

# OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers  
of Saskatchewan

## President's Report

Robert Wuschenny

In *Fisherman's Luck*, Henry Van Dyke said, "The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another." How true this is in Saskatchewan, for rarely do the two coincide. However, a recent warm spell and more daylight hours do signal that spring is near.

The Provincial Executive met on March 4-5, 2014 in Saskatoon. Our current membership is 10,335. We look forward to welcoming more superannuates as retirements occur. Please remind active teachers contemplating retirement in the near future that this year we will host two Retirement Lifestyles Seminars, one in Regina and one in Saskatoon. Details as to dates and registration may be found elsewhere in this issue of *Outreach* as well as in the STF *Bulletin*.

Our AGM takes place on May 13-15, 2014 at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon. The AGM Planning Committee, co-chaired by Elaine Broughton and Joyce Hoffman, have planned an informative and entertaining AGM for delegates. Chapter Presidents are reminded to submit their list of delegates and Chapter reports to the STS Office by April 1, 2014.

Members should be aware that the current Canada Health Accord will expire on March 31, 2014. More information can be found on the

Health Canada website. Both ACER-CART and our STS Advocacy Committee are monitoring implications for our members as a result of the expiration of the Accord.

The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee and the Executive reviewed the financial statements. A proposed budget for 2014-15 is included in this issue of *Outreach*. Please note that the proposal is for a balanced budget with no increase in fees, but with some modification in rebates to Chapters.

We are currently in the second of a three-year Extended Health and Dental contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross. I am pleased to report that the plan is doing well. Again, I thank Plan members for taking ownership of the Plan and for judicious and careful use of the Plan. It is important for Plan members to note that applying for top up insurance beyond 65 days while on extended travel is not part of the STS Travel Plan. Top up insurance should be purchased before leaving on extended travel.

Resolutions received to date are printed in this issue of *Outreach*. Please review them and provide feedback to your AGM delegates. It is still not too late to submit resolutions. Similarly, I encourage you to consider a leadership role in your Provincial organization by

submitting your name as a candidate for the Executive. Incidentally, we really do have fun while taking care of Provincial STS business at the same time!

Your STS Councillors will attend the STF Annual Council Meeting in Saskatoon on April 30 – May 3, 2014, where we will debate issues and vote on resolutions submitted to the STF by local associations and/or active teachers.

We are, indeed, grateful to STS Chapters that host Provincial recreation activities. Please register for Provincial Bowling, hosted by the Moose Jaw Chapter on May 1-2, 2014, and/or for golf, hosted by Humboldt Chapter on June 9-10, 2014. Please check *Outreach* for information on other upcoming Provincial recreation activities.

Speaking of recreation, where have all the fish gone? Won't someone please host a fishing derby? I believe we still have fish in our lakes, but with no host on the horizon, our fishers may soon run short of "fish tales". Any bites?

Visits to several Chapters in the next few weeks are in the works. I look forward to meeting members at meetings and gatherings as well as at our upcoming AGM in May. Meanwhile, Happy Spring and Happy Easter!

# 41st Annual General Meeting of the STS

Tuesday, May 13 – Thursday, May 15, 2014

Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

Elaine Broughton & Joyce Hoffman

The 41st STS AGM will be held on Tuesday, May 13 to Thursday, May 15, 2014, at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon.

Again this year we will have a McDowell Foundation Raffle with wonderful prizes. Thank you for donations from the Humboldt and Last Mountain Chapters, as well as, Joe Kurtz from the Kindersley Chapter.

In January preliminary AGM information was sent to Chapter Presidents. Delegates will receive their information once their names have been submitted to the office. This must be done before April 1st. Delegates are reminded to make their reservations at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon no later than April 10.

## Congratulations

The following members were selected for Honorary Life Membership for 2014 and will be presented with their certificates at the AGM:

**Margaret Martin**, Saskatoon Chapter

**Elsie Mironuck**, Regina Chapter

**April Sampson**, Weyburn Chapter

## Agenda

### Tuesday, May 13

**5:30-7:15 p.m.**

Registration – Galaxy Ballroom

**7:15 p.m.**

Welcome – President Robert Wuschenny  
Address by Candidates for STS Executive  
Entertainment – Kristian Wenaus  
Informal Social to follow

### Wednesday, May 14

**7:15-8:30 a.m.**

Breakfast

**9:00-11:45 a.m.**

Plenary Session followed by small group sessions to discuss resolutions and proposed budget for 2014-15

**11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Presentation of Membership Growth Awards and Announcement of Chapter Awards followed by lunch

**1:00-3:55 p.m.**

Five Interest Sessions

**5:00 p.m.**

Social Time

**6:00 p.m.**

Banquet  
Presentation of the Honorary Life Memberships  
Entertainment – Colleen Carr/Heidi Munro

### Thursday, May 15

**7:15-8:30 a.m.**

Breakfast

**8:45 a.m.**

Greetings from STF President Colin Keess

**9:00 a.m.**

Annual General Meeting

## Nominations

Margaret Martin

As per the Policy Handbook, Page 5, Number 1: Nominations are called to elect the following Executive (President, Vice-President, Five Councillors, Seven Members-at-Large, and an ACER-CART Representative). Nominations will be received until four o'clock in the evening of the day prior to the elections for the STS Executive.

### Executive Nominations for 2014–15

*(Received to Date):*

**President/Councillor:**

- Doug Haroldson

**Vice-President/Councillor:**

- Jerry Mamer
- Maxine Stinka

**ACER-CART Representative:**

- George Georget

**Councillors: (5 to be elected)**

- Calvin Bachmeier
- Joyce Hoffman
- Mike Kaminski
- Sunil Pandila
- Helen Sukovieff

**Members at Large:**

*(7 to be elected)*

- Elaine Broughton
- Judy Buzowetsky
- Shirley Henderson
- Roger Marchand
- Kate McCorriston

**STS email address: [sts@sts.sk.ca](mailto:sts@sts.sk.ca)**

Check out our website at [www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca)

# Budget, Finance and Audit – Doug Haroldson

## Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Proposed Budget: July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

INCOME	2011-2012 ACTUAL	2012-2013 BUDGET	2012-2013 ACTUAL	2013-2014 BUDGET	2013-2014 7 Mo Actual	2014-2015 PROPOSED
Membership Fees	291,537.00	300,000.00	299,416.00	310,000.00	181,534.50	320,000.00
Admin Commission (Benefits Plan)	229,984.00	232,000.00	261,939.00	270,000.00	162,510.86	290,000.00
Dividend Income						
Interest Income	3,813.00	2,000.00	3,090.00	4,000.00	1,648.20	3,000.00
Sundry	1,603.00		206.00		200.00	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$526,937.00</b>	<b>\$534,000.00</b>	<b>\$564,651.00</b>	<b>\$584,000.00</b>	<b>345,893.56</b>	<b>614,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Annual General Meeting	78,217.00	90,000.00	94,815.00	90,000.00	33.45	95,000.00
Amortization	1,965.00	1,000.00	7,348.00	2,000.00	5,274.97	10,000.00
Chapter Rebates	68,496.00	78,000.00	70,576.00	74,000.00	72,472.00	78,000.00
Executive and Committee Meetings	27,551.00	36,000.00	28,780.00	36,000.00	21,849.23	36,000.00
STS Affiliations	6,665.00	7,000.00	10,214.00	8,500.00	4,310.51	10,000.00
Executive Chapter Travel	12,597.00	12,000.00	9,254.00	14,000.00	6,336.78	12,000.00
Chapter Presidents' Meeting	11,578.00	12,000.00	10,653.00	14,000.00	10,444.32	12,000.00
Communications, Membership Growth, PR	46,382.00	48,000.00	52,242.00	56,000.00	22,086.86	56,000.00
Retirement Life Styles Planning Committee	670.00	2,000.00	1,984.00	4,000.00	1,564.11	4,000.00
Support Services Planning Committee	737.00	2,000.00	785.00	2,000.00	1,174.26	3,000.00
Recreation	2,916.00	5,000.00	2,374.00	4,000.00	1,063.20	3,000.00
Office Staff	137,650.00	140,000.00	138,321.00	160,000.00	86,687.76	170,000.00
Office Operation	71,415.00	75,000.00	75,673.00	90,000.00	35,656.64	100,000.00
Computer and Programming	4,446.00	20,000.00	15,208.00	24,000.00	9,283.35	20,000.00
McDowell Foundation	2,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Scholarships	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Service Charge	132.00	1,000.00	170.00	500.00	69.99	500.00
Management Fees						
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$475,417.00</b>	<b>\$534,000.00</b>	<b>\$522,397.00</b>	<b>\$584,000.00</b>	<b>\$282,307.43</b>	<b>\$614,000.00</b>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)						0

### NOTES:

Note 1: The proposed budget for 2014-2015 is based on an annual fee of \$30.00.

Note 2: A financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, will be prepared as soon as possible after year-end, audited, and made available to all STS Chapters. Copies of the audited financial statement for 2013-2014 will also be made available to all AGM delegates at the 2015 AGM.

Note 3: The Operations Reserve Fund had a balance of \$254,734.00 as at June 30, 2013. Should a deficit be incurred for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, it would be covered by monies from the Operations Reserve Fund.

### ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 10,400 Members

2. Rebate to Chapters as follows:

<50 = \$10.00; 50-100 = \$9.00; > 100 = \$8.00

# STS Resolutions 2014

Mike Kaminski

**Resolutions received to date:**

## **A. Resolutions Directed to the STS**

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**A 1.**

### **Bylaw 1 – Membership**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Bylaw 1 – Membership be amended by adding the following:

6. Any teacher or the surviving spouse of a teacher who takes the commuted value of a pension from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan or the Saskatchewan Teachers' Superannuation Plan.

**STS Executive**

**A 2.**

### **STS Bylaw 6 – Duties of Executive and Executive Officers**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that STS Bylaw 6 – Duties of Executive and Executive Officers be amended by adding the following:

- 6.1.10 Dissolve or re-establish the STS by a meeting of the STS Executive following full consultation with STS Chapters.

**STS Executive**

**A 3.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan establish a policy in support of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation as a unitary professional organization representing all teachers in the pre K-12 education system in Saskatchewan as it applies to the regulation of teacher certification and disciplinary authority in cases of alleged professional misconduct and/or incompetence.

**STS Executive**

**A 4.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS oppose any change to the certification of retired teachers.

**Potashville Esterhazy Chapter**

**A 5.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS attempt to negotiate an increase to the current maximum of \$1700.00 per year for drug coverage with Saskatchewan Blue Cross for the STS Extended Health and Dental plan.

**Weyburn Chapter**

**A 6.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS encourage Chapter Presidents to organize dates for presidential visits to Chapters so that the STS President is not making repeated trips to the same area of the province.

**Tisdale Chapter**

**A 7.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS urge the Saskatchewan Seniors' Mechanism to advocate the Government of Saskatchewan to allow tax deductions for fees associated with seniors' physical activity-based programs.

**Saskatoon Chapter**

**A 8.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS urge the Saskatchewan Seniors' Mechanism to advocate the Government of Saskatchewan to develop a long-term commitment to work with community agencies and stakeholders so that more seniors live safely and independently at home with the proper community and individual supports rather than in care facilities.

**Saskatoon Chapter**

**A 9.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that STS negotiate with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to provide coverage for all physician prescribed chronic disease management programs with a yearly maximum of \$300.00.

**Saskatoon Chapter**

**A 10.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS continue to conduct periodic surveys of its members to determine priorities for the Group Benefit plan prior to negotiating renewal contracts with Saskatchewan Blue Cross.

**Saskatoon Chapter**

**A 11.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS amend Guideline 2 – Chapters and Committees Hosting Recreational Events: 2.4 (Finances) to increase the grant level to \$450.00. This grant will be paid in two installments (\$350 upon application and \$100 upon receiving the handbook and final report for the event).

**Saskatoon Chapter**

**A 12.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS increase the rebate to Chapters by a minimum of \$1.00 per member.

**STS Saskatoon Chapter Executive**

**A 13.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS annual fee for 2014-2015 be \$30.00 per person.

**STS Executive**

**A 14.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS annual rebate to Chapters for 2014-2015 be as follows:

- <50 - \$10.00 per member
- 50-100 - \$ 9.00 per member
- >100 - \$ 8.00 per member

**STS Executive**

## B. Resolutions

### Directed to the STF

#### B 1.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS request the STF to add one representative from the STS Executive to the STF Collective Bargaining Committee.

South Central Chapter

## C. Resolutions

### Directed to ACER-CART

#### C 1.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS urge ACER-CART to advocate the Government of Canada to allow tax deductions for fees associated with seniors' physical activity-based programs.

Saskatoon Chapter

#### C 2.

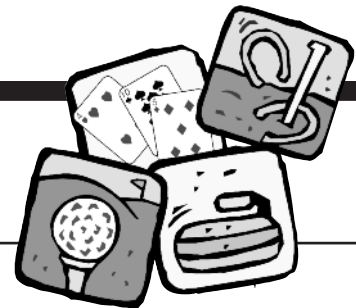
**BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS urge ACER-CART to advocate the Government of Canada to enact a posthumous pardon for Metis leader Louis Riel from his conviction for treason in 1885.

Weyburn Chapter

# Recreation – Calvin Bachmeier

## Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .



### Bowling

Date: May 1-2, 2014  
Host: Moose Jaw Chapter  
Contacts:

Richard Towriss  
Phone: 1-306-692-2562  
Email: richtowriss@hotmail.com

Elaine Parsons  
Phone: 1-306-692-4634  
Email: elaineparsons@hotmail.com

(Registration form is located on the STS website [www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca))

### Bridge

Host needed for 2014

### Fishing

Host needed for 2014

### Curling

Date: November 3-5, 2014  
Host: Prince Albert Chapter  
Contact: Merv Wiesner

Phone: 306-922-4444 (h) or  
306-961-2473 (c)  
Email: [mj4.weisner@sasktel.net](mailto:mj4.weisner@sasktel.net)

### Golf

Date: June 9-10, 2014  
Host: Humboldt Chapter  
Place: Humboldt Golf Course  
Contact: Carol Oleksyn

Phone: 1-306-682-2862  
Email: [carololeksyn@sasktel.net](mailto:carololeksyn@sasktel.net)  
(Registration form is located on the STS website [www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca))

### Kaiser

Host needed for 2014

### Stitch 'N Quilt

Date: October 6-8, 2014  
Host: Regina Chapter  
Location: Best Western  
Seven Oaks Inn  
Contact: Adeline Wuschenny  
Phone: 306-545-2512

*If Chapters are interested in hosting provincial events please contact the STS office or a member of the Recreation Committee. We would also be open to any proposals for new events.*

## Special Project

Teacher retirees, who previously taught school in the Hudson Bay School Division No. 52, or that general area, are invited to participate in a special project conducted by the Red Deer River Valley Chapter of the STS. The project involves a collection of teaching career histories on as many former teachers as possible. For further information or for submitting your career history, retirees are invited to write to Lynda Gudjonson, President of the Red Deer River Valley Chapter of STS, Box 302, Porcupine Plain SK S0E 1H0

## Congratulations

Barry Elderkin, of the Maple Creek – Medicine Hat Chapter, was named Maple Creek Citizen of the year for his many years of volunteering in our community.

# Stitch 'N Quilt

Shirley Goodrich, Humboldt Chapter

The STS Stitch 'N Quilt 2013 was a huge success. Fourteen quilters from around the province gathered together at the Bella Vista in Humboldt for forty eight hours of fun, quilting, sharing and learning. A local quilter, Bev Harding taught a class of fabric postcard making. These gems can actually be mailed. The participants learned many embellishing techniques. After supper on Tuesday, we all went to Haus of Stitches for some demos on binding and new tools. We all shopped for more fabric and tools. The next day, several quilters made a Christmas wall hanging in a class taught by Shirley Goodrich. Our coffee breaks were enhanced with muffins and banana bread (thank you Alice and Thelma) as well as rousing games of strip bingo. All the quilters brought their own projects to

sew on and it was interesting to see the different techniques being used. It was also an opportunity for those with questions to ask for advice or direction.

We sewed a Jelly Roll Quilt on Wednesday afternoon. It will be finished and quilted for the Stirling McDowell Foundation fund raising raffle in 2014.

Our Chapter president, Cecile Buehler, joined us for dinner by the pool on Wednesday evening. A little wine and cheese reception warmed us up for a Quilt Trivia tournament. Our champion and runner up each received a unique quilt themed thumb drive. We were also able to have door prizes for each participant. After a wonderful supper the quilters returned to their projects for more sewing.

Thursday morning saw all the quilters hard at work. It was amazing how many projects were completed and/or well on their way to being so. By early afternoon they packed up their machines and stashes and headed for home. All the ratings and comments on the evaluation sheets were "excellent" and better. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Bella Vista was wonderful to us. They looked after our breakfasts and lunches individually, and our evening meals were excellent. Coffee, tea, water and fruit were all provided as part of our coffee arrangements.

The committee would like to give a huge thank you to those who assisted us in all our plans. I would also thank the committee for their hard work in making this retreat such a wonderful experience for everybody.



Back Row: Connie Asmundson, Linda Dunn, Sharon Baker, Thelma Pearce, Eunice Martin, Lorraine Smith, Louise Mueller  
Front Row: Gladys Oleksyn, Joy Poulton, Shirley Goodrich, Rosemarie Buttlinger, Ann Norgan, Lynda Klemenz, Irene Norton,

## Anniversary

To teachers who taught at Major School in Major, Saskatchewan – the Village of Major is celebrating its 100th anniversary on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 1, 2, & 3, 2014. For further information go to [www.villageofmajor.ca](http://www.villageofmajor.ca). Come to renew acquaintances and to say goodbye to Major School which closes June 30, 2014.

## ACER-CART

George Georget

ACER-CART has been monitoring and addressing the matter of the expiration of the Canada Health Accord and the fact that the Government of Canada has decided not to renegotiate it. This has serious implications for all citizens of Canada. ACER-CART has a Closed Facebook Group Account to promote a regular exchange of information and an on-going discussion among the representatives of its Member Associations between its annual AGMs. The focus has been on the defence of defined benefit plans and pension security in general, as well as, national health policies and services based on the five principles including: Public Administration, Comprehensiveness, Universality, Portability, and Accessibility. These will be neutralized when the current Health Accord expires at the end of March, 2014. Like many other organizations and advocacy groups, Canada-wide, ACER-CART is making plans to ensure that this is a major election issue during the 2015 Federal Election.

## Advocacy Report

Margaret Martin

The Advocacy Committee noted that the current Canada Health Accord will expire as of March 31, 2014. The Committee discussed any actions that STS should take at this time. It is important for each of our members to become aware of this Canada Health Accord, what it contains, and its importance to each of us.

“First Ministers agree that access to timely care across Canada is our biggest concern and a national priority. First Ministers have come together and agreed on an action plan based on the following principles:

- universality, accessibility, portability, comprehensiveness, and public administration;
- access to medically necessary health services based on need, not ability to pay;
- reforms focused on the needs of patients to ensure that all

Canadians have access to the health care services they need, when they need them;

- collaboration between all governments, working together in common purpose to meet the evolving health care needs of Canadians;
- advancement through the sharing of best practices;
- continued accountability and provision of information to make progress transparent to citizens; and;
- jurisdictional flexibility.”

This is a portion of the Canada Health Accord information that is noted in greater detail on the Health Canada website. Please become informed. Our next Canadian Federal election will be in 2015, and the next Provincial election will be in 2016.

## Group Benefits Report

Margaret Martin

The Group Benefits Committee reviewed the Claims Experience Report for the Extended Health and Dental Plan for the period ending January 31, 2014. The Plan is doing well financially. There are surpluses for the STS Extended Health and Dental Plan after the first seven months of the second year of the current contract. Our contract year for our Group Benefits Plan is July 1 to June 30 of the following year. The current three year contract will expire on June 30, 2015. We also reviewed the Membership Report as of March 1, 2014, showing 6118 STS members participating in the Plan.

**It is important to note that top-up insurance for travel days beyond the first 65 days of travel for our members is not a part of our STS Extended Health Plan.** This insurance may be purchased by our STS members if they qualify from Saskatchewan Blue Cross or other travel insurance providers. It is the responsibility of STS members to contact these travel insurance providers directly to inquire about purchasing days to top-up the 65 days included in our STS Extended Health Plan.

## From The Editor's Desk

I want to express a sincere apology to the dear woman featured in our Spotlight in the last issue. We honored Freda Marion McCallum and the two books that she has written: *Memories* and *Freda's Favourite*. Both titles should have been italicized. Please accept our apology for the omissions!

The STS AGM is fast approaching. Details and information are in this issue.

On closing, the only person you should try to be better than is the person you were yesterday.

Take care and may spring be here real soon!

Shirley

### Reminder Seniors' Drug Plan

If you are the primary plan holder of the STS Group Benefits Plan and are eligible for the Seniors' Drug Plan, please send a copy of the confirmation letter to the STS Office in order to have your monthly Extended Health premium reduced. If you are no longer eligible for the Seniors' Drug Plan please notify the STS office.

## STS Executive 2013-14

**President/Councillor**

Robert Wuschenny, Regina Chapter

**Vice-President/Councillor**

Doug Haroldson, Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter

**Past-President/Councillor**

Margaret Martin, Saskatoon Chapter

**Executive Secretary**

Fred Herron, Saskatoon Chapter

**ACER-CART Representative**

George Georget, Saskatoon Chapter

**Councillors:**

Joyce Hoffman

Swift Current Chapter

Mike Kaminski

Assiniboine Chapter

Gerald Mamer

Saskatoon Chapter

Maxine Stinka

Assiniboine Chapter

Helen Sukovieff

Regina Chapter

**Members-At-Large:**

Calvin Bachmeier

Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter

Elaine Broughton

Saskatoon Chapter

Judy Buzowetsky

Weyburn Chapter

Shirley Henderson

Prince Albert Chapter

Roger Marchand

South Central Chapter

Kate McCorriston

Nipawin Chapter

Sunil Pandila

Moose Jaw Chapter

### STS Office Notice

1. If there will be a change in your Delegates' list for the AGM please notify the Office immediately but no later than May 2.
2. Chapter Reports need to be forwarded to the Office by April 13.
3. If your Chapter has awarded any Chapter merit awards, please let the Office know the names of the recipients by April 13.
4. The list of Chapter Officers for 2014-15 should be sent to the Office by June 30, 2014.
5. The STS Office will be closed May 13-15 to enable staff to attend the AGM.

## OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

To control costs, one copy is sent to households where both spouses are members. If this is not satisfactory, please contact the STS office in Saskatoon.

**The Outreach is available online. Please email the STS Office if you wish to receive notification when it is posted on the website instead of receiving a hard copy.**

**website: [www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca)**

Phone: 306-373-3879

Email: [sts@sts.sk.ca](mailto:sts@sts.sk.ca)

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