



**Saskatchewan Unit
Council for
Exceptional
Children**

Dear Educator,

Enclosed is information about the **Yes I Can!** Annual Awards, sponsored by the Saskatchewan Council for Exceptional Children (SKCEC). **We would appreciate if you would share the information with others in your school.** Nomination forms may also be accessed from the SKCEC website (www.saskcec.ca). **Only one nomination per school will be accepted. Nominee cannot be a winner from the previous year.** The information package contains a Fact Sheet & Guidelines for 2016 **Yes I Can!** Award and the **Yes I Can!** nomination form.

If you know of a student (grades 4-12) worthy of nomination for the **Yes I Can!** Award, please complete the nomination form, attach the required documentation and **send the nomination package to:**

**Linda Balon-Smith
700 Gowan Road
Box 820
Warman, SK S0K 4S0
Phone (Day): 305-683-3000 FAX: 306-933-2771
Email: linda.balon-Smith@spiritsd.ca**

The required documentation includes:

- A photograph of the student sent electronically
- Completed nomination form (p.1-5)
- 1 letter of support from an additional professional
- Consent and Photo Release Form signed by a parent/guardian
- Copy of a write up of your student (brief description) you would like to have read at the ceremony. (maximum of 3 minutes in length). NO power points please.

Nomination forms must to be received by the Saskatchewan Unit CEC Awards Committee by Friday, March 18, 2016. Award winners will be notified by March 31st, 2016.

All awards will be presented at the Saskatchewan Unit CEC Awards Ceremony in Saskatoon at the German Cultural Centre Sunday, April 17, 2016. Four guests plus the nominee will receive free tickets. Extra tickets to the ceremony will be at a charge of \$5/person.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding any of the awards, the criteria, or the process, please contact Linda Balon-Smith (linda.balon-smith@spiritsd.ca) at 306-683-3000.

Sincerely,
Linda Balon-Smith

Saskatchewan Unit Council for Exceptional Children 2016 **Yes I Can!** Awards Committee Chair

Note: If you copy this information, please include the letter to the teacher and the guidelines.

Saskatchewan Council for Exceptional Children Awards

Yes I Can! Award

- Established to acknowledge the achievements of children and youth with intensive supports;
- to overcome barriers caused by challenges or public misconceptions;
- to encourage children and youth with intensive needs to seek their highest potential; and
- to increase awareness of the abilities, aspirations, and personal qualities of people with intensive supports.

Nominees may be recognized for achievements in one of the following categories:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • academics, | • community service | • independent living skills |
| • arts | • employment | • technology |
| • athletics | • extracurricular activity | • self-advocacy |

GUIDELINES for 2016 **YES I CAN!** AWARDS

To nominate an individual for either a *Yes I Can!* Award, please follow these directions:

1. **ONE** nomination form is to be completed for each candidate by the nominator. One candidate per school. Candidates grades 4-12 are eligible. The nomination form must identify the category / categories of achievement, be individually completed and provide specific information about the nominee. Nomination forms can also be found on the SKCEC website (www.saskcec.ca).
2. The nominator should be someone other than a family member. The more complete and detailed the information, the better.
3. Attach one additional letter of support from another professional in education and a Consent Form and Photo Release Form that has been signed by the parent or guardian. (A letter of support from the parent / guardian is optional.)
4. **A photograph must be sent electronically to linda.balon-smith@spiritsd.ca.** This photo will be displayed at the Awards Ceremony and will be included in the program.
5. ALL of the material submitted with the application will be considered property of SKCEC and will not be returned. All applications will be destroyed following the 2016 Awards Ceremony.
6. The committee will contact the nominator by March 31, 2016 and the family to share the results of the adjudication. Please note that award winners, along with their immediate family and the nominator (5 tickets + 1 candidate) will be invited to attend the SKCEC Awards Ceremony on Sunday April 17, 2016 at the German Cultural Centre in Saskatoon (free parking), where they will be recognized for their accomplishments. The brief description (sent in advance) can be read by the nominator or SKCEC member explaining the accomplishments of this candidate. *Extra tickets can be purchased in advance for \$5. Make cheque payable to: SKCEC*

Please send completed forms by March 18, 2016 and send to:

**Linda Balon-Smith
700 Gowan Road
Box 820
Warman, SK S0K 4S0
Phone (Day): 305-683-3000
FAX: 306-933-2771**

Yes I Can! 2016 Awards Program Nomination Form

Please check applicable Category / Categories of Achievement.

- _____ **ACADEMICS** - achievement in a particular subject area such as math, science, reading, social studies, language arts, foreign languages, etc. or a high level of achievement on standardized tests, etc.
- _____ **ARTS** - achievement in a particular medium such as music, art, drama, dance, or written expression, etc.
- _____ **ATHLETICS** - achievement in motor skills or a particular athletic activity through a setting such as intramurals, Special Olympics, physical education classes, or after-school athletic activities.
- _____ **COMMUNITY SERVICE** - contributions to the community through activities such as volunteer work, youth work, clean-up campaigns, etc.
- _____ **EMPLOYMENT** - achievement through work experience in either workshop settings or the competitive job market.
- _____ **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY** - achievement in organized activities through groups such as Boy/Girl Scouts, church, clubs, or other activities.
- _____ **INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS** - achievement in mastering activities for daily self-efficiency such as personal hygiene, cooking, dressing, use of public transportation, etc.
- _____ **TECHNOLOGY** - significant achievement through the use of computerized devices and equipment.
- _____ **SELF-ADVOCACY** - achievement in assuming practical responsibility for oneself, using knowledge of legal rights, advancing one's goals, and/or effective in obtaining appropriate accommodations for oneself.

***PLEASE USE CAPITAL/ BLOCK LETTERS:**

Information about Student Nominee

Name _____

Address _____

Birthdate (day/month/year) ____/____/____

Age _____

Parent/Guardian/Responsible Adult Full Name:

Email _____

Phone # _____

School: _____

School Division: _____

No of people: ____ (6 free)

Extra tickets needed: ____ x \$5 = ____

Information about Nominator

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

CEC Member? • N • Y: ID _____

How do you know the nominee? _____

Signature of Nominator: _____

Date: _____

Principal Signature: _____

The following information will be kept confidential to the SKCEC Yes I Can! Awards Committee, used for award adjudication purposes only and destroyed after the 2016 Yes I Can! Awards Celebration.

Criteria for Intensive Supports Recognition:

- Blind or Visual Impairment:** Has a measured loss of central visual acuity that is 20/70 or less in the student's better eye with proper correction; or that the student's field of vision is not greater than 20 degrees at the widest diameter
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing:** Has a hearing loss greater than 34 decibels in the better ear; or has a unilateral hearing loss which is 50 decibels or more and there is a significant delay in speech and language
- Intellectual Disability:** Student scores below 50 plus 5 on an individualized standard assessment and demonstrates a significant deficit in adaptive behaviour on an individual assessment
- Mental Health Impairment:** Requires a diagnosis of mood disorder, anxiety disorder or personality disorder
- Multiple Disability:** Student meets criteria for any two categories listed
- Orthopedic Disability:** Mobility is seriously restricted; student is limited in self help, requires specialized transportation, or requires technological aids to access the curriculum
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder:** Requires a diagnosis of Autism, Asperger's Disorder, Rett's Disorder, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder or Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified
- Physical Health Impairment:** The student's physical health limits or doesn't permit school attendance for at least three months, or may require personal care/supervision to ensure health and safety
- Prenatal Substance Exposure:** Requires a diagnosis of FAS, FAS, ARND or ARBD or that the student has prenatal exposure to drugs
- Substance-related Disorders:** Students must have a diagnosis of substance use or a substance induced disorder.
- Other:** Diagnosed condition

****Please check if Braille certificate is needed: Yes, a Braille Certificate would be appreciated.***

SELECTION INFORMATION

A Background

Describe in 1 page or less, the challenges this student encountered prior to the current accomplishments. (e.g., “difficulty with reading”)

B. Accomplishments

(Consider creativity, innovation, significance of the accomplishments to the individual and others) in the category in which the child or youth is nominated.)

Briefly describe, in 1 page or less:

- the student’s achievement and accomplishments, and
- the impact of the accomplishment has had on the student and/or others.
- Include how your community/school system supported this student particularly in developing independence towards this achievement.

C. Supporting Documentation

(Must be included for application to be reviewed for selection)

1. One additional letter of support from a professional in education (teacher, principal, school administrator, school counselor, etc).
2. Consent Form and Photo Release Form signed by the student’s parent or guardian. A letter of support from the parent or guardian with information the parent/guardian wishes to share with the committee may be included but is optional.

Ceremony Information

During the Awards ceremony the Student will be introduced and a brief introduction will be read by the Yes I Can Awards Committee. Please assist the Yes I can Committee by providing the following information with your application. (You may write as a narrative in paragraph form, however please include the following information, and remain within one page in length of writing)

1. Name:
2. Gender:
3. Age:
4. Town:
5. School:
6. What does this person enjoy most? What is he/she passionate about?
7. What and how has this person overcome their exceptionality?
8. What are 3 words that the nominator would use to describe this person? (or three sentences) --- smiley, patient, kind, etc.
9. This child is nominated by me because.....

Consent and Photo Release Form



The voice and vision of special education

PART ONE: PARENT CONSENT

I, the parent/legal guardian of _____ give consent for the above named child to participate in the Saskatchewan Unit of the Council for Exceptional Children (SKCEC) 2016 Yes I Can Awards competition. I understand that all information will be kept confidential by the SKCEC Yes I Can Awards Committee, used for award adjudication purposes only and destroyed after the 2016 Yes I Can Awards Celebration.

Date _____

Parent /Guardian Signature _____

PART TWO: PHOTO RELEASE

I, the parent/legal guardian of _____ give complete permission to the SKCEC to exhibit photographs or likenesses of the above-named child.

Please initial to indicate permission. Write "NO" to indicate permission refused.

- _____ Permission to use first name
- _____ Permission to identify home community
- _____ SKCEC publications (newsletter, brochures, year-end reports)
- _____ Press/media releases (newspaper articles, fundraising brochures, etc.)
- _____ SKCEC website (www.saskcec.ca)

By signing this release, I acknowledge that I hereby release and forever discharge the SKCEC from and against any and all claims, damages or suits which may arise from the use of the SKCEC publications, press/media releases, website which includes, but not limited to, the exhibition of the above-named child's photograph, likeness, name, or community.

Date _____

Parent /Guardian Signature _____

Parent / Guardian Name (please print) _____

