

BIOGRAPHY

JOEL SWAAN

Joel taught for Saskatoon Public, Saskatoon Catholic, and Garden Valley School Divisions. A graduate of University of Saskatchewan (B.Ed., B.Mus.Mus.Ed.) and University of New Brunswick (M.Ed.), he holds a Certificate in School Leadership. Joel has mostly taught K-8: primary music, middle years band and French, and 5-8 homeroom; also working as a substitute teacher and acting principal.

Union-involved from the beginning, Joel has been a teacher on strike and work-to-rule in Saskatchewan, experiences unique within the Manitoba context. He pioneered Interest-Based Negotiations with Saskatoon Public, successfully negotiated for equal preparation time for all K-12 teachers, and initiated STF's study regarding increasing the number of male-identifying teachers in primary classrooms.

Joel and Sherie moved to Morden 11 years ago and have three precocious children: Huxley (8) and Finian (5) attend French Immersion in Western School Division, and Ivy (2); a dog and two cats round out the family. Joel has been a proud union member of Canadian Actors' Equity, served on the boards of two non-profit theatre companies, and was a Big Brother for seven years.



Manitoba Teachers' Society

- Provincial Collective Bargaining Committee chair
- Disability Benefits Plan Investment Committee chair
- Human Resources Committee
- Collective Bargaining Standing Committee Regional Representative
- Alternative Resolution Debate Ad Hoc Standing Committee

Canadian Teachers' Federation

- Trustee of the CTF/FCE Trust Fund

Garden Valley Teachers' Association

- Past-president
- President
- Vice-president
- Collective Bargaining chair
- Education Finance chair
- Equity & Social Justice chair
- Professional Development Committee
- Workplace Safety & Health Committee

Saskatoon Teachers' Association

- Local Implementation and Negotiation Committee (Bargaining) chair