



PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA®

News Release

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta recognizes Leona Petherbridge with Special Contribution to Public Education Award

Calgary, AB. — The Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) is honoured to recognize Leona Petherbridge with the Special Contribution to Public Education Award. "I feel extremely honoured to have been a Library Technician, presently a School Bus Driver and a 4-H Leader in our community for so many years," says Petherbridge. "Our community is extremely open, invites us in and the students are pleased with the results of their involvement. They build confidence within themselves that impacts them for the rest of their lives. Thank you to Cindy and those of Sturgeon Public Schools for this amazing opportunity!"

Petherbridge received the award for her significant contributions to public school education. This includes sustaining and expanding the 4-H program in Bon Accord for more than five decades. Petherbridge has held executive positions within the Bon Accord 4-H Beef Club, Bon Accord 4-H Clothing Club, and Bon Accord 4-H Garden Club. She has received the 4-H club efficiency award multiple times.

Cindy Briggs, Vice Chair at Sturgeon Public Schools, nominated Petherbridge for her outstanding work with students. "Under Leona's guidance, thousands of young people have gained practical, hands-on skills that translate into confidence, responsibility, teamwork and self-reliance. Her programs emphasize not only technical proficiency, but also character development and community service! This in turn creates leadership initiatives within the school and mentors for other students."

Petherbridge is a valued and respected member of her community. "Leona also brought her love and commitment to school every day. She served as a librarian for 28 years and hosted lunch hour clubs for students. Leona made sure students were always engaged during school hours. Leona continues to drive the bus—as she has for the last 34 and a half years—and loves every minute of it getting to know students."

Sturgeon Public Schools has seen Petherbridge’s impact first-hand. “Her work has strengthened family engagement by offering accessible, relevant activities that fit diverse interests and schedules, enhancing family cohesion and community belonging. Through her leadership and mentorship, she has built inclusive opportunities that empower youth, support families and contribute to a resilient local culture. Our community is a better place with Leona in it. Our children feel valued and supported, and she has helped them to make a difference in the changing world we live in.”

The PSBAA held its annual awards evening at its Spring General Assembly in Calgary on May 30. A total of four awards were presented. To learn more about the Association and the outstanding achievements of its members, visit the [PSBAA website](#).

*The **Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta** represents more than two-thirds of public school boards that account for more than 800 schools and more than 250,000 students across the province. We believe public schools are the first choice of our communities, where all our children learn and live the values of democracy together, reflecting our hope and shaping the future of our communities.*

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