

# News Release



## **June 19, 2009 – Saskatoon’s first early learning childcare centre opens at Fairhaven Public School**

Saskatoon Public Schools is demonstrating its continued commitment to the importance of early learning and care with the opening of the city’s first early learning childcare centre for children ages 18 months to 12 years located at Fairhaven Public School.

“We are very proud to be putting into action the early learning and care practices recommended from many fields of social research, including research on human development, from around the world,” says Ray Morrison, Chair of the Board of Education for Saskatoon Public Schools . “Early Learning and Literacy is one of two learning priorities for our school division. This centre, along with our Literacy for Life initiative, is an example of how a learning priority works to keep us focused on our youngest citizens.”

“This is a giant step forward for Preston Early Learning,” says Bob Wyma, Chair of the Board of Directors. “We first established a partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools in 1986 and are very pleased to continue and expand our relationship with the school division.”

Saskatoon Public Schools, working in partnership with Communities for Children, SIAST, the University of Saskatchewan, KidsFirst and KidScan, has established a vision for Early Learning Care Centers in our city. The first of these centres is the one opening at Fairhaven Public School. These centres are places where children and their families can experience a seamless day, and where care providers and teachers work from a common philosophy. Saskatoon Public Schools is proud to be a part of this important work.

Preston Early Learning is a non-profit, charitable corporation provincially licensed to provide early learning and child care services through its 4 facilities for over 120 children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Its Preston Avenue location provides services to children ages 18 months to 5 years; the Lakewood location provides services to children ages 6 weeks to 5 years; the Holliston School Location (opened in 1986) provides services for children ages 5 to 12 years.

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