000. Funding is through SaskSport with grant dollars going to the development of volleyball, soccer, athletics, weightlifting, equine, disc golf, skating, archery, biathlon, and track. Due to COVID, applicants were only able to access funding for equipment. Some grants had to be returned because of shutdowns. We are now moving forward in the hopes that the grant money will support not only equipment but activities.

**Creative Kids** - Creative Kids is a charitable giving program designed to reduce social and financial barriers for children and youth who wish to participate in arts and cultural activities in Saskatchewan. In 2020, the Battlefords committee funded 50 of 54 applications, providing \$11,950 to the assist children and youth to access cultural activities in the community. Note that this number was down due to COVID, and the committee typically receives 75 applications per year. Rivers West District has two volunteer committees that help kids access culture on the west side of the province, one in North Battleford and one in Kindersley. Children and Youth in communities that do not fall under the umbrella of these two committees are able to access funding through the Provincial organization.

**SSFA 55+ Rivers West Committee** - The Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association 55+ (SSFA) Rivers West District committee were unable to host any games this year. We did create new Bingo Activity Events, whereby those wishing to participate could access bingo cards through email requests, as well as being accessible on the Rivers West Website. Participants filled them out and mailed them back to the committee for a prize. It was very successful, and participants had a lot of fun completing the activities. These included walking, napping, visiting with a friend, reading, painting, drawing, and activities specific to the season. The Bingo cards each had a theme: October 2020 *Fall into Bingo*, December 2020 *Holiday Fun Bingo*, February 2021 *We Are All Sweethearts Bingo*, and April *Hop, Hop into Spring Bingo*. The Rivers West SSFA committee also participated in some Zoom learning experiences.

**Rivers West District Dream Broker (DDB) program** - The DDB Program targets children and youth who are faced with various social and economic challenges that adversely affect their quality of life. These issues create barriers to sport, culture, and recreation such as: economic circumstance, awareness, cultural insensitivity, and access to transportation. Children, youth, and their caregivers are given support to provide greater opportunities that contribute to developing children and youth who are healthy, active, successful members of their community.

This is where the DDB comes in. The DDB works directly with children, youth, and their families from Connaught & Saint Mary's school in North Battleford to reduce barriers to gain access to existing sport, culture, and recreation activities. Since the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year over 250 students have successfully completed a program or activity with the Dream Broker program. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic most sport, culture & recreation activities in the community were cancelled or changed to adhere to the new restrictions to reduce the spread of the virus. Also, as soon as the pandemic began, schools prohibited all in-school extra curricular activities. It became difficult to register students for activities, so the Dream Brokers throughout the Province worked together to create a plan to provide alternative programming for students. Activity

kits became the main source of programming for students. Thanks to the amazing cooperation of each school, students were able to work on their activity kits at school during class time.

### **DDB Schools - Connaught School & St. Mary's School**

#### **St. Mary School**

The Dream Broker has been working solely in St. Mary's school this year. Being in the school has helped the DDB get to know the St. Mary's staff & students much better. Although there were plans to begin after school clubs in Fall 2020, due to restrictions, they were not allowed to go ahead. We are hoping to start after school clubs in Fall 2021. The DDB was allowed to work with classes during class times allowing many programs to go ahead. Some of the programs the DDB did in-class include various activity kits created and distributed by the Dream Broker, beading kits created by Shanda Ernest, art kits created by Shawn Piller, People's Cup clay carving project created by SILT studio in Regina and more! Over 175 St. Mary's students have been able to participate in the DDB programs. Unfortunately, the programs have been limited to non-physically active programs to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Because of this, the DDB looked for new ideas for programming and connected with NEWO Wellness an Indigenous based business that promotes well being for all through the teachings of the medicine wheel. They are currently preparing a presentation and care packs for students in Grade 5 & up for St. Mary's students. This program will begin in June 2021.

#### **Connaught School**

The DDB has not been allowed to work in Connaught School this year due to COVID-19 restrictions with the LSKYSD. For the first part of the school year, they prohibited all outside agencies to be in the school and promote any programs through the school. It wasn't until January 2021 that they began allowing the DDB to deliver activity kits to the school and would have Mrs. Humenny, the Community School Family Support Worker, to instruct the students during class time. With the help of Mrs. Humenny, the DDB has been able to send multiple activity kits to over 75 students at Connaught school. The DDB is hoping to be back in Connaught in Fall 2021 where she will be planning after school programs once again.

#### **Summer Camps & Programs**

In August 2020, the DDB was able to help organize a number of day camps for DDB students. There was a cultural, art, soccer & disc golf camp. All took place outdoors and required social distancing. There was great weather and a total of 20 families participated in one or a number of the camps. The DDB also delivered activity kits to families during the Spring & Summer of 2020. These were a huge success. This summer there will be numerous camps offered for students at St. Mary's & Connaught School. Currently, there is a basketball camp, soccer camp, and disc golf camp planned. The DDB is actively looking for more groups to host summer day camps.

**Battlefords KidSport** – The DDB is responsible for accepting paper applications on behalf of KidSport Battlefords. The online applications go straight to KidSport headquarters in Saskatoon. KidSport Battlefords does three fundraisers every year; fundraising and awareness BBQ (brings in about 4% of total fundraising revenue), lobster sales (about 11%), and Operation Red Nose through the Lions Club (about 85%). This year KidSport did not fundraise due to COVID restrictions. Although, they did get a generous donation from Montana's BBQ & Bar for \$2,500.

This year there were far fewer applications submitted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents were either not comfortable registering their children for activities or the sport organization had canceled their programs altogether. With restrictions lifting slightly in March/April, KidSport saw an increase in submissions for Spring activities like soccer, baseball, and gymnastics.

### Volunteering

#### Battlefords District Food & Resource Centre

In Fall 2020 the DDB began volunteering at the Battlefords District Food & Resource Centre (Foodbank) once a week to fill her hours. Since then, the DDB has participated in the Care Pack program that they offer. The program helps students at schools who do not have enough food in their homes to feed the kids during the weekends. The packs include 3 meals for two days as well as snacks to cover them for the days they are away from school. This program will continue into the summer as well in the form of the “after the bell” program through Foodbanks Canada.

#### Meals on Wheels

The DDB has been volunteering with Meals on Wheels since Spring of 2020 to fill hours. The program takes place at lunch hour everyday and the DDB volunteers on Fridays. The program has been a great addition to the DDB’s week and has even allowed her to get vaccinated for COVID-19 as a volunteer with SHA.

**KidSport** – Did you know? Rivers West District currently has 9 KidSport communities. Those committees, comprised entirely by volunteers, assisted 842 children in 2020-2021 to the tune of \$49,923. The top 5 funded sports, across the province, were hockey, soccer, gymnastics, skating, and cheerleading.

The Battlefords – funded 28 kids for a total of \$8,223.

Biggar & Area – funded 15 kids for a total of \$2,668.

Eston – funded 2 kids for a total of \$850.

Kerrobert – funded 3 kids for a total of \$1,220.

Kindersley – funded 11 kids for a total of \$3,875.

Lloydminster – funded 649 kids for a total of \$23,858.

Meadow Lake – funded 20 kids for a total of \$2,301.

Rosetown & Area – funded 100 kids for a total of \$3,417.

Unity – funded 14 kids for a total of \$3,511.

KidSport Saskatchewan – <http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/saskatchewan/> supported 626 kids for a total of \$94,474 in communities that do not have a local KidSport committee.





**Volunteer Recognition Awards** - Our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Volunteer Recognition Program (VRP) moved forward this year without a banquet to honour the recipients. Recipients were mailed their awards and were highlighted on our social media sites and website. Recognition award plaques were created by Audrey Greves who is a resident of Paradise Hill.

**2021 Award Recipients:**

**Sport - Athlete of the Year:** Robyn Hunter (Hillmond).

**Sport - Coach of the Year:** Boyd Wakelin (Battleford).

**Sport - Event of the Year:** Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame Annual Induction (Battleford).

**Culture - Development and Promotion:** Walk 2gether Stand 2gether (Battlefords).

**Culture - Artist of the Year:** Azby Whitecalf (Gallivan).

**Culture - Event of the Year:** Battlefords Untapped Podcast (Battlefords).

**Culture - Historical Preservation:** Velma Foster Bresaylor Heritage Museum (Paynton).

**Recreation - Professional of the Year:** Clay DeBray (Flying Dust First Nations).

**Recreation - Facility - Renovated or New Build:** Kerrobert Library Board & Staff (Kerrobert).

**District Dream Broker-Service Provider of the Year:** Battlefords Gymnastics Club (Battlefords).

**Over-All Volunteer:** Mary Ramsay (Cut Knife) & Melvin Sawatzky (Cut Knife).



*Thank You!*

**Mobile Playground Program (MPP)** - Traditionally, Rivers West District ran our Mobile Playground Program each summer, beginning with hiring four Mobile Playground Coordinators to develop and operate the program. This past year, we are unable to run our traditional program. So, we developed a one-time funding opportunity for our member communities and organizations within those communities. Our priority is to have children and youth increase their physical, cultural, and recreational activity.

There were 4 Grant Streams that communities could apply for during the 2020-2021 year:

Stream A: Sport Development

Stream B: Physical Activity & Recreation Development

Stream C: Arts/Culture Development

Stream D: Equipment/Supplies – Sport, Culture & Recreation

During the 2020-2021 program year, there were 23 successful applications for things such as sporting equipment, traditional knowledge sharing, art in the park, soccer equipment, and youth centre programs. Applications came from throughout the District and will impact sport, culture, and recreation programs and services for years to come.

**Saskatchewan Games Program** - The 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games that were postponed until 2021 were ultimately cancelled in November of 2020. The Host Community in Lloydminster will be given first opportunity to host the 2024 Saskatchewan Summer Games.



At the 2022 Saskatchewan Winter Games in Regina there will be 17 different sports featured. Alpine Skiing, Artistic Swimming, Biathlon, Bowling - Special Olympics, Curling, Gymnastics, Judo, Speed Skating, Table Tennis, Weightlifting, Badminton, Cross Country and Para Nordic Ski, Figure Skating, Futsal - F + M, Snowboarding, Target Shooting, Wrestling.

**7 days, 9 District Teams, 17 sports**

100+ host organizing committee **volunteers**

1,000+ community **volunteers**

1,800+ **athletes, coaches, and officials**

5,000+ **spectators**

\$3M+ in economic **impact**



**Coaching Assistance Program** - Rivers West District identified a need to assist coaches in obtaining various levels of coaching certification. In the rural areas of Saskatchewan, it is sometimes a challenge to ensure that a minimum of 10 participants enrol in a NCCP Clinic. Rivers West District developed an assistance program to help coaches offset costs associated with traveling to the larger centres to participate in NCCP clinics and CAAWS workshops not offered in the rural areas. Nineteen of our District coaches took advantage of the Coaching Assistance Program (CAP) to upgrade their coaching certification outside of the District in 2020-2021.

Rivers West District hosted and/or partnered to offer 20 Canadian Women in Sport workshops. Topics included: Effective Communication, Effective Networking, Women on Boards, Leading with Confidence, Conflict Management, Leading the Way (LGBTQI2S Inclusion), Influencing Change, and Life Balance.

### **International Women's Day March 8<sup>th</sup>**

It was rewarding to partner with Prairie Central District on *GRL PWR: Empowered Girls, Empower Girls* Lunch and Learn event. Lara Schroeder, Sparks Solutions, Saskatoon, was both a guest speaker and the moderator for the conversations with Jayden Lawson, Joelle Buckle, Brian Grest and Kaylan Berg. Eight-five attendees, which included four classrooms' students, joined us for a very informative lunch hour.

### **Sport Medicine and Science Council Workshops**

As a collaboration of the Sport Culture and Recreation Districts in the Province, a twelve-month series of workshops was established beginning in January 2021. Interested individuals, no matter where they are located, were welcome to attend sessions of interest. Rivers West District hosted the first sessions, *Injury Prevention and Care*, on January 27<sup>th</sup> with both a Lunch and Learn and evening event. The South West District hosted the February workshops *Concussion Education & Management: Coaches/Parents/Administrators Focused Workshop* Lunch and Learn and there was also an evening workshop. *Concussion Education & Management: Athlete Focus* Lunch and Learn and evening events. Lakeland District was the host for the two sessions on *Optimal Sports Nutrition*.

**Dive In-Saskatchewan Aquatic Talk series** - These events were arranged by the SE District, with an invitation (without any financial commitment) to other Districts to join in promoting the learning:

March 23<sup>rd</sup> - Part One: Aquatic Strategies: Helping You Stay Afloat!

March 30<sup>th</sup> - Part Two: Meet and Greet with Red Cross and Lifesaving Society

### **Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan**

Rivers West staff members, along with 50 community members, participated in MCoS's September 19<sup>th</sup> *Walk 2gether Stand 2gether* event in North Battleford. As per the planning notes, "A goal of the event is to attract residents of the city and surrounding areas who are 'non-believers' those who may not embrace multiculturalism and anti-racism practices or are ignorant to it as well as those who are not already actively engaged."

### **Let's Talk Heritage**

Rivers West was one of the Districts that partnered on an online session created by the Saskatchewan Heritage Conservation Branch. The September 23<sup>rd</sup> event's topics, delivered to 51 participants from across the province, included:

- An education/overview on heritage properties including the heritage designation programs and the benefits.
- What designation means and what it does not mean: dispelling common myths and misconception around preservation.
- Community stories – municipal and provincial designations.

**SPRA Enhanced Member Support Initiative** - Through our participation in this initiative we have been afforded the opportunity to enhance our programming and services to our members. The following programs and services are a direct result of our partnership with SPRA on this initiative.

**Community Visitations** - The District continued our community visitations virtually this past year. Rivers West District staff, in coordination with SPRA Field Consultants, plan visits with members in the District who are directly involved with Sport, Culture & Recreation. Visitations took place with the Town of Battleford, Village of Borden, Cut Knife Recreation Board, Town of Kerrobert, Town of Lashburn, and Flying Dust First Nation.

To accomplish these visitations, we employ various methods such as: personal visits by the Rivers West District staff, conducting workshops and clinics in the communities, our participation in committees such as the West Central Municipal Government Committee, and now through our virtual communication tools. We continue to build our extensive community profiles, complete with pictures of facilities and unique features of the community. We have built a strong communication network that informs our members about Rivers West District and our Global partners through these visitations.

**Communities in Bloom Workshop** - On September 28<sup>th</sup>, the District was a partner in the delivery of a *Let's Talk Trees* session with Andrew Exelby, Consultant, Parks and Open Spaces with SPRA (and the provincial Communities in Bloom Coordinator). He discussed how to pick the “right” tree, reviewed key tree species and shared his knowledge and suggestions for proper pruning, planting, and mulching practices with fourteen participants.

**Grant Writing Workshops** - Wendy Plandowski facilitated this training many times during the year - on June 2<sup>nd</sup> (20 attendees), November 30<sup>th</sup> (15 attendees), January 7<sup>th</sup> (16 attendees), January 29<sup>th</sup> (24 attendees), and on March 26<sup>th</sup> (13 in attendance).

**Strategic Planning Tips for Boards** – Glenys Reeves-Gibbs, facilitating was hosted on June 4<sup>th</sup> with 8 attendees.

**Financial Management for Non-Profit Organizations Workshop** - with facilitator, Wendy Plandowski, was hosted on May 26<sup>th</sup> with eight people in attendance.

**Non-Profit Fund-Raising Strategies** – Wendy Plandowski shared her strategies on June 11<sup>th</sup> with 9 people.

**Volunteer Recruitment and Retention** – Wendy Plandowski’s knowledge and ideas were shared with six attendees on both June 16<sup>th</sup> and June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Leading Through Change** - Wendy Plandowski conducted this session on June 23<sup>rd</sup> with 5 in attendance. This 90-minute session addressed ways we can still meet our missions and develop winning change strategies during the pandemic times.

**Running an Effective Board Meeting** – Glenys Reeves-Gibbs, facilitating, was hosted on June 11<sup>th</sup> with 7 attendees.

**Board Governance** – Glenys Reeves-Gibbs, facilitating, was hosted on May 21<sup>st</sup> with 5 attendees.

Strategies for Success for Board Chairs - sessions were popular and Wendy Plandowski conducted six workshops: December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, February 22 and 25<sup>th</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Sixty individuals learned about being effective Chairs and/or how to support the Chair in preparing for and attending meetings.

Recreation Practitioners Support – *Recreation Practitioners’ meetings/ Friends Around the Table Gathering* - On August 18<sup>th</sup>, and again on September 17<sup>th</sup>, Rivers West District hosted *Things to Do Today for Our Success Tomorrow* virtual workshops with Brenda Robinson (The Robcan Group) facilitating. Brenda presented to an audience of thirty over the two sessions.

Brenda shared her thoughts and ideas on *Working Together in an Intergenerational World* with virtual sessions on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, much to the enjoyment of the twenty-eight people who attended.

Rivers West District invited Brenda to present *Strategies for Building Community Engagement* in three sessions at the end of March. Even with the challenges that the March 29<sup>th</sup> snowstorm offered, a total of thirty-five individuals heard Brenda’s stories and suggestions.

Collaborative Problem Solving - Using the Thomas/Kilmann Conflict Mode Instrument, with a pre-event questionnaire, Glenys Reeves-Gibbs’ July 23<sup>rd</sup> session focused on the five styles for handling conflict- competing, collaborating, compromising, avoiding, and accommodating. The questionnaire’s results provided a basis for participants to identify their most preferred and least preferred style for handling conflict-their conflict comfort zone.

### Partnerships

Sport Medicine & Science Council of Saskatchewan (SMSCS)  
Saskatchewan Health Region  
West Central Municipal Government Committee  
District Dream Broker Advisory Committee  
KidSport Battlefords  
Creative Kids Battlefords  
Provincial Sport, Culture & Recreation Districts  
Provincial Eligible Cultural Organizations  
Provincial Sport Governing Bodies  
Provincial Recreation Organizations  
Sask Sport Inc.  
SaskCulture Inc.  
Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.



Saskatchewan Games Council  
City of Lloydminster  
City of North Battleford  
Town of Battleford  
*in motion* Lloydminster  
Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan  
Battleford Boys & Girls Club  
Battlefords Youth Network  
Heart of Treaty Six (HOT 6)