



September 14, 2018

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DR. JON TONITA AND JASON YOUNG
STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS
SASKATCHEWAN ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING (SAYCW)
C/O SASKATCHEWAN CANCER AGENCY
#200-4545 PARLIAMENT AVE
REGINA SK S4W 0G3

Dear Dr. Tonita and Mr. Young:

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation became involved with the Saskatchewan Alliance for Youth and Community Well-being due to a connection to the organization's mission to support youth and community well-being. This mission is well aligned with the beliefs of Saskatchewan teachers as articulated in STF Policy 1.9 (Child and Youth Well-Being) which states, "Children and youth have profound knowledge about their own lives and have unique gifts, talents and cultural backgrounds that must be respected and nurtured."

The policy goes on to state, "Each child and youth's success in education and, more broadly, in life is dependent on many social determinants external to the educational system. While teachers share a responsibility in ensuring the needs of children are met, teachers in their educational role cannot and should not be expected to meet all of the complex needs of children and youth without the support and involvement of other social institutions."

In light of these beliefs, the Federation supports the SAYCW in its work to address the needs of students in the classroom and beyond and to support collaboration with community partners to improve the health and well-being of youth in Saskatchewan.

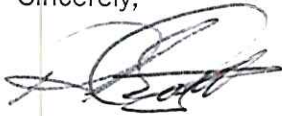
The Federation believes the Thriving Youth, Thriving Communities Survey has immense potential for improving youth well-being because it collects useful data directly from youth and provides it back to schools and communities in a timely way. The Committee has taken a principled approach to developing the survey, collecting the data and sharing the results to ensure the data is valid and used in appropriate and responsible ways. SAYCW has demonstrated respect for those participating in the survey by attending to privacy protection and ensuring survey data will remain in Saskatchewan.

The results of the Thriving Youth, Thriving Communities Survey will assist the Federation in identifying areas of need for students and teachers and allow the organization to better advocate for appropriate supports for schools. The data will also help to inform Federation programs and services such as professional development offerings for teachers and resources provided through the Stewart Resource Centre, both of which can be tailored to the issues identified by youth in the survey.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2018
DR. JON TONITA AND JASON YOUNG
STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS
SASKATCHEWAN ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING (SAYCW)
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SAYCW has been an excellent model of interagency partnership. The great care and concern for the health and well-being of youth exhibited by the various individuals and groups involved has been inspiring. The Federation is hopeful for the future of inter-sectoral work in support of students as a result of this Committee work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Schmaltz', written over a horizontal line.

Randy Schmaltz
Executive Director

RS/lph

cc. Milton Block, Senior Administrative Staff, Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation
Patrick Maze, President, Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation