

Year of Women Trustees
2016

In Recognition of those who have served as Women Trustees.
To honour you for your years of service to the children, parents,
staff and communities of all the historical divisions
in River East Transcona School Division.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2016



Program

12 p.m.

Tour of Administration Offices

1 p.m.

Welcome

Trustee Eva Prysizney—Master of Ceremonies

Choir

Polson School—Grade 4 Choir, directed by Michal Kowalik

Introductions

Trustee Eva Prysizney

Greetings

Colleen Carswell—Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Kelly Barkman—Superintendent/CEO

Helen Mayba—Former Trustee
River East School Division #9, 1971–1998

Grace Minsky—Grade 9 Student
Murdoch MacKay Collegiate

Honourees

Acknowledgements and Group Picture

2 p.m.

Luncheon and Fellowship




A timeline...

January 28, 1916: Manitoba women become the first in Canada, and the entire British Commonwealth – to have their right to vote acknowledged, and to hold public office.

October 22, 2014: Following school trustee elections on this date, women achieve majority standing in trusteeship for the first time in Manitoba's history.

January 12, 2016: The provincial government marks the 100th anniversary of the vote for women by proclaiming 2016 the "Year of Women Trustees."

June 17, 2016: River East Transcona School Division recognizes and honours 50 women who served as school trustees in all of their historical divisions/districts since boards first began in 1870.



A look back...

We have found 50 women who, since 1870 when school boards first began, served their communities as school trustees. These 50 dedicated and hard working women have a combined total of 412 years of experience. Today we celebrate them along with the history of our division and all of our historical divisions/districts.



In 1919, just three years after women were given the right to vote and hold public office, Ruth Garven was the first woman trustee elected in our community.



In 1944, Lillian Finson was the first woman chairman of the board of trustees.



Ruth Warne was the first woman trustee to hold the office of chairman of the Suburban School Trustees Association.



Mary Andree was the longest serving woman trustee, holding office for 40 years.



The history of River East Transcona School Division

River East Transcona School Division was established in 2002 following the amalgamation of River East School Division No. 9 and the urban portion of Transcona-Springfield School Division No. 12. The two school divisions were merged as part of the Public Schools Modernization Act, which reduced the number of school divisions in Manitoba to 37 from 54.

Prior to 2002, River East School Division No. 9, established in 1959, served students living east of the Red River in East and North Kildonan, East St. Paul and St. Clement.

Transcona-Springfield School Division No. 12 also came into being in 1959 with students coming from Transcona and the rural communities of Dugald, Anola and Oakbank. In 2002, when Transcona-Springfield amalgamated with River East, those rural portions of the division became part of Sunrise School Division.

Many small school districts served northeast Winnipeg and its outlying areas over

the decades leading up to the amalgamations that occurred in 1959 as a result of the Royal Commission on Education. Those tiny districts are now just a memory recounted in community history books, mentioned in school board minutes or unearthed in the Archives of Manitoba.

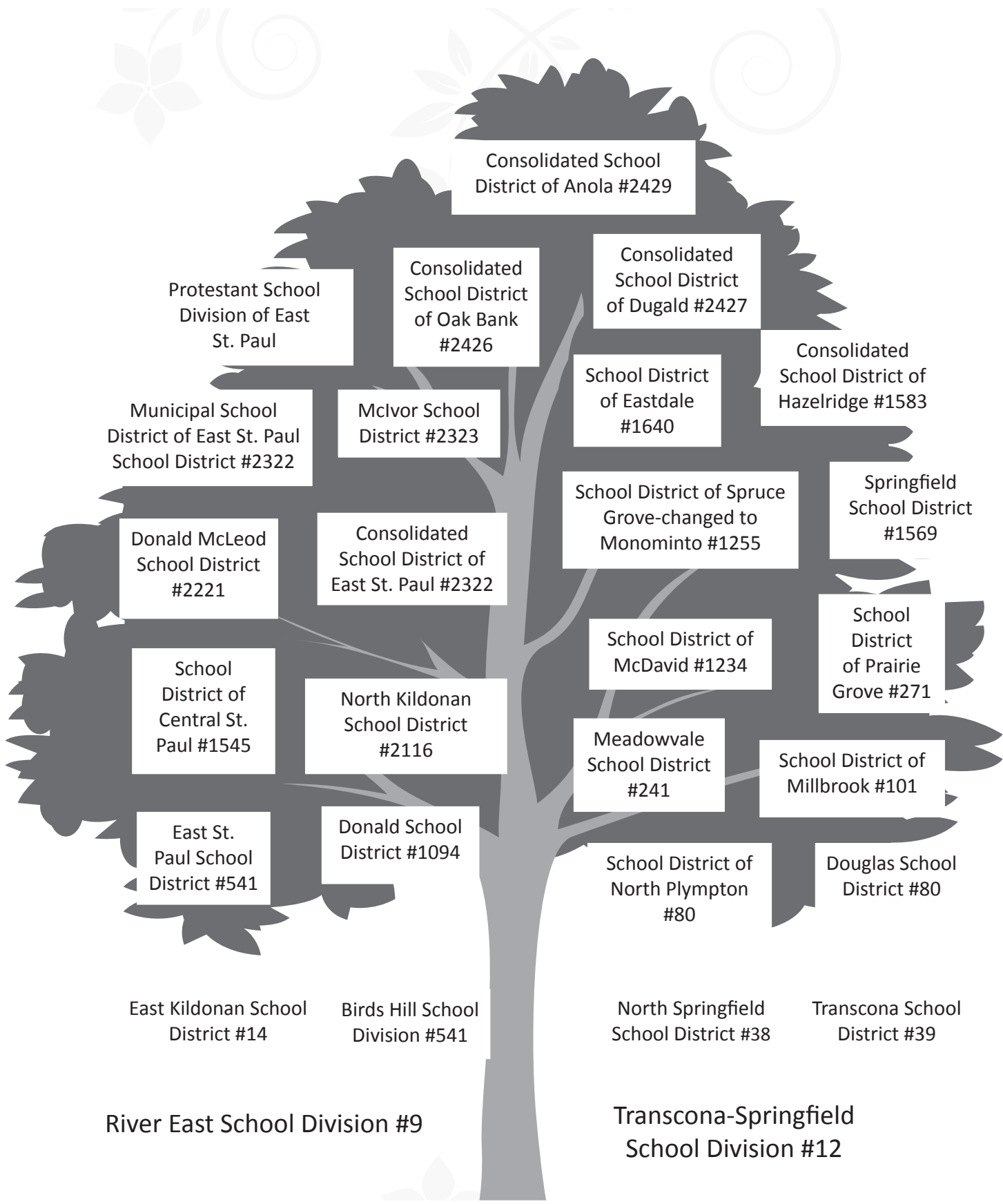
Throughout its history, the division, in its various incarnations, has worked hard to keep up with the demand for schools.

The original farms and market gardens located east of the Red River, settled by descendants of the Selkirk Settlers and European immigrants, were gradually being replaced with modern residential subdivisions that brought with them an explosion in student enrolment.

Further east, early history saw Transcona as primarily an agricultural community. Soon, however, it was overtaken by industrial development when the Grand Trunk Pacific railway company chose Transcona as the location for its shops. The town of Transcona was incorporated in 1912 and the population—and student enrolment—grew steadily as newcomers from around the world came to work for the railway. Springfield’s early history as an agricultural community continues to this day.

While a handful of schools in River East Transcona School Division date to the early 1900s, most were built in the boom decades of the 1950s, ‘60s and ‘70s. Today, the division has 42 schools and about 16,000 students and 3,000 employees, making it Manitoba’s second largest school division.





River East Transcona School Division

Family Tree

Honour Roll

Ruth Garven

First woman trustee elected in East St. Paul School District #541, 1919

First woman trustee elected in our history, 1919

Isabella Jeffrey

First woman trustee elected in the School District of North Plympton #80, 1920

Mrs. E. L. McDougal

First woman trustee elected in East Kildonan School District #14, 1921

Mrs. McDougal was one of two women trustees that year

Margaret Phillips

First woman trustee elected in East Kildonan School District #14, 1921

Margaret was one of two women trustees that year

Ellen Bray

First woman trustee elected in Transcona School District #39, 1934

Mrs. R. Simpson

First woman trustee elected in North Kildonan School District #2116, 1938



Lillian Finnon

First woman trustee elected in Donald School District #1094, 1943
First woman trustee elected in Donald McLeod School District #2221, 1943
First woman chairman of Donald McLeod School District #2221, 1944
First woman chairman in the history of our division, 1945

Myrtle Haskett

First woman chairman of Transcona School District #39, 1945

Ruth Warne

First woman trustee to hold the office of chairman of the Suburban School Trustees Association for two terms

Amy Hewko

First woman trustee elected in Meadowvale School District #241, 1956

Lillian Copp

First woman trustee elected in McIvor School District #2323, 1957
First woman chairman of McIvor School District #2323, 1958

Irene Spooner

First woman trustee elected in East St. Paul School District #2322, 1958
First woman chairman of East St. Paul School District #2322, 1959



Margaret Deering

First woman trustee elected in River East School Division #9, 1959
Margaret was one of two women trustees that year

Joanna Morton

First woman trustee elected in River East School Division #9, 1959
Joanna was one of two women trustees that year

Marion Trudell

First woman trustee elected in Transcona-Springfield School Division #12, 1959
First woman chairman of Transcona-Springfield School Division #12, 1962

Mary Andree

Longest serving woman trustee—40 years
Transcona School District #39
1963–1967

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1965–1977, 1980–2002

River East Transcona School Division
2002–2006

First woman trustee elected in River East Transcona School Division, 2002
Mary was one of four women trustees that year



Beth Hayward

First woman trustee elected in the Consolidated School District
of Dugald #2427, 1964

Helen Mayba

First woman chairman of River East School Division #9, 1989

Lori Chrol

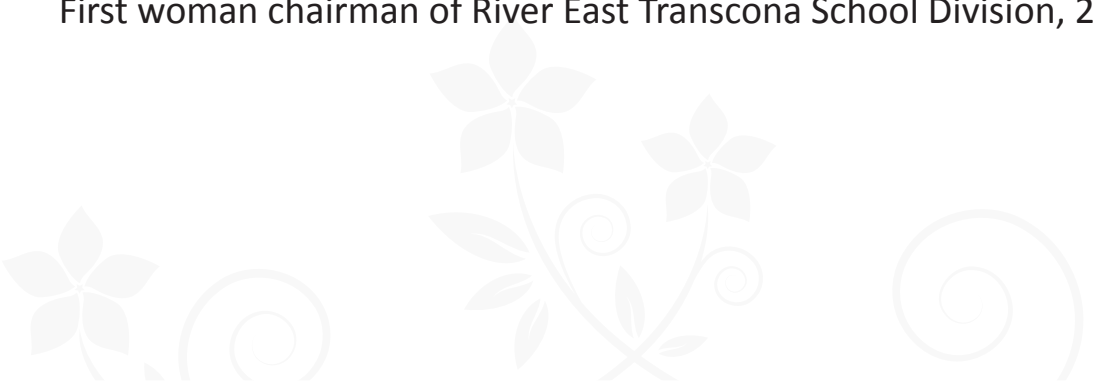
First woman trustee elected in River East Transcona School Division, 2002
Lori was one of four women trustees that year

Vicki Lazaruk

First woman trustee elected in River East Transcona School Division, 2002
Vicki was one of four women trustees that year

Colleen Carswell

First woman trustee elected in River East Transcona School Division, 2002
Colleen was one of four women trustees that year
First woman chairman of River East Transcona School Division, 2014



Our Trustees



Ruth Garven

East St. Paul School District #541
1919–1922

Ruth was the first woman trustee elected in East St. Paul School District. She was also the first woman trustee in the history of our divisions. Ruth passed away in July 1960.



Isabella Jeffrey

School District of North Plympton #80
1920–1925

Isabella was appointed to the Trustees Convention in Winnipeg in February 1925. After serving six years on the board of trustees, she retired from trusteeship. Isabella passed away in March 1945.



Mrs. E. L. McDougal

East Kildonan School District #14

1921–1924

Mrs. McDougal chaired both the educational and visiting committees.



Margaret Phillips

East Kildonan School District #14

1921–1922

Margaret was the first woman trustee to serve in East Kildonan School District in 1921. She chaired the educational committee.



Ellen Bray

Transcona School District #39
1934–1939

“At the inaugural meeting in 1934, Mrs. E. Bray was introduced as the first woman trustee in the history of Transcona School District No. 39.” Ellen served Ward 2. “She had a keen interest in the Labour movement... and brought a housewife’s understanding to the advantage of all with whom she came in contact.” She chaired the finance committee and sat as a member of the building and welfare committees. She passed away in May 1976.



Mrs. R. Simpson

North Kildonan School District #2116
1938–1944

Mrs. Simpson was the first woman trustee to serve
in North Kildonan School District in 1938.



Violet Colville

East Kildonan School District #14
1939–1944, 1946–1947

Violet served Ward 1. She chaired the education, house and entertainment committees. Violet served as a delegate to the Suburban Trustees Association and the annual Manitoba Trustees Convention. Violet and fellow trustee Ruth Warne established a scholarship foundation for the students of East Kildonan in 1946. They undertook this momentous task as two trustee volunteers and raised over \$1,200.00 for students to obtain annual scholarship grants.

Violet passed away in December of 1982.



Mrs. M. Wood

Transcona School District #39
1940–1941

Mrs. Wood chaired the welfare committee and sat as a member of the education committee.



Myrtle Haskett

Transcona School District #39
1942–1945

Myrtle was the first woman chairman elected in Transcona School District #39 in 1945. She chaired the education, central health and welfare committees.

Myrtle passed away in April 1976.



Lillian Finnson

Donald School District #1094
1943–1945

Donald McLeod School District #2221
1943–1945

Lillian was the first woman trustee to serve Donald and Donald McLeod School Districts. She was chairman of the board of trustees in 1944 for Donald McLeod School District. Lillian was appointed as the board's delegate to the Manitoba School Trustees Convention for 1944. She passed away in September 1980.



Ruth Warne

East Kildonan School District #14
1943–1950

Ruth served Ward 2. She was the vice-chairman of the board in 1947. Ruth and fellow trustee Violette Colville established a scholarship foundation for the students of East Kildonan in 1946. They undertook this momentous task as two trustee volunteers and raised over \$1,200.00 for students to obtain annual scholarship grants. Ruth served two terms as the chairman of the Suburban School Trustees Association, the first woman to hold this office.

Ruth passed away in February 1990.



Joanna Morton

North Kildonan School District #2116
1945–1953
River East School Division #9
1959–1967

Joanna served the North Kildonan School District for seven years. She then served Ward 2, which was the North Kildonan area of River East School Division. Joanna was vice-chairman of the transportation committee. She served on the school enrollment, transportation and allocation committees. Joanna, along with one other woman, was the first woman trustee to serve River East School Division in 1959. She passed away in April 2011.



Emily Homiak

East Kildonan School District #14
1949–1950

Emily served the newly formed Ward 4 area. She chaired the entertainment and social committee. Emily was a representative to the Scholarship Association. She passed away in July 1970.



Amelya Anderson

East Kildonan School District #14
1951–1954, 1957–1964

Amelya chaired the education, entertainment and social, and publicity committees. She passed away in October 1977.



Margaret Deering

East Kildonan School District #14
1955–1956

River East School Division #9
1959–1964

Margaret served as a trustee of East Kildonan School District. She was the chair of the entertainment and social committee and sat as the board of trustees representative on the East Kildonan Scholarship Foundation.

Margaret served Ward 1, which was the East Kildonan area of River East School Division. She served on the “location of a division office” committee, as well as the staff, salary negotiations, and building and property committees. Margaret, along with one other woman, was the first woman trustee to serve River East School Division in 1959. She passed away in August 1988.



Amy Hewko

Meadowvale School District #241
1956–1964

Amy was the first woman trustee to serve Meadowvale School District in 1956. She retired from trusteeship in 1964. Amy passed away in August 2009.



Lillian Copp

Mclvor School District #2323
1957–1961

Lillian was the first woman trustee in 1957 and the first woman chairman in 1958 to serve Mclvor School District. She was both chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Lillian retired from trusteeship in 1961.



Irene Spooner

East St. Paul School District #2322
1958–1959

River East School Division #9
1965–1967

Irene served Ward 1 for East St. Paul School District. She was chairman of the board of trustees in 1959. Irene also sat on the negotiations committee. She left the East St. Paul School District board of trustees in December 1959. Irene then served River East School Division, Ward 4, which was the East St. Paul area. She was the vice-chairman of the personnel and transportation committees. Irene also sat on the publicity, teacher liaison and referendum information committees. She passed away in March 2012.



Marion Trudell

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1959–1963

Marion was the first woman chairman of the Transcona-Springfield School Division board of trustees in 1962 and then again in 1963. She chaired the staff committee and was a member of the property committee. Marion stated in her election platform “that she understands the problems of children and therefore would be able to help in the new school planning.” She passed away in November 2011.

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Gladys Spurrll

Transcona School District #39
1962–1963

Gladys chaired the staff and curriculum committee and was a member of the finance committee. “Seeking to attract and to keep experienced and well qualified teachers in our schools and even better teacher-board relationship” was the platform on which she ran. She also favoured adequate supervisory staff and sought “to cater for the varied needs of the individual child.”

Gladys passed away in August 2012.



Mary Andree

Transcona School District #39
1963–1967

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1965–1977, 1980–2002

River East Transcona School Division
2002–2006

Mary served the Transcona area in District #39, then Ward 1 with Transcona-Springfield School Division, and for River East Transcona School Division. She served as both chairman and vice-chairman of Transcona-Springfield School Division. Mary's 40-year career places her as the longest serving woman trustee in our history. She was one of four who were the first women trustees to serve on the River East Transcona Board of Trustees. Mary retired in 2006 and passed away in January 2012.



Ruth Anderson

North Kildonan School District #2116
1964–1967

Ruth sat on the personnel and finance committees. She passed away in April 2009.



Beth Hayward

Consolidated School District of Dugald #2427
1964–1967

Beth was the first woman trustee to serve in Consolidated School District of Dugald. She was vice-chairman of the board of trustees in 1966 and 1967. Beth was a trustee the first year of consolidation with approximately 10 school districts coming together. She was also involved in obtaining the new school site and opening Dugald School on Friday, March 12, 1965.

Beth passed away in December 1982.



Joan Scott

Mclvor School District #2323
1965–1967

Joan served Mclvor School District for three years until it was amalgamated with River East School Division #9. Joan passed away in June 1994.



Yvonne Templin

East Kildonan School District #14

1966–1967

Yvonne sat on the information committee. She passed away in June 2010.



Ann Bieber / McTavish

River East School Division #9

1969–1971

Ann served Ward 1, which was the East Kildonan area. She was the chairman of the education and policy committee and also served on the finance, personnel and negotiations committee. Ann represented the board of trustees on the Manitoba Association of School Trustees metro co-ordinating committee.

She passed away in September 2006.



Diane Peeler

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1970–1974

Diane was a member of both the education–administration, and the community schools committees. She was the board’s representative on the Bernie Wolfe Community joint use committee. Diane retired from trusteeship in 1975. She was hired by the division in 1977 as a resource teacher and later became the division’s early years consultant. Diane retired in June 2001.



Helen Mayba

River East School Division #9
1971–1998

Helen served Ward 1, which was the East Kildonan area, throughout her career with River East School Division. She was both the chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Helen chaired both the education and policy, and the finance and business administration committees. She was the board’s representative on the regional library board. Helen was a member of the philosophy and goals implementation committee and the early retirement incentive plan committee. Helen was the first woman chairman of the River East School Division Board of Trustees in 1989.



Irene Boriskewich

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1977–1984

Irene served Ward 5, which was the Anola area, for seven years. She chaired the negotiations committee and sat on the liaison committee. Irene passed away in July 1984, while serving as the chairman of the board of trustees. In her memory, two duplicate plaques were hung, one at the Transcona-Springfield School Division board office and one at Anola School. They read, "For her Service to the Community, for her Dedication to, and Love for the Children of this Division."



Jean Chanowski

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1977–1994

Jean served Ward 4, which was the Dugald area, throughout her career. She was vice-chairman of the board of trustees in 1982. Jean chaired the negotiations and facilities committees. She sat on the equity/race relations, transportation, and the workplace safety and health committees. After 17 years, she retired from trusteeship in September 1994.



Linda Hughes

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1977–1983

Linda served Ward 1, which was the west Transcona area (west of Day Street). She chaired the negotiations and procedural by-laws committees. Linda was the board's representative on the Bernie Wolfe Community joint use committee and the advisory council for the Child Guidance Clinic of Winnipeg. She served on the history committee which produced the book "From Slate to Computer".
After serving two terms, Linda retired from trusteeship.



Vicki Lazaruk

River East School Division #9
1980–1983, 1989–2002

River East Transcona School Division
2002–2006

Vicki served Ward 2 with River East School Division. After amalgamation she served in Ward 2, which included parts of North Transcona, and East and North Kildonan, with River East Transcona School Division. Vicki was chairman and vice-chairman of the River East School Division. She chaired the education and policy, and negotiations committees. Vicki was one of four who were the first women trustees to serve on the River East Transcona School Division board of trustees.



Barbara Buffie

River East School Division #9
1983–1995, 1999–2002

Barbara served Ward 3, which was the North Kildonan area, throughout her career. She was both chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Barbara chaired the education and policy committee and sat as a representative of the board of trustees on the Board/RETA Seminar and vocational advisory committees. She retired from trusteeship in 2002.



Patricia Wally

River East School Division #9
1983–1986

Patricia Wally served Ward 1, which was the East Kildonan area. She was the chairman of the personnel, public relations and safety committee. She served on the building, property and transportation committee, the education and policy committee, negotiations sub committees and was the liaison representative. Patricia was also a representative of the board of trustees with Child Guidance and special needs. She retired in 1986 after serving one term.



Karen Watson

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1983–1992

Karen served Ward 2, which was East Transcona (east of Day Street). She served as chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Karen sat on the liaison and negotiations committees. She served as the board's representative on the deferred salary leave plan committee. After three terms, Karen retired from trusteeship.

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Elaine Gregg

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1984–1989

Elaine served Ward 5, which was the Anola area. She was elected in a byelection in November 1984. Elaine served as vice-chairman of the board of trustees in 1988. She chaired the negotiations committee and was the board's representative on the Bernie Wolfe community joint use committee. After two terms, Elaine retired from trusteeship.



Gail Scheer

River East School Division #9
1986–2002

Gail served Ward 1, which was the East Kildonan area. She served as the chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Gail chaired the personnel, public relations and safety committee. She was the board's representative on the NEW FACES, Child Guidance, special needs, and multicultural advisory committees. After serving for 16 years, Gail retired from trusteeship.



Pat Watson

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1986–2002

Pat served Ward 3, which was the Oakbank area. She sat on the facilities, land and building, liaison, negotiations, Oakbank traffic review and safety, policy review, and workplace safety and health committees. After 16 years, Pat retired from trusteeship.



Georgette Dobush / Alchyna

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1989–1995

Georgette served Ward 5, which was the Anola area, throughout her career. She served as both the chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Georgette chaired the negotiations and the transportation committees. She also sat on the land and building, and liaison committees. After serving two terms, Georgette retired from trusteeship.



Betty Ann Watts

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1989–1998

Betty Anne served Ward 1, which was West Transcona (west of Day Street). She served as chairman and vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Betty Ann chaired the negotiations, and the finance and facilities committees. She also sat on the science and technology, and the freedom from violence policy review committees. After three terms, Betty Ann retired from trusteeship.



Colleen Carswell

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1992–2002

River East Transcona School Division
2002–

Colleen served Ward 1 with Transcona-Springfield School Division. Currently, she serves Ward 1 for River East Transcona School Division. She has been chairman and vice-chairman of both divisions. In 2014 she became the first woman chairman of the River East Transcona School Division board of trustees, a position she continues to hold today. Colleen was one of four who were the first women trustees to serve on the River East Transcona School Division board of trustees. Colleen is in her 24th year of trusteeship.



Marilyn Lamoureux

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1992–2002

Marilyn served Ward 2, which was East Transcona (east of Day Street) throughout her career. She chaired the negotiations, transportation, and policy review committees. She also sat on the equity/race relations and the rights and responsibilities committees. After 10 years, Marilyn retired from trusteeship.



Lorraine Vallis

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1992–1995

Lorraine served Ward 2, which was East Transcona (east of Day Street). She chaired the public relations/communications committee and sat on the Wee Bairns and wellness committees. After serving one term, Lorraine retired from trusteeship.



Sally Anderson

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1995–2002

Sally served Ward 5, which was the Anola area, for seven years. She chaired the liaison and policy review committees. Sally also sat on the transportation, negotiations, and public relations/communications committees. After amalgamation in 2002, she continued her service with Sunrise School Division.



Laurie Raill / Goodman

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1995–2002

Laurie served Ward 2, which was East Transcona (east of Day Street), throughout her career. She served as vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Laurie chaired the negotiations, personnel, public relations/communications, and education and finance committees. She sat on the liaison and Article 5 committees.

After seven years of service, Laurie retired from trusteeship.



Linda Holmes / Yarecki

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
1999–2001

Linda served Ward 4, which was the Dugald area. She served as vice-chairman of the board of trustees. Linda sat on the education and business partnership, negotiations, policy review, and facilities committees.

She left trusteeship after two years.



Kris Friesen

Transcona-Springfield School Division #12
2001–2002

Kris served Ward 4, which was the Dugald area. She served on the education and finance committee. After amalgamation in 2002, Kris continued her service with Sunrise School Division.



Lori Chrol

River East Transcona School Division
2002–2006

Lori served Ward 5, which was the North Kildonan area. She was one of four who were the first women trustees to serve on the River East Transcona School Division board of trustees. Lori chaired the personnel committee and the program and policy review committees. She was the vice-chairman of the finance committee. Lori also sat on the Senior 1 location study, special needs local advisory, lunch supervision program, and information systems committees.



Eva Prysizney

River East Transcona School Division
2006–

Eva first served Ward 4 and now serves Ward 3, which is the East/North Kildonan area. She has served as the vice-chairman of the board of trustees and is currently the chairman of the program, policy review and personnel committee. Eva has been a member of the negotiations, lunch supervision program, liaison, and the personal professional development fund committees. Eva continues to serve her community as a school trustee and is currently in her 10th year.



Shirley Timm-Rudolph

River East Transcona School Division
2010–2014

Shirley served Ward 5, which was the North Kildonan area. She was the vice-chairman of the program, policy review, and personnel committee. Shirley was on the finance and facilities, and liaison committees. She passed away in May 2014, while serving as a trustee.

A message from the chairman...

*To our former women trustees and to those who are here
representing a loved one:*

*The time you served, no matter how short or long, in itself is quite
an accomplishment and something of which to be very proud.*

Thank you...

*for sitting on all the committees
for the countless hours around the board table
for the wisdom that you shared
for the accomplishments that never would have been possible
without your support
for the time away from family and friends
for your commitment to your community
for your never ending dedication to the students and staff
of all our legacy divisions/districts
for being a part of history, making it easier for those women
who came after you*

Thank you for your service,

*Colleen Carswell
Chairman of the Board of Trustees*



Thank You

For without you, none of this would have been possible.

Board of Trustees of the River East Transcona School Division

Kelly Barkman • Superintendent/CEO

Vince Mariani • Secretary-Treasurer/CFO

Gay Caithness • Executive Secretary to the Secretary-Treasurer


Kurt Haas • Graphic Designer

Wanda McConnell • Senior Communications Co-ordinator

Cheryl Moore • Communications Co-ordinator

Elaine Werbeniuk • Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent/CEO

To all the families of those who have passed, we thank you for sharing your stories, your pictures and your memories with us so that we can honour and acknowledge your loved one.





*One of the most courageous things you can do
is identify yourself; know who you are;
what you believe in; and where you want to go.*

Sheila Murray Bethel



River East Transcona
SCHOOL DIVISION

creating student success