

Russ Mirasty – Student First Advisor

Russ Mirasty recently retired from the RCMP after serving for 36 years. He reached the rank of Assistant Commissioner and his last position was that of Commanding Officer of the RCMP in Saskatchewan.

Russ is originally from La Ronge, Saskatchewan and is a member of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. He has always maintained close ties with his home community and he speaks fluent Cree. He graduated from high school in La Ronge and attended the University of Saskatchewan for a year before joining the RCMP in 1976. He began his career in Saskatchewan and has been posted to six other provinces. His duties have taken him to every province and territory in the country. He also participated in an exchange with the Northern Territory Police Service in Australia. During his career he has worked in various capacities including general duty policing, highway patrol duties, police dog services and Aboriginal Policing Services. He has worked at the community, provincial and national levels within the RCMP. Prior to returning to Saskatchewan he was in Ottawa at RCMP Headquarters and was the officer in charge of National Aboriginal Policing Services and National Crime Prevention Services.

Russ and his wife, Donna, reside in La Ronge. They have two children, Matthew and Jennifer and two grandchildren, Jackson and Grace.

Patricia Prowse – Student First advisor

Patricia Prowse is presently a Superintendent of Education with Saskatoon Public Schools, the largest school division in the province. She is responsible for the division's strategic work on First Nations, Inuit and Métis Education and Safe and Caring Schools. Ms. Prowse is a passionate and values-driven leader who never wavers from her focus on seeing every student succeed. In advocating for improved educational achievements for First Nations, Inuit and Metis students, she has implemented interventions to close achievement gaps and nurtured effective partnerships. Ms. Prowse championed the use of a violence threat risk assessment model in Saskatoon that has been embraced by multiple community partners and recognized as an exemplar for other educational institutions nationally and internationally. Her belief in authentic relationships, interagency partnerships and equitable learning opportunities for all inspires learning and has strengthened our community's support for children.

She has a B.A. (Psy), B.Ed. and a M.Ed. (Admin) from the University of Saskatchewan. Ms Prowse has received the Saskatchewan School Based Administrators' Award for the Distinguished Administrator of the Year in 2003 and the Canadian Association of Principals' Distinguished Principal of the Year Award in 2004. In 2013 she received the YWCA Women of Distinction Leadership and Management Award and the Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services' Shield award for community service. Ms Prowse has 33 years of experience as a teacher, school-based and central office administrator.