

# **IEEE South Saskatchewan Section AGM Package 2025**

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# 1. Land Acknowledgement

The University of Regina is located on Treaty 4 lands, these are the territories of the nêhiyawak (nay-hi-yuh-wuk, Cree), Anihšīnāpēk (uh-nish-i-naa-payk, Saulteaux), Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation. Today, these lands continue to be the shared territory of many diverse peoples. The nêhiyawak originally referred to Regina as oskana kā-asastēki (os-kuh-nuh-kaa-us-us-tay-kih), Cree for “the place where bones are piled up.” This is why Regina's nickname is "Pile O'Bones" and is the origin of the name Wascana Park, where the University's Regina main campus is located.

In addition, the area served by the South Saskatchewan Section serves also includes some Treaty 2 and Treaty 6 territory. As the IEEE is dedicated to fostering technological innovation and excellence for the betterment of mankind, it is important to acknowledge what we can learn from the indigenous caretakers of these lands, and approach life here with a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation – we are all treaty people.

## 2. Agenda

November 19, 2025

CW 215

University of Regina

6:00pm Land Acknowledgement

Welcome by Adam Tilson, IEEE South Saskatchewan Section Chair

6:15pm Dinner

Ultimate Experience Catering

Menu: BBQ Chicken, Atlantic Salmon, Vegetarian Lasagne

7:15pm Call to Order

Establishment of Quorum

7:20pm Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Motion: To accept the Agenda as circulated

Motion: To accept the Minutes of AGM 2024 as circulated

7:25pm Chair's Report

Motion: To accept the Chair's Report 2025.

7:35pm Treasurer's Report

Motion: To accept the financial budget and actuals 2025 (to date).

7:45pm Presentation of Section Awards

8:00pm Motion to Adjourn

### 3. Minutes of the Previous AGM



## Minutes of the IEEE South Saskatchewan Section Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 20th November 2024 6:00 pm –8:00 pm (CST - Regina)

Venue: University of Regina, College West CW 215

Attendance: 33 in person

### ExCom

Mr. Adam Tilson	Chair
Mr. Shahedur Rahman	Vice-Chair
Dr. Bhavik Pandya	Secretary
Mr. Olufemi Oluyemi	Educational Activities
Dr. Nashid Shahriar	Membership Development
Ms. Brooklyn Coulson	Web Developer
Mr. Moeed Shamim	eNotice / vTools Coordinator
Mr. Niraj Bhakhar	Computer Chapter Vice Chair

### Guests

Mr. Daniel Price	Melcher Studios, Guest
Mr. Rene Dufour-Contreras	Melcher Studios, Guest
Mr. Ryan Scopic	Melcher Studios, Guest
Ms. Astra Mousavi	Melcher Studios, Graduate Student Member
Dwij Siyal	Guest (Volunteer)

### Award Winners

Mr. Scott Bannerman	Outstanding Leadership Award, SaskPower, Guest
Mr. Jeremy Gabel	Outstanding Achievement Award, SaskTel, Guest
Mr. Brent Maksymiow	Outstanding Service Award, Member
Dr. Craig Gelowitz	Long Service Award, Senior Member

## Members

Dr. Raman Paranjape	Life Senior Member
Masih Abedini	Senior Member
Wayne Timm	Senior Member
Dean Yager	Senior Member
Dr. Lei Zhang	Senior Member
Kehinde Ehineni	Member
Parinaz	Member
Rezaeimoghaddam	
Muhammad Assd	Graduate Student Member
Mfd. Mahibul Hasan	Graduate Student Member
Nasik Khan	Graduate Student Member
Gustav Boshoff	Student Member
Nelis Boshoff	Student Member
Qixuan Li	Student Member
Numair Nadeem	Student Member
Cameron Oehler	Student Member
Danijel Rumai	Student Member
Ali Salehhpoor	Student Member

Please note: These minutes are a reconstruction based on the agenda and attendance sheet and agenda from the previous meeting. Since quorum was not met, no formal business could be conducted

6:05 pm Land Acknowledgement

Welcome address by Adam Tilson, IEEE South Saskatchewan Section Chair

6:15 pm Dinner

Ultimate Experience Catering

Menu: BBQ Chicken, Atlantic Salmon, Vegetarian Lasagne

6:45 pm Adam introduced the Keynote speaker

Invited Talk on "VR Applications in Education and Industry" - Melcher Studios

It was an interesting talk on VR technologies based on Realism, Cost effectiveness and ease of use.

Live demonstration on Fire safety gave a broader view how VR can be effective in tackling real world scenarios.

1. Call to Order (Adam Tilson)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:29 pm CST.

Establishment of Quorum:

As per bylaws, quorum is set at 50% of general membership. (90 members). Thus quorum is not met, so no formal business can be conducted.

## 2. Acceptance of the meeting agenda

Motion – To accept the agenda as circulated.

The agenda was discussed by Adam and there were no objections to the agenda by members of the meeting

Due to lack of Quorum, cannot officially be moved or adopted

## 3. Chairman's Report (Adam Tilson)

The Chairman reported that year was full of events and the section and spoke about retaining number of members. He also mentioned three members being upgraded to senior member status. ° Due to lack of Quorum, cannot officially be moved or adopted

## 4. Treasurers Report (Adam Tilson)

Adam presented the financial position of the section. Finances are healthy. We had CIBC 20,332 and NextGen 19,783 in total assets. Major expenses for the year include sending the delegate for the board meeting.

Due to lack of Quorum, cannot officially be moved or adopted

## 5. Presentations

The Chairman presented the inaugural section awards (plaques) to the recipients. They were:

Outstanding Leadership Award	:	Mr. Scott Breneman
Outstanding Service Achievement Award:		Mr. Jeremy Gabel
Excellent Volunteer Award	:	Dr. Kin-Choong Yow
Long Service Award	:	Dr. Craig M. Gelowitz

Presentation of Lapel Pins

The Chairman presented the lapel pins to the members present.

## 6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm CST

Moved by Craig

## 4. Message from Section Chair

Greetings, my name is Adam Tilson, and I am the Section Chair for IEEE South Saskatchewan for 2025-2026. The IEEE South Saskatchewan section had another strong showing this year. This was my second year as the section chair, and the main goal was to maintain momentum and focus on hosting interesting events. We had another strong showing this year, with 13 total events between the section, chapters, branches and affinity groups – Adding in executive committee meetings, we gathered 25 times during the year - bravo to all for a good effort this year.

This is the first year that I was able to attend a Region 7 (IEEE Canada) Board of Directors meeting, which was an experience to be sure – it was a delight to tour the UBC Campus, meet my counterparts from across the country, join in celebrating our own Dr. Kin-Choong Yow as he received the E.F. Glass Western Canada Merit Award, and see experience an academic conference primarily as a participant rather than an active organizer. This experience will serve me well in the coming years when we are next enabled to host a conference in our region. And of course thank you for Mr. Shahedur Rahman for filling in for me when I was unable.

We are experiencing a slight decline in membership this year, primarily lead by a decline in student membership. This is expected coming off of a significant high from the last two years, but a rather unfortunate complement to IEEE around the globe, which just crossed the major milestone of half-a-million members! Our events are also attracting significant attention from our community, whether it's a cozy eleven members and guests escaping (or failing to escape!) from a District 3 scheme, or a technical talk on the Emergence of Corporate Data Teams bringing out an outstanding 76 attendees! Even if numbers wane, engagement remains high, which is always promising.

We continue to pursue the initiatives started in previous years, such as the section awards. These awards recognize the contribution of technology professionals to the South Saskatchewan community, and yet again I am in awe of the recipients – bravo on your achievements!

Our finances are still consistent, though we continue to utilize our overhead from the CCECE conference in 2023. As always, we must be vigilant to ensure our finances and membership numbers stay strong, given the high costs of food and travel, but in the short term things seem stable in our section.

I remain very proud of the work we have done this year, and while I my term as chair is at a close, I am certain the section is in great hands. I would like to thank the many volunteers who whose hard work made this possible. All the best in 2026!

Adam Tilson, *M.A.Sc., P.Eng.*,  
Chair, IEEE South Saskatchewan Section



## 5. Section Officers and Chapter/Affinity Officers



Adam Tilson  
Chair  
RES Representative



Shahedur Rahman  
Vice-Chair



Bhavik Pandya  
Secretary



Yogesh Sharma  
Treasurer



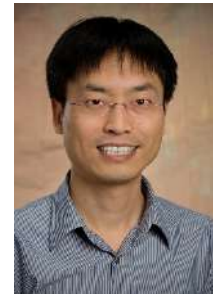
Kin-Choong Yow  
Past Chair



Olufemi Oluyemi  
Educational Activities



Nashid Shahriar  
Membership  
Development



Zhanle Wang  
eNotice Coordinator



Brooklyn Coulson  
Web Developer



Moeed Shamim  
eNotice Coordinator  
vTools Coordinator



Cameron Oehler  
Student Representative

## Computer Chapter



Tim Maciag  
Computer Chapter Chair



Niraj Bhakhar  
Computer Chapter Vice-  
Chair

## IAS/PES Joint Chapter



Samia Sami  
IAS/PES Vice- Chair

## Young Professionals



Young Professionals  
Chair  
Babith Varghese

## Women in Engineering



Women in Engineering  
Chair  
R Ong



Women in Engineering  
Vice Chair  
Drashti Soni

## 6. Financial Report

### Income and Expenditure Statement

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## IEEE South Saskatchewan

Prepared by Adam Tilson on Nov 19, 2025

### Balance

CIBC Local Bank Account	\$ 19,337.00	as of Oct 29, 2025
Balance		
NextGen Bank Account	\$ 20,338.97	as of Oct 29, 2025
Balance		

### Revenue

Rebate	\$ 5,717.62
Interest	\$ 367.74

### Expenses

Section Meetings	\$ 1,433.32
Technical Talks	\$ 316.43
Networking / Social Activities	\$ 427.97
AGM Expenses	\$ ~1500
IEEE R7 Meeting Fees	\$ 1,000.00
IEEE R7 Scholarship Donation	\$ 500.00
Student Congress Fees	\$ 500.00
Project Day Sponsorship	\$ 1,000.00

<b>Sum</b>	<b>\$ 6085.36</b>	<b>(\$ 6,677.72)</b>
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<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$ 592.36)</b>
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Balance Sheet

**Balance Sheet**  
**FY 2025**

**Assets**

Cash \$39,375.97

Total Assets \$ 39,375.97

**Liabilities and Net Assets**

Reserves \$30,000

Total Liabilities \$30,000

**Net Assets**

Operating Funds \$ 9,375.97

Total Net Assets \$ 9,375.97

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$ 39,675.97

CIBC Closing Balance Oct 29, 2025	\$ 19,337.00
NextGen Closing Balance Oct 29, 2025	\$ 20,338.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 39,675.97</b>

## 7. Membership Development

### Membership Overview

As of November 19, 2025, we have a total of 140 members in the following grades:

Grade	Number	Change
Affiliate	2	+1
Associate Member	1	
Graduate Student Member	13	-3
Life Member	8	-1
Life Senior Member	5	+1
Member	64	-7
Senior Member	24	+3
Student Member	23	-24
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>-30</b>

### New members

Among them, we have 13 new members (membership effective date after 1 Jan 2025 and not previously a member at other grades).

### Membership upgrades

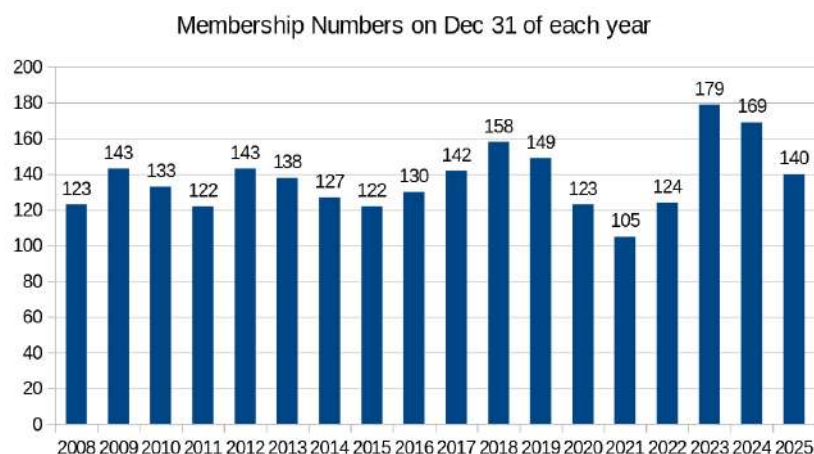
Three (3) Members were upgraded to Senior Membership in 2025. They are:

- Dr. Zhanle Wang (Feb 7)
- Dr. Mohammad Ghiasi (May 21)
- Dr. Rajeevan Arunthavanathan (Oct 14)

Congratulations to all!

### Membership Trends

Our membership number has experienced a decline from our all-time high in 2023. The following chart shows the membership numbers from 2009 to the present.



## 8. Events Organized

### 1. Strategies for Excellence in Academic Research and Publication

Date: Feb 12, 2025  
Time: 11:30am  
Location: University of Regina  
Speaker: Dr. Kin-Choong Yow

This seminar aims to share various tips and best practices to achieve excellence in academic research. The talk will start with discussing how to perform research that creates an impact to the community. It will be followed by discussions on how to write up that research in a way that will attract audiences to read your articles. We will then discuss how to make oral presentations that will get your idea across to your audiences and attract collaborations. Finally, we will talk about academic integrity and ethical academic practices.

Previous runs of this event were well attended by graduate students from Engineering, Computer Science, Social Work, Kinesiology and even an exchange student on the Mitacs Globalink program. Some of the feedback from the participants include "Very informative", "Lots of things that I should have known", "Great Experience", "Very Insightful", etc..





## 2. IEEE South Saskatchewan - Regina - Bowling Night

Date: Mar 5, 2025  
Time: 11:30am  
Location: Glencairn Bolodrome

IEEE South Saskatchewan is hosted a networking and bowling event hosted at Glencairn Bolodrome located at 1620 9 Ave E, Regina, SK S4N 6J9 on Wednesday March 5, 2025.

IEEE Members: Free to attend, with up to one guest free to attend. non-IEEE Members: \$10.





### 3. IEEE Mock Interview Session

Date: Mar 14, 2025

Time: 12:00pm - 5pm

Location: University of Regina

The IEEE South Saskatchewan Section is pleased to once again be offering our Mock Job Interview event.

In this event, students are encouraged to apply for two mock job postings, one for SaskTel and one for SaskPower. HR representatives from each company will review the applicants and provide feedback on your resume and application. A limited number of applicants will move forward to the second phase, where on March 14 (12-5pm), you will meet for an in-person interview, similar to a real-life job interview, at the CESL on campus. Feedback will again be provided for the candidates based on your performance in the interview.

This event provides invaluable feedback for students to help you succeed in engineering job interviews, whether for co-op/internship or for careers upon graduation.

Upon conclusion of all of the interviews, students are encouraged to join a networking event with food and refreshments. All applications are welcome to attend the networking event, whether or not you were selected for the interview phase.

## 4. Engineering Project Day 2025

Date: April 5, 2025

Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Location: University of Regina

IEEE South Saskatchewan is inviting all members to University of Regina Project Day hosted by the University of Regina Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

What is Project Day?

Project day is an annual conference where our 4th year Engineering students present their final-year design projects. It is the culmination of a great deal of work and effort on the part of university students. The event also includes a trade show and poster session where projects will be on display. The IEEE South Saskatchewan Section attended and provided IEEE Branded bottled water.

## 5. Java for C/C++ Programmers

Date: July 2, 2025

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: University of Regina

Speaker: Dr. Kin-Choong Yow

This workshop introduced Java for those with a background in C or C++

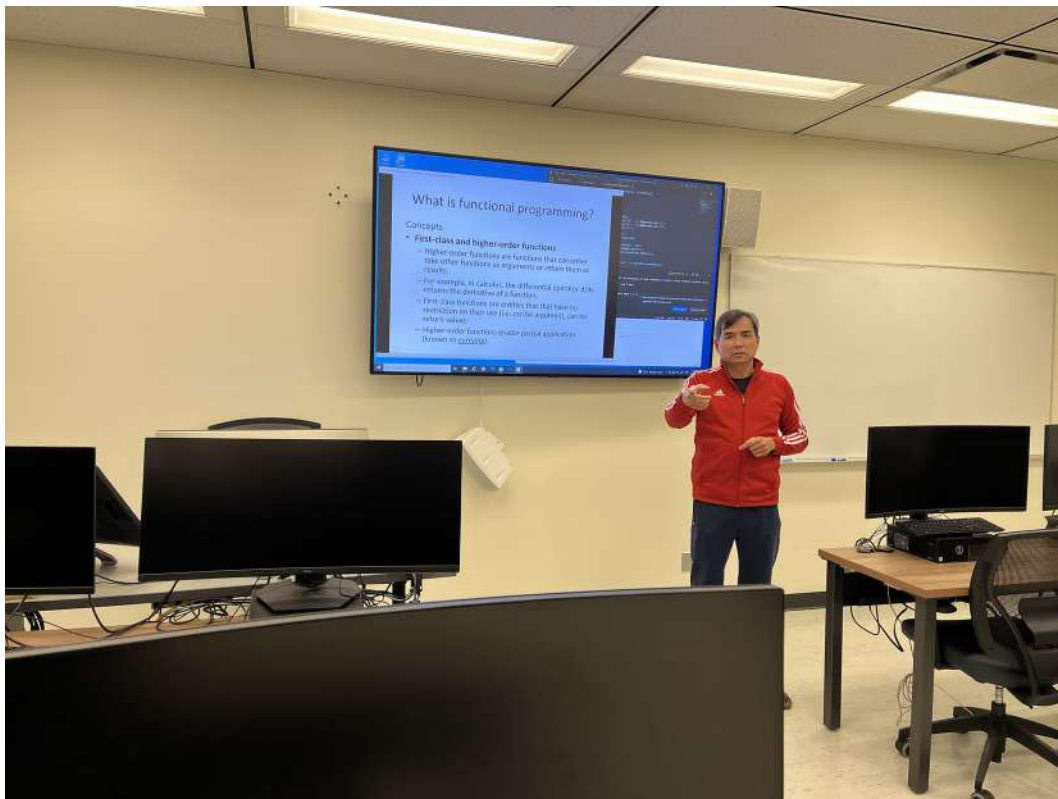
### Agenda

Java vs C/C++

A brief review of Imperative Java

- Objects and Classes
- Data Types, Variables, Operators
- Branching, Loops
- Input/Output
- Packages
- Collections

### Exercises



## 6. Functional Programming in Java

Date: July 3, 2025

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: University of Regina

Speaker: Dr. Kin-Choong Yow

This workshop introduces functional programming for those familiar with Java

### Agenda

What is Functional Programming?

Implementing Function Programming Concepts with Java

- Introduction to lambda expressions
- Manipulating Collections
- Strings and Comparators
- Lazy Evaluation
- Tail-call Optimization
- Functional Composition

### Exercises



## 7. University of Regina Club Fair

Date: September 2, 2025

Time: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: University of Regina

The student section attended the University of Regina Book Fair to promote the student branch.

## 8. Applications of ChatGPT in Electrical Engineering

Date: October 2, 2025

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Location: Sask Polytech Moose Jaw

Speaker: Dr. Kin-Choong Yow

Dr. Yow presented this technical talk to the students at SaskPolytech in Moose Jaw on Applications of ChatGPT in Electrical Engineering.

## 9. IEEE Sask Polytech – Moose Jaw Student Branch Bowling Night

Date: October 10, 2025

Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: South Hill Bowling Centre,  
Moose Jaw

The IEEE Sask Polytech Student Branch (Moose Jaw) invited all Semester 1 and Semester 3 Electrical Engineering Technology students to an evening of bowling, networking, and pizza.

This event was held at South Hill Bowling Centre and provided an excellent opportunity to meet fellow classmates, connect with IEEE, and enjoy a relaxed evening outside of class. Bowling shoes were provided at the venue, and pizza was included.

Date & Time: October 10, 2025 – 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Location: South Hill Bowling Centre, 510 Home St W, Moose Jaw, SK

Cost: Free for IEEE student members.

## 10. Senior Membership Upgrading Information Session

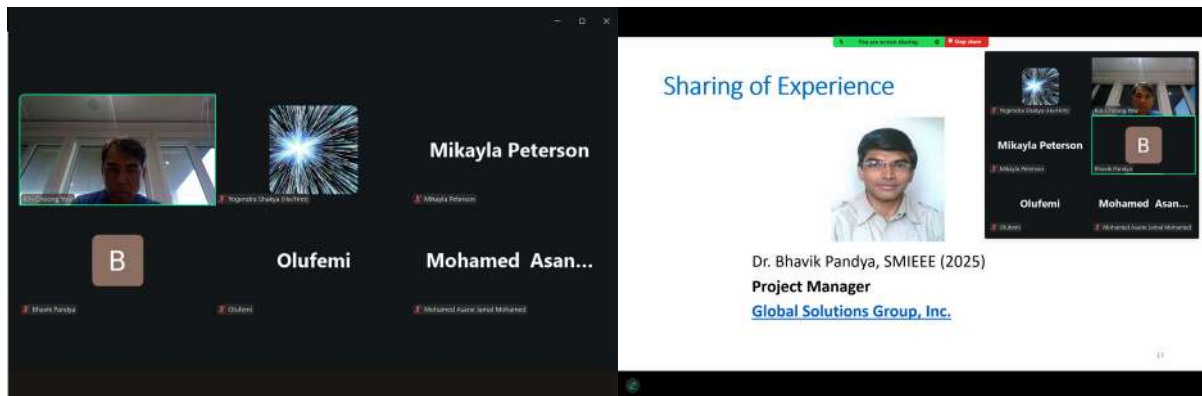
Date: October 28, 2025  
Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Location: Online  
Speaker: Dr. Kin-Choong Yow  
Agenda

Welcome

Benefits and Process to Become an IEEE Senior Member

Sharing of Experience

Questions and Answers



## 11. IEEE South Saskatchewan Escape Room Evening at District 3

Date: November 5, 2025  
Time: 7:35 pm – 8:35 pm  
Location: District 3 located at 2237 6th Ave., Regina, SK

IEEE South Saskatchewan is hosting its networking and escape room event hosted at District 3 located at 2237 6th Ave., Regina, SK on November 5th, 2025 @ 7:30 PM.

IEEE Members: Free to attend. IEEE member can bring one guest free of cost

non-IEEE Members: \$15

We have booked two rooms:

The Cabin - There has been a series of kidnappings near a cabin. After locking your group up, the kidnapper leaves to find more trespassers. In trying to escape, you begin to learn more about who's cabin it is, who the enemy is, why he kidnapped you, and what he is trying to hide.

The Interrogation Room - An investigation begins the day after an attempted heist at a museum. Despite being brought in for questioning as suspects, unease led to your attempted escape. Staying too long may lead to your arrest, or perhaps worse!





## 12. Emergence of the Corporate Data Team

Date: November 6, 2025

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Location: University of Regina

Speaker: Mike Jacobson

This presentation brings a common awareness about the corporate data team that most organizations are establishing as they go through their enterprise transformation and modernization journey. The corporate data team, often referred to as the Data Office, serves as a critical function responsible for managing data quality, governance, and integration across disparate source systems providing accessibility to analytics and reporting for all business departments in the organization. This case study explores the history of how organizations typically handled data in the past and how technology as well as data practices have evolved to leverage data to become a critical element for an organization's enterprise strategy. We will examine how the data team is structured, the impact of each of the key roles (such as data engineers and data scientists), how data is governed, and the data architecture that is supported by a centralized data team. The presentation also reviews the technical and organizational challenges faced by modern corporate data teams. This session should demonstrate why organizations have had to mature their data practices to accelerate business outcomes and efficiently manage data for strategic growth.





### 13. IEEE SouthSask AGM 2025

Date: November 19, 2025

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Location: University of Regina

The AGM is the grand finale of all our events of the year! It is the time to give ourselves a treat to a nice dinner and to catch up with all your old friends and fellow members, and meet new ones. At the AGM, we will be reporting on the activities that we have organized for the year, and we would like to hear your opinions and suggestions on what you would like the Section to do for you next year.

The event is free for IEEE members and \$40 for non IEEE Members. Your attendance is greatly appreciated to enable us to make quorum and pass motions. If you have not been active in the section, now is the perfect time to come get involved, and hear about what we have been up to!

## 9. Section Awards

### Outstanding Leadership Award

#### Tom McGill

Senior Director of the Strategy Realization Office at Saskatchewan Government Insurance

Mr. McGill is a transformational leader whose career exemplifies excellence in technology leadership, enterprise modernization, data governance, mentorship, and strategic execution across multiple major Canadian organizations.

Over nearly two decades, Mr. McGill has led large-scale modernization programs, developed high-performing teams, and delivered measurable outcomes in complex business and technology environments.

At SGI, Mr. McGill has held several strategic leadership roles, including Senior Director, Strategy Realization Office, Program Director, Corporate Transformation, Senior Director, Systems Transformation, Leader of the SGI CANADA Development Team and Data Workstream leadership and stabilization. His leadership has improved digital service delivery, data quality, systems modernization, and organizational agility.

Prior to his role at SGI, Mr. McGill also served at the The Sovereign General Insurance Company and Innovation and Data Leadership at The Co-operators. His efforts modernized technology capabilities and enhanced collaboration across business units, including establishing a Data Governance & Development team, creating formal, leading a pilot Data Warehousing project, and advancing business intelligence capabilities.

Mr. McGill's career reflects the principles central to IEEE:

- Leadership in digital transformation and innovation
- Mentorship and capacity building
- Enterprise governance and data integrity
- Collaboration across technology and business domains
- Advancement of technical solutions with strategic value

His work has had a direct impact on the modernization of large institutions, the implementation of digital strategies, and the development of high-performing technical teams in Saskatchewan and beyond. Tom McGill stands out as an individual whose leadership, strategic vision, and technical influence have created lasting impact in the region. His career achievements make him highly deserving of the IEEE South Saskatchewan Outstanding Award.

## **Outstanding Achievement Award**

### **Mr. Mike Jacobson,**

Director and Data Architect at Saskatchewan Government Insurance

Over a career spanning more than two decades, Mr. Jacobson has made significant technical and architectural contributions to enterprise data platforms, AI adoption, reporting modernization, and solution design across major organizations serving the people of Saskatchewan.

In his current role at SGI, Mr. Jacobson leads the data platform within the Data Strategy, Management & Enablement division. His leadership has accelerated the maturity of SGI's data capabilities through the adoption of modern warehousing techniques, automation, and scalable architecture that supports digital transformation. Prior to joining SGI, Mr. Jacobson held several progressive roles at The Co-operators, including Solutions Architect, Solution Designer, and Senior Data Analyst. His work, involving AI and large language model initiatives, enterprise data modeling, and data warehousing.

An outstanding technical contribution particularly being recognized is Mr. Jacobson's work at The Co-operators, where he successfully led the architectural delivery of the IFRS17 regulatory reporting solution under a one-year timeline. This required:

- Architecting a new reporting framework through the enterprise data warehouse
- Integrating five new source systems under strict compliance requirements
- Designing a scalable and auditable solution that replaced over 15 years of legacy enhancements
- Leading stakeholder collaboration across actuarial, finance, underwriting, and reporting teams
- Introducing PowerBI for advanced reporting and automation
- Delivering the Nubert IFRS17 reporting system in parallel with the legacy Cubert IFRS4 system ahead of the deadline

His work not only met compliance demands but also demonstrated architectural foresight, project leadership, and data governance excellence.

Mr. Jacobson also led the transition from a legacy model to a modern hub-and-spoke architecture at The Co-operators, solving longstanding challenges in speed, scalability, and data reuse. This included:

- Delivery of a new architecture within three months
- Enabling reporting reuse across multiple teams
- Accelerating delivery from multi-year cycles to days or weeks
- Establishing data modeling standards and validation scripts
- Leading automation efforts to improve end-to-end deployments
- Educating teams and leadership through tailored technical and business presentations
- Implementing Agile, sprint-based delivery using Azure DevOps with full transparency and iteration-based demos

This approach has directly influenced ongoing transformation efforts at SGI, where Mr. Jacobson has already completed a proof of concept and pilot using similar methodologies.

Mike Jacobson's technical achievements reflect innovation, leadership, and deep expertise in enterprise data architecture, reporting modernization, and solution delivery. His contributions have had a transformative impact on multiple major Saskatchewan organizations and align strongly with the purpose and prestige of the IEEE South Saskatchewan Outstanding Achievement Award.

## **Outstanding Service Award**

### **Mr. Jason Whitelaw**

Engineer in Generation Technical Services at SaskPower,

Since graduating from the University of Regina's Electronics Systems Engineering program in 2015, Jason has exemplified service, leadership, and technical excellence in both his profession and the broader engineering community.

In his current role as an Engineer in Generation Technical Services at SaskPower, Jason serves as a subject matter expert in DC systems, AC/DC and DC/AC conversion systems, excitation systems, and battery infrastructure. Jason has successfully led major initiatives such as the PP PCB Mitigation Program, which he completed on time and under budget, while overseeing Federal regulatory compliance and environmental risk reduction. His leadership also extends to the Generation Bonding and Grounding Working Group, where he contributes to the development of policies, procedures, and technical standards used across SaskPower's generation facilities.

Jason's professional service goes beyond his core responsibilities. He mentors Engineers-in-Training and junior engineers, works closely with tradespeople and operations teams, and regularly supervises field personnel through applied permits and site safety oversight. His work in battery system commissioning, equipment testing, risk assessments, and troubleshooting has supported safe operations and informed critical decision-making for long-term asset management.

His commitment to service was evident well before his professional career. As a student, Jason demonstrated exceptional initiative and leadership through his foundational role in creating the Regina Engineering Equipment Fund, an enduring legacy that continues to improve student access to modern laboratory and project technology. His dedication to the student community is further reflected in his service as Vice President, President, and Alumni Representative of the Regina Engineering Students' Society (RESS), where he strengthened advocacy, mentorship, and alumni engagement.

Jason also served as a University of Regina Senate Member, providing thoughtful representation of the engineering student and alumni voice in academic policy and planning. Additionally, he contributed to student success as a Power Laboratory Teaching Assistant, where he reinforced safety practices, mentorship, and applied learning.

What distinguishes Jason is the seamless integration of his community-minded leadership with his technical expertise. His efforts in professional mentorship, field safety, engineering governance, standard-setting, and student advocacy demonstrate ongoing service that aligns with the vision and values of IEEE. He has consistently prioritized the growth of others while contributing directly to critical infrastructure and long-term sustainability in Saskatchewan.

Jason's sustained impact—professionally, academically, and in the engineering community—makes him an outstanding candidate for the IEEE South Saskatchewan Outstanding Service Award. His record of leadership, technical stewardship, mentorship, and service represents the very spirit this award is intended to honour.

## **Excellent Volunteer Award**

### **Dr. Bhavik Pandya, SMIEEE**

It is my pleasure to nominate Dr. Bhavik Pandya for the IEEE South Saskatchewan Excellent Volunteer Award. In his role as Secretary of the IEEE South Saskatchewan Section since January 2024, Dr. Pandya has demonstrated exceptional dedication, professionalism, and collaborative leadership in advancing the mission of IEEE within the region.

Dr. Pandya has taken a proactive approach to supporting Section operations, governance, and member engagement. He has ensured accurate records of meetings and decisions, contributed to the coordination of activities across chapters and committees, and provided timely communication and administrative support to the executive team and membership. His reliability and strong organizational skills have helped improve continuity, accountability, and operational efficiency within the Section.

In addition to his formal responsibilities, Dr. Pandya has contributed meaningfully to Section initiatives and event planning. His willingness to assist with outreach, logistics, and coordination has strengthened the effectiveness of IEEE programs in the community. Whether supporting meetings, collaborating with other volunteers, or assisting with member engagement, he approaches every task with professionalism and a spirit of service.

His background in academia and technology, including over 17 years as a Senior Lecturer and experience in research and project management, further enriches his contributions. He brings a thoughtful and global perspective to IEEE activities, helping to foster connections across education, industry, and professional development.

In a relatively short time, Dr. Pandya has become a dependable and valued member of the Section's leadership team. His commitment to volunteering, attention to detail, and collaborative attitude embody the spirit of service that the Excellent Volunteer Award seeks to recognize. He has shown initiative, strengthened Section operations, and supported the growth and engagement of the IEEE community in South Saskatchewan.

For his meaningful contributions, active leadership, and dedication to IEEE's mission, I am honoured to award Dr. Bhavik Pandya for the IEEE South Saskatchewan Excellent Volunteer Award.

## **Long Service Award**

### **Mr. Shahedur Rahman**

Program Chair and Associate Professor, University of Regina

Shahedur has been an active and committed IEEE member for well over a decade, contributing significantly through multiple executive roles that have strengthened the Section's governance, operations, and member engagement:

- Secretary (2011–2013; 2018–2019) – In these terms, Shahedur ensured accurate record-keeping, organized communications, and maintained operational continuity. His dedication and attention to detail provided the foundation for smooth Section governance.
- Vice-Chair (2014–2015; 2022–2025) – Shahedur supported the executive team in decision-making, event coordination, and strategic initiatives, helping advance professional development and engagement for Section members.
- Chair (2016–2017) – As Section Chair, he provided overall leadership, set strategic direction, and represented the Section at regional and IEEE-wide activities. Under his guidance, the Section continued to grow its programs, outreach, and technical initiatives.

Throughout his successive leadership roles, Shahedur has demonstrated exceptional continuity, professionalism, and commitment to the IEEE mission. His long-term engagement has ensured the Section's stability, effectiveness, and relevance to its members and the wider engineering community.

Professionally, Shahedur serves as a Core Network & Service Development Senior Engineer at SaskTel, where his technical expertise and leadership in telecommunications complement his IEEE contributions. His experience enhances mentorship, industry engagement, and the connection between professional practice and IEEE objectives.

Shahedur's extensive and sustained service across multiple leadership roles exemplifies the dedication, vision, and impact that the IEEE South Saskatchewan Long Service Award seeks to recognize. His contributions have left a lasting legacy on the Section's governance, programs, and member experience.

It is an honour to award Mr. Shahedur Rahman for this award in recognition of his long-standing service and exceptional commitment to IEEE.

~ THE END ~