

# Saskatoon ewiConnect

June, 2025



## President's Message

### The Wisdom of the Pearl

Dear EWI Sisters,

June has always held a special place in my heart—not only as the start of summer and a time of renewal, but also as **my birth month**. It feels especially meaningful to reflect this month on our **Gem of the Month: the pearl**.

Pearls are formed through time, pressure, and patience—quietly developing their radiance beneath the surface. They symbolize **wisdom gained through experience**, and much like our journeys as professional women, their beauty lies in their resilience.

As we focus on **wealth management** this June, I'm reminded that wealth is not just about numbers—it's about **values, vision, and vitality**. It's the legacy we build, the confidence we cultivate, and the support we offer each other in spaces like EWI.

To each of you—pearls in your own right—thank you for sharing your light, your leadership, and your lessons. Together, we continue to shine brighter, uplift one another, and build wealth that truly matters.



Deb Brown, C.Mgr.  
2024-25 Chapter President

*"Shine bright because the world needs your light!"*

**You're A Gem!**

### EWI of Saskatoon Chartered 2018

#### 2024-25 Board of Directors

Debbie Brown  
President

Char Weightman  
President-Elect

Lori Riopel  
Secretary

Treasurer  
Susan Mowat

Member Experience  
Susan McDonald

Communications  
Karen Skirten

Sgt-At-Arms  
Barb Wohlford

Advisor  
Rhonda Adair

Program Director  
Vacant

Fundraising Chair  
Vacant

[ewiofsaskatoon@gmail.com](mailto:ewiofsaskatoon@gmail.com)

Please Join Us!  
If you would like to assist in a board position, please reach out to any board member.

# June Dinner & Business Meeting



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025  
Doors Open 5pm  
Hillcrest, 210 Wess Rd



Guest Speaker  
Deanna McLay,  
Certified Financial Planner



PRECEDENCE  
PRIVATE WEALTH

BBQ Dinner  
*Pork Ribs, Coleslaw,  
Potato Salad  
& Corn  
Watermelon*

Members \$45ea  
Guests \$50ea  
Cash Bar

Register by June 16th at  
[ewiofsaskatoon.ca](http://ewiofsaskatoon.ca)

***Chapter Business Meeting to follow  
the dinner meeting. All members must attend  
or proxy their vote to another  
member.***



## 2024/25 Sister's Challenge

### Final Standings



TEAM #	Big Sister	L'il Sister	TOTAL
1	Cara Mazurak	Lori McInnis	2.5
2	Susan McDonald	Karen Pallibroda	48
3	Char Weightman	JoAnn Jestin	19.5
4	Nhu Gaudet	Darla Brown	5
5	Fran Seidler	Ashley Bernauer	7.5
6	Susan Mowat	Shauntelle Cox	43
7	Darlene Biggins	Barb Wohlford	39.5
8	Tracey Fesiuk	Ricci De Cecco	12
9	Jennelle Wignes-Haaland	Brenda Dyer	7
10	Karen Skirten	Sheila Buhr	48.5
11	Rhonda Adair	Myra Kirk	12.5
<b>12</b>	<b>Debbie Brown</b>	<b>Lori Riopel</b>	<b>52.5</b>
13	Anna Kalyta	Melinda Bushaj	19.5
	Janet Milne		3.5

*CONGRATULATIONS to the Sister Team of Debbie Brown and Lori Riopel! Debbie and Lori ended up with the highest score for the Challenge. They have won an afternoon of fun together with pedicures and lunch!*

*Additional thanks to all team that participated! I hope you had some fun while deepening your connections with one another and learning some things about ewi!*

*- Karen Skirten, 2024-2025 Communications Director*

OPA! We enjoyed some fabulous Greek food at Mano's for our May meeting while learning all about Crime Stoppers from our Speaker Deanne Kleiboer, a board member for Crime Stoppers.



Thank you to Mano's and to Director Susan McDonald for these photos!

## THE ULTIMATE INTERVIEW CHEAT SHEET TO LAND YOUR DREAM JOB

By Amy Gibson

### Your Story & Interest

#### Tell Me About Yourself.

- Focus on your professional journey, not personal details.
- Mention 2-3 relevant achievements. Keep it brief, under 3 minutes.

#### Why Are You Interested in This Role?

- Research the company. Connect your goals to their mission.
- Highlight specific aspects of the role that excite you.

### Strengths & Weaknesses

#### What Are Your Strengths?

- Choose a strength that solves a problem the company faces.
- Back it up with a quick story or example of how you've applied it.

#### What Is Your Greatest Weakness?

- Choose a real weakness that won't affect your job performance.
- Show how you're actively working to improve it.

### Problem-Solving Abilities

#### Describe a Time You Faced a Challenge at Work

- Use the STAR method: Situation, Task, Action, Result.
- Focus on the action you took and the positive outcome it led to.

#### How Do You Prioritize Your Work?

- Describe a system you use, like a to-do list or time-blocking.
- Show flexibility and how you adjust when things change.

### Teamwork & Communication

#### Tell Me About a Time You Worked in a Team

- Focus on collaboration. Mention how you contributed and helped others.
- Include a specific outcome the team achieved together.

#### How Do You Handle Stressful Situations?

- Mention specific techniques, like prioritizing tasks or taking breaks.
- Share a brief example of how you stayed calm under pressure.

### Leadership & Initiative

#### Give an Example of a Time You Took Initiative

- Share when you saw a problem and solved it without being asked.
- Show the impact of your actions and how it benefitted the company.

#### Describe a Time When You Showed Leadership

- Share a time when you took charge, even if it wasn't your formal role.
- Focus on how you motivated others and the result of your leadership.

### Long-Term Goals and Fit

#### Where Do You See Yourself in 5 Years?

- Talk about career growth in a way that shows commitment to the role.
- Mention skills you're eager to develop that align with the job.

#### Why Should We Hire You?

- Highlight how your skills solve a key problem the company is facing.
- Show enthusiasm and a desire to contribute to the team's success.



### Extra Tips For Success

**Research:** Go beyond the website. Check their recent news and social media too.

**Practice:** Don't memorize. Rehearse enough to sound natural and confident.

**Ask Questions:** Have 3 insightful questions ready about the role, team, culture.

**Follow Up:** Send a short, thoughtful email within 24 hours of the interview.



Follow **Amy Gibson** for actionable tips on leadership

[in linkedin.com/in/amy-l-g](https://www.linkedin.com/in/amy-l-g)



EWI of Saskatoon has two great opportunities for Leadership Development available on the Board...

**Program Director & Fundraising Chair**

*"She profits most who serves best"* - Lucille Johnson Perkins, Founder

# Community



## Welcome to our newest members

*Terry Garrett with McGregor Financial*

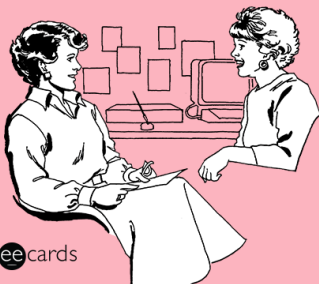
**July's Connect will feature:**

*Tristina Miller with Prairie Orchid Media*

*Sheryl Harras with Backyard Living Center!*



You're one of my  
few offline friends.



someecards



*Members,*

*Please feel free to send me any  
notices, announcements or  
events you would like to share  
with your fellow chapter mem-  
bers!*

*Thanks!*

Karen Skirten, Communications

McGregor Financial Inc is a three-generation company established in 1955. Our focus has always been on providing sound financial planning advice to families, professionals, and business owners. Our attention to planning stems from the awareness that sometimes people end up making financial decisions without a plan, and in the end, the decisions may not always be ideal. We've built a company that helps our clients take control of their finances, their future, their dreams and their retirement.

Terry joined McGregor Financial in October 2023. During her 35+ year career in finance she saw first-hand what can happen when you don't plan or when you don't plan enough. She saw the heartache families went through and she wants to ensure her clients, and their families don't have to go through those kinds of experiences. Terry is passionate about making sure her clients and their families have the protection they deserve.

We are advocates of investments, life insurance, mortgage insurance, disability, and critical illness insurance as well as health insurance. We listen and believe in offering the right advice and answers, we are here to help solve a problem or service a goal – your goal. We offer tools to help you take care of what matters most to you.

### **Terry Garrett**

Financial Security Advisor  
Suite 100, 307 Ontario Ave  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1S3  
Business: 306-986-9333  
Fax: 306-986-9340  
Toll Free: 1-877-847-9393

[terry.garrett@mcgregorfinancial.ca](mailto:terry.garrett@mcgregorfinancial.ca)  
[www.mcgregorfinancial.ca](http://www.mcgregorfinancial.ca)



Just a reminder that we have our Chapter Business meeting right after the main program on June 18th. All members should attend and if unable, please send your proxy to another member and c.c. our Secretary Lori Riopel at [loririopel@gmail.com](mailto:loririopel@gmail.com)

CHAPTER BUSINESS  
MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18  
7:30-pm  
HILLCRESST  
210 WESS RD

### Notice of Annual Chapter Business Meeting

#### To: Chapter Representatives

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Standard Chapter Bylaws of Executive Women International that the second annual Business meeting of the Chapter will be held at 7:30 p.m. on June 18, 2025 at Hillcrest Funeral Home.

The representatives will:

- ☐ Receive annual reports of Officers and Directors and committee chairs
- ☐ Elect representative(s) as member(s) of the nominating committee
- ☐ Take action on any other matters that may properly come before the annual business meeting.

Lori Riopel, Chapter Secretary

## BOARD REPORTS

### Susan Mowat Treasurers report:

*Once again it has been my Pleasure serving on the board this year.*

*Please see attached financial reports for EWI of Saskatoon for 2024-2025 as of June 1st. Please note that the assist/fashion show budget-expenses are carried over from last year. There were a number of people who had bought there Fashion show tickets in 2023-2024 year that were credited in this year's budget. This will all straighten itself out this year.*

Executive Women International						
BALANCE SHEET						
as at June 1st 2025						
	2025		2024			
<b>ASSETS</b>						
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Chequing Account	4,417.79		\$ 1,512.01			
Savings Account	1,816.75		\$ 2,918.00			
Share Deposit						
Term Deposits						
Accounts Receivable						
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 6,234.54</b>		<b>\$ 4,430.01</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Accounts Payable	-		\$ -			
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>			
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 4,430.01		\$ 6,525.76			
Net Earnings for Year	-\$ 2,095.75		-2095.75			
Balance, End of Year	\$ 2,334.26		\$ 4,430.01			
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,334.26</b>		<b>\$ 4,430.01</b>			
	\$ 3,900.28					
="Budget vs Actual"IA1						
<b>STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES</b>						
for the month ended June 1st 2025						
	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2024			
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Business Activities	6,513.63	13,050.00	\$ 11,782.01			
Ways & Means	7,908.00	12,700.00	\$ 4,007.96			
Other	-	-	\$ -			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,421.63</b>	<b>\$ 25,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,789.97</b>			
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Members	5,721.02	10,400.00	\$ 6,918.78			
Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Guests	-	1,200.00	0			
5th Anniversary/Fashion Show	-	1,100.00	0			
Insurance & Filing Fees	-	-	0			
AGM/Retreat Costs	-	-	0			
Speaker Honorarium	-	500.00	0			
Digital Post	-	400.00	\$ -			
Member Tags	271.60	400.00	\$ 128.49			
Office Supplies	295.43	400.00	\$ 1,216.46			
Payment Solutions	344.05	700.00	\$ 719.86			
Recruitment/Incentives	-	-	\$ -			
Advertising/Marketing	-	750.00	\$ 419.48			
Printing	98.88	300.00	\$ 162.51			
ASIST/Fashion Show	5,039.47	3,200.00	\$ -			
LCAM Annual	-	5,000.00	\$ 5,807.19			
Website Development & Maintenance	746.50	1,400.00	\$ 1,512.95			
<b>Total Ways and Means</b>	<b>36.63</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,553.58</b>	<b>\$ 25,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,685.72</b>			
<b>Total Increase (decrease) in Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,868.05</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-\$ 2,095.75</b>			
Approved By:						
Debbie Brown, President						
Susan Mowat, Treasurer						

EWI of Saskatoon Chapter Budget - 2024/2025			
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Budget</b>		
<b>Business Activities</b>			
Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees	\$11,700.00	(26 members x \$45 x 10 meetings)	
Chapter Dinner Guest Fees Jun/Aug & Sep	\$1,000.00	(2 non-members x \$50 x 10 meetings)	
Chapter Dinner Meetings - Zoom	\$0.00		
Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees - Student	\$350.00	(1 members x \$35 x 10 meetings)	
<b>Total Business Activities</b>	<b>\$13,050.00</b>		
<b>Ways and Means</b>			
Door Prize Sales	\$0.00		
50/50 Tickets	\$700.00	(\$70 x 10 meetings)	
Fundraisers for ASIST	\$6,000.00		
Fundraisers for LCAM	\$6,000.00		
<b>Total Ways and Means</b>	<b>\$12,700.00</b>		
<b>Other Receipts</b>			
Investment & Account Interest	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous (GST rebate, s/c refund, etc.)	\$0.00		
<b>Total Other Receipts</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$25,750.00</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Business Activities</b>			
Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Members	\$10,400.00	(26 members x \$40 x 10 meetings)	
Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Guests	\$800.00	(2 non-members x \$40 x 10 meetings)	
Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees - Student	\$400.00	(1 members x \$40 x 10 meetings)	
fundraising expenses	\$1,500.00		
Speaker Honorarium	\$500.00		
Digital Post	\$400.00	\$25 per month	
Member Tags	\$400.00		
Office Supplies	\$400.00		
Payment Solutions	\$700.00		
Recruitment Incentives	\$0.00		
Advertising/Marketing/Ad Hoc Printing	\$750.00		
Printing	\$300.00		
ASIST	\$2,800.00		
LCAM Annual	\$5,000.00		
Website Development & Maintenance	\$1,400.00		
<b>Total Business Activities</b>	<b>\$25,750.00</b>		
<b>Ways and Means</b>			
Donation	\$0.00		
<b>Total Ways and Means</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		



Executive Women International								
Saskatoon Chapter								
Financial Summary - June 01 2025								
INCOME							Budget	Actual
Business Activities								
	Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees						\$11,700.00	\$6,513.63
	Chapter Dinner Guest Fees						\$1,000.00	\$0.00
	Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees - Student						\$350.00	\$0.00
Total Business Activities							\$13,050.00	\$6,513.63
Ways and Means								
	Door Prize Sales						\$0.00	\$0.00
	50/50 Tickets						\$700.00	\$1,155.00
	Fashion Show/Fifth Anniversary							\$0.00
	Fundraisers for ASIST						\$6,000.00	\$6,753.00
	Fundraisers for LCAM						\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Total Ways and Means							\$12,700.00	\$7,908.00
Other Receipts								
	Investment & Account Interest						\$0.00	
	Miscellaneous (GST rebate, s/c refund, etc.)						\$0.00	
Total Other Receipts							\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME							\$25,750.00	\$14,421.63
EXPENSES								
Business Activities								
	Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Members						\$10,400.00	\$5,721.02
	Chapter Meetings Dinner Fees - Guests						\$800.00	\$0.00
	Chapter Dinner Meeting Fees - Students						\$400.00	\$0.00
	Fifth Anniversary Costs						\$1,100.00	\$0.00
	Insurance & Filing Fees						\$0.00	\$0.00
	Accounts Payable						\$0.00	\$0.00
	Speaker Honorarium						\$500.00	\$0.00
	Digital Post						\$400.00	\$0.00
	Member Tags						\$400.00	\$271.60
	Office Supplies						\$400.00	\$295.43
	Payment Solutions						\$700.00	\$344.05
	Recruitment/Incentives						\$0.00	\$0.00
	Advertising/Marketing						\$750.00	\$0.00
	Printing						\$300.00	\$98.88
	ASIST/Fashion Show						\$3,200.00	\$5,039.47
	LCAM Annual						\$5,000.00	\$0.00
	Website Development & Maintenance						\$1,400.00	\$746.50
TOTAL EXPENSES							\$25,750.00	\$12,516.95
Ways and Means								
	Donation						\$0.00	\$36.63
Total Ways and Means							\$0.00	\$36.63
TOTAL PROFIT/(LOSS)							\$0.00	\$1,868.05

## BOARD REPORTS CONT'D

### **Karen Skirten, Communications Director report:**

It has been my pleasure to manage the Chapter's Communications this year including the monthly Connects, Events and our social media accounts. Just one reminder that our "EWI Saskatoon Networking Group" is a private Facebook group page that only members are invited to join. Please refrain from inviting friends to it and if at all possible encourage them to follow our official Public EWI of Saskatoon social media accounts instead.

I was also pleased with the results of our Steak Night in April as Chair of the event. Again, my deepest thanks to everyone who supported the event by volunteering, donating or even just attending!

### **Barb Wohlford, Sargeant-at-Arms report:**

This has been a great role to meet and memorize names as that has been my challenge all my life. I still confuse a few members but I think I am improving. Overall you have all given my grace while learning new technology at my young age of 60. It's been an honor to be part of this amazing board.

### **Susan McDonald, Member Experience Director report:**

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Saskatoon EWI Chapter Member Experience Director for the past 3 years focusing on recruitment and retention.

I am pleased to report that we currently have 29 active members listed in the Saskatoon Chapter roster (24 Firm members & 5 Individuals).

We have welcomed 6 new members to date in 2025!

EWI Corporate is currently running a 1/2 price promotional membership drive until Aug 31st. What a great time to invite your friends to join EWI and make a difference in our community. This role has been so much fun getting to meet all the guests and potential new members, and especially getting to know all of you.

Thank you!

### **Lori Riopel, Secretary report:**

It has been a privilege to serve as your Board Secretary. This role has offered me the opportunity to watch, listen, and learn. Being in this position has deepened my appreciation for the work and dedication that goes into ensuring EWI's success.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of it.