

Council Priority Funds – Application

(Page 2 of 2)

PRIORITY FUND INFORMATION – Completed by ApplicantOrganization Name Strathcona County Robotics AssociationAddress PO Box 3487

Street and number

Subdivision if rural

City or town Sherwood ParkProvince AlbertaPostal code T8H 2T3Contact person Sanny ChanTelephone [REDACTED]Email address (optional) info@strathconarobotics.caProject Type Event Project ExpenseAmount Requested \$ 13,100Is the organization receiving other grant funding from Strathcona County? Yes No

If yes – please attach details

Brief description of request

Strathcona County Robotics Association (SCRA) is a fully volunteer run, not-for-profit organization created for the purpose of promoting STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, to our community's youth.

The Strathcona County Robotics Association (SCRA) is looking to Council Priority Funds for sponsorship to help raise \$13,100 for robotic equipment for our community STEM outreach program.

Over the last five years, our organization has delivered many half-day coding camps to hundreds of 7–9-year-old youths living not only in Strathcona County, but also in the underserved inner city and indigenous communities. The existing robots, purchased in 2018, are at the end of life and need to be replaced to continue to offer these camps.

Our proposal is to purchase 25 Lego™ Education Spike Prime robots for our community STEM outreach program so we can continue to spread the joy of STEM/robotics, without any financial barriers, to every youth interested

Sanny Chan

Print name

Signature

Date

JULY 19, 2023

Please remember to attach a proposed budget, other grant details (if applicable), and request letter to this request.

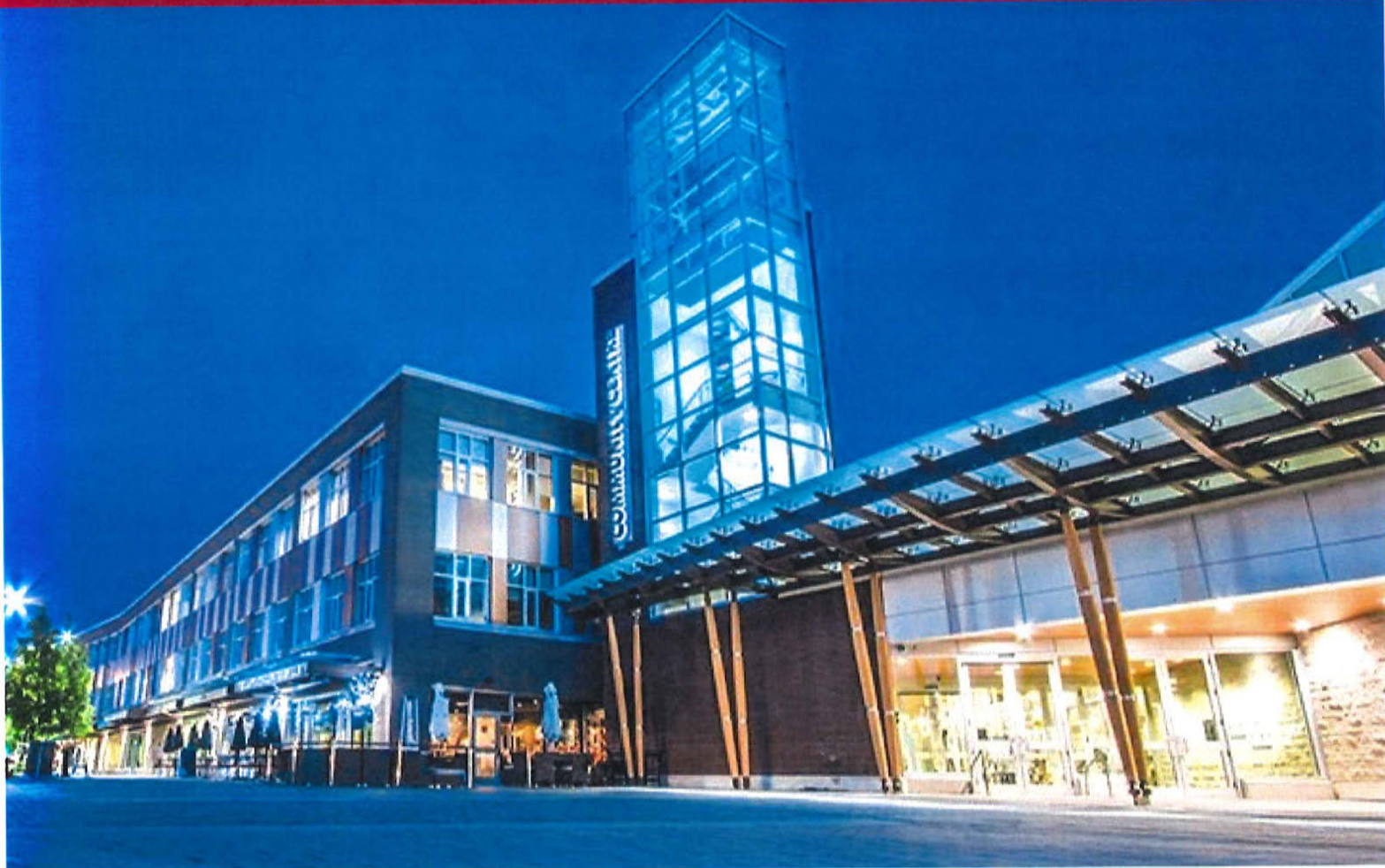
Number of attached pages 9**Collection and use of personal information**

Personal information is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and will be used to manage and administer Council Priority Funds. Please be aware that information provided may be made public. If you have questions regarding the collection, use or disclosure of this information, contact Vicky Cushman at 780-464-8098.

REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

Presented to:

Strathcona County



Strathcona County Robotics Association

PO Box 3487 - Sherwood Park - Alberta - T8H 2T3

(780) 952-2593

strathconarobotics.ca

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Executive Summary

Strathcona County Robotics Association (SCRA) is a fully volunteer run, not-for-profit organization created for the purpose of promoting STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, to our community's youth.

The Strathcona County Robotics Association (SCRA) is looking to Council Priority Funds for sponsorship to help raise \$13,100 for robotic equipment for our STEM outreach program.

Over the last five years, our organization has delivered many half-day coding camps to hundreds of 7-9-year-old youths living not only in Strathcona County, but also in the underserved inner city and indigenous communities. The existing robots, purchased in 2018, are at the end of life and need to be replaced to continue to offer these camps.

Our proposal is to purchase 25 Lego™ Education Spike Prime robots for our community STEM outreach program so we can continue to spread the joy of STEM/robotics, without any financial barriers, to every youth interested.



Our Request: STEM Outreach Equipment

One of our core values at SCRA is giving back to the community. All our teams participate in many events throughout the year including coding camps, offered free of charge, to youth in Strathcona County and the Edmonton inner-city.

Since inception, we have reached over 300 youths with these camps. The association provides all equipment, robots and tablets/laptops, for the events, so there is no financial barrier for youth participation.

The robots, purchased in 2018, are at end of life. Our proposal is to purchase 25 Lego™ Education Spike Prime for our STEM outreach program. We chose the Lego™ Education Spike Prime because:

1. We can leverage our inventory of Lego™ parts from our existing FIRST Lego Robotics Teams – including motors, sensors, etc.
2. Spike Prime has more flexibility for us to develop programs for a wider age range of youth. The Spike Prime uses both block as well as script (such as Python) coding – allowing for more challenging programming.

Each Lego™ Education Spike Prime set retails at \$499 CAD + GST; 25 units will cost \$13,098.75.

Project Budget

Hardware	Units	Totals
Lego Education Spike Prime from Studica.ca @\$499+GST	25	\$ 13,098.75
Laptops Donated by Private Industry	12	\$ -
Tablets Existing Inventory	10	\$ -
Total Funding Request		\$ 13,098.75

Sponsorship Benefits

As the premier sponsor of SCRA, Strathcona County would benefit from:

- High rate of return on investment. Many of our alumni are going, or have gone, “professional” in STEM fields and become very productive members and leaders of our community.
- High visibility of Council’s sponsorship on team jerseys, website (<https://strathconarobotics.ca/>) and social media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook)



Strathcona County Robotics Association

Strathcona County Robotics Association

We are a Not-For-Profit organization created for the purpose of promotion and education of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) concepts in the youth of our community.

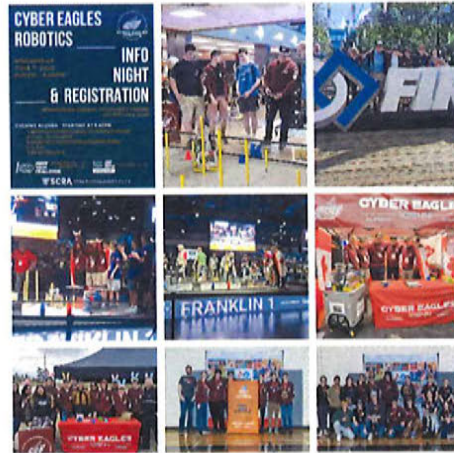
Our Mission

Using robotics-based programs, we encourage students to pursue education and careers in STEM-related fields, to inspire them to become LEADERS and INNOVATORS, and enhance their work-life skills.

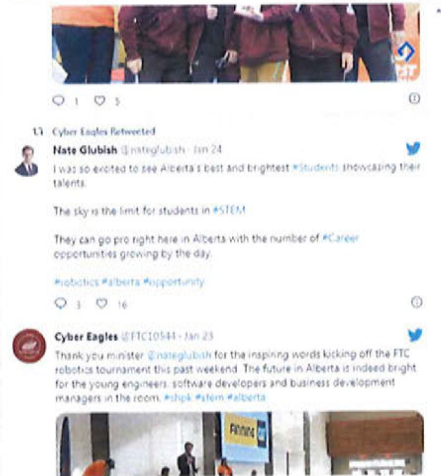
2022 -2023 Season Sponsors



Strathcona County Robotics Association | About FIRST | Teams | Sponsors | Contact |



Tweets from @FTC10544



Sponsor Recognition on Webpage

Local robotics team gears for Worlds

TRAVIS DOSSER

A local robotics team has blown away the competition and will now compete against the best in the world.

Over the weekend on March 4 and 5 in Red Deer, the FIRST Tech Challenge Alberta Championship and the southern Alberta championship, there was a lot of strategy development and a lot of progress made in autonomous mode," Chan said. "The autonomous portion is the first 30 seconds and is completely automate and requires the robot to do visual recognition and based on what they see, on a randomized scale, they have to do specific tasks. The team's robots were able to do



Cyber Eagles Silver won the Inspire Award and Captain of the Winning Alliance and Cyber Eagles Jade won the Design Award.



Sanny Chan, outreach coordinator for Cyber Eagles Robotics team, said the two teams did excellent, with the Cyber Eagles Silver placing first overall.

The team has qualified for the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championships in Houston, Texas between April 19 and April 22. This marks the sixth time that the team has received an invitation in its eight years in existence and seven years competing.

"Only two of the 23 teams attending received an invitation to go to Worlds, so it is kind of like the Olympics because you have to qualify and receive an invitation," Chan said.

The team's robots won the In-



Interview with CBC TV

Local Paper Coverage

Our Teams

In the 2022-23 season, our association was represented by three teams, Cyber Eagles FLL, Cyber Eagles Jade (Junior) and Cyber Eagles Silver (Senior).



Why Robotics

We believe that there is a gap in STEM programming for the youth in the region.

1. There is much focus on **sports** (swimming/ skating/ softball) and **arts** (pottery, glass fusing, painting, dance, drama) in county programming. However, there is little offered in the way of STEM/robotics.
2. In the school system, robotics/programming classes are not offered until high school; and are often limited to single semester offerings.
3. Unlike other programs like soccer, hockey, softball, swimming, STEM has no extra-curricular progression/competitive opportunities. And unlike athletics, there are many STEM/robotics alumni who can, and have gone "pro".

We want to close the gap in extra-curricular STEM programming. We want provide opportunities for the underserved youths, aged 8-18, who aren't inspired by the conventional competitive athletic or arts mold. Often, these youths don't fully feel they belong in the mainstream peer groups. However, when they find likeminded contemporaries in our STEM/robotics programs, we have seen these youth transform into well spoken, confident young adults.

Why Partner with SCRA

Partnering with SCRA is an investment in the youth of our community with an organization that has a **strong track record** of success. These results garner high visibility in local and social media which can be leveraged to showcase Strathcona County as a leader in youth STEM development.

- Our teams have earned a spot to compete, representing Strathcona County, Alberta and Canada at the **FIRST World Championships** in Houston, Texas six years running – including the past 2022-2023 season. The team has just returned in April with the best performance by a Canadian Team.
- Our teams have been recognized at the Provincial level through numerous awards in **Design, Innovation, Control/Code, Winning Alliance**, and the sought after **Inspire Award**.
- Our Senior Team, the Cyber Eagles received the **2022 Strathcona County Award of Excellence for Youth**, in recognition of their community support such as 3D printing and distribution of over 16,000 ear savers for healthcare providers & other community not-for-profit organizations, their work with the Boys & Girls Club, and the Beeping Egg program with the Edmonton Police Service for the CNIB, to name a few.



Due to our ongoing success and community engagement, youth interest in our programs has significantly outgrown our current space. Support from Strathcona County in providing us with a new home would go a long way in helping us realize a **FIRST®** goal for every kid to recognize their worth, abilities and love who they are!

Our Robotics Programs

FIRST LEGO League (FLL)

(FLL) is designed to introduce STEM concepts to students ages 8 to 10 while exciting them through a brand they know and love – LEGO®.

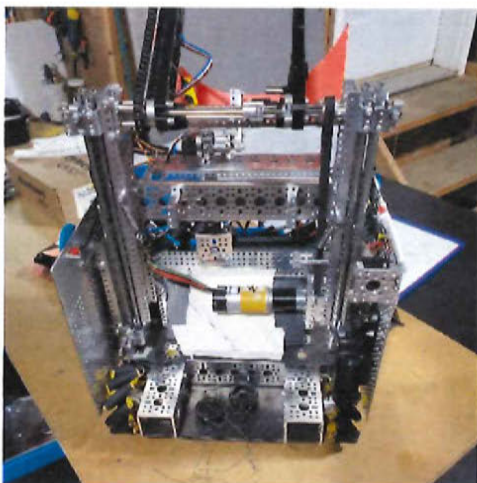
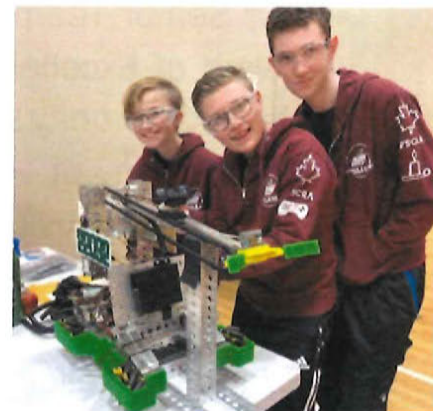


Engaging students in hands-on STEM experiences not only enhances their confidence but also fosters their knowledge and develops their habits of learning. With the guidance of adult coaches, students are encouraged to persevere through trial and error, allowing them to connect STEM concepts to real-world examples. This approach not only equips students with practical skills but also prepares them to take on future challenges with a growth mindset.

FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)

FTC teams (ages 13-18) are challenged to design, build, program, and operate robots to compete in exciting head-to-head matches in an alliance format.

With adult coaches and mentors providing guidance and support, students gain valuable experience in STEM skills and engineering principles, while also learning the value of hard work, innovation and teamwork. As they overcome setbacks and work towards their shared goal, these young people develop a sense of camaraderie and dedication that will serve them well in all their future endeavors.



More Than Robots - Outreach 22/23

One of our core values at SCRA is giving back to the community. All our teams participate in many outreach events throughout the year – totaling over 2000 hours of volunteer time per year. All events are provided free of charge – to ensure that everyone gets to participate and play. Here is a glimpse of this past season's outreach.

Coding Camps for the Underserved Inner-city Youth at the Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society



Coding camps for Local Youth Through Strathcona County Library



Annual Highway Clean Up – over 400lbs of garbage picked up from Hwy 21!



Beeping Eggs for Edmonton Visually Impaired Easter Egg (partner with EPS Bomb Squad)

- Designed, 3D printed and assembled over 200 eggs for 2023 hunt



Many, Many Community Engagements and Demonstrations

- Life in the Heartland
- Great Canadian Trade Show
- Fort Sask. Boys and Girls Club
- Junior/Senior high school demonstrations



Awards and Recognition

Success On The Field

Over our eight-year history, our *FIRST* Tech Challenge teams, the Cyber Eagles have left a legacy of excellence - earning numerous awards at the *FIRST* Alberta Championships.

TEAM 10544 CYBER EAGLES (SENIOR TEAM)

- 2023, 2022, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017
FTC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER
- 2023, 2022, 2020 INSPIRE AWARD
- 2023, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016
WINNING ALLIANCE
- 2022, 2019, 2017 MOTIVATE AWARD
- 2016 ROCKWELL COLLINS INNOVATE AWARD

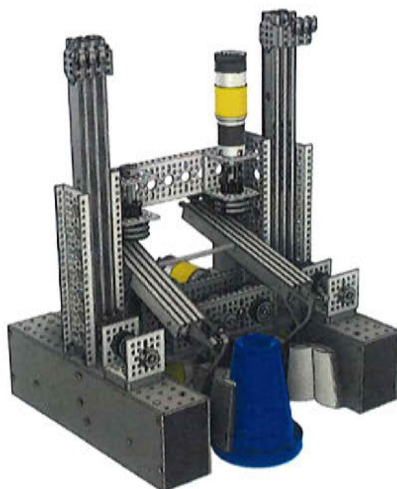


TEAM 22092 - CYBER EAGLES

(JUNIOR TEAM STARTED SEPTEMBER 2022)

- 2023 DESIGN AWARD

The teams have also had many successes on the field throughout the years - finishing as the top robot in tournament round play in several seasons - including the most recent 2022-2023 season.



Success Off The Field

The Cyber Eagles Team 10544 was awarded the **Strathcona County Award of Excellence for Youth in 2022** for their robotics performance, their representation on the world stage as well as their initiative and efforts to help our community during the Covid19 pandemic. When the Covid19 pandemic hit, the team saw a need for ear-savers for healthcare workers to make masks wearing more comfortable. The team kicked 3D printers into high gear and printed and distributed over 16,000 ear savers during the first few months of the pandemic to local hospitals (Grey Nuns, Misericordia, Royal Alexandra, Fort Hospital), Cross Cancer Institute, multiple long term care/senior centers, and other not-for-profit organizations.



Alumni

We're proud to share that 100% of our alumni are either attending or have graduated from post-secondary education with many of them in STEM fields such as engineering (multiple disciplines), computer science, science, nursing, economics and science education.

We also have very high alumni participation with many returning to coach and mentor teams, as well as volunteer at robotics competitions after they themselves have graduated from the *FIRST*® robotics program.

Our Operations

Strathcona County Robotics is a fully volunteer run organization. There are no paid positions.

All club fees, sponsorships and donations go towards registration/competition fees, robot parts and mandatory fixed overheads such as insurance and business registration costs. Our current operations are in a donated 400 SQFT garage space.

The space limitation prevents the club from expanding to meet the growing community demand. By providing the association with space or funding for three years, the county would be the spark that launches the legacy of community youth robotics in Strathcona County.

Strathcona County Robotics Association Profit & Loss

July 1, 2022 through June 11, 2023

	Jul 1, '22 - Jun 11, 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · Registration/Club Fees	8,600.00
4005 · Grants, Sponsorships, Donations	12,058.61
4010 · Fundraising Activities	770.10
4100 · Interest Revenue	13.29
Total Income	21,442.00
Cost of Goods Sold	
5005 · Registrations/Game Sets	5,754.76
5010 · Equipment & Parts	8,228.15
5012 · Shipping & Brokerage - COGS	1,517.87
5015 · Tools & Supplies	532.48
5020 · Outreach Program	277.20
Total COGS	16,310.46
Gross Profit	5,131.54
Expense	
6010 · Business Reg. / Membership Fees	318.00
6012 · Depreciation Expense	1,977.72
6015 · Insurance	1,266.35
6025 · Office Expenses	358.54
6040 · Rentals	943.95
6045 · Meals & Entertainment	201.16
Total Expense	5,065.72
Net Ordinary Income	65.82
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
7015 · Furniture, Equipment, Tools	1,743.16
7049 · Purchases Moved to Fixed Assets	-1,743.16
Total Other Expense	0.00
Net Other Income	0.00
Net Income	65.82

Board of Directors



Eugene Zarowny, CPA, CA, CFP

President

Eugene is a Chartered Professional Accountant in Edmonton providing tax and financial services to his clients throughout Alberta and has been involved with *FIRST*® robotics teams since 2018. He has volunteered as a referee, MC, mentor and became president of SCRA in June 2021. This past 2022/23 season, Eugene and his son utilized their past FTC experiences to mentor SCRA's new and first junior high *FIRST*® Tech Challenge Team.

Eugene has witnessed firsthand the profound effect *FIRST*® has on our students and looks to grow our association so that we may offer more kids in our community access to these great STEM programs.

"As a global robotics community preparing young people for the future, we at FIRST® want every kid to recognize their worth, abilities and love who they are. Together with our sponsors, we know the power STEM education has in inspiring the innovative spirit and self-esteem our kids need to tackle the world's greatest challenges."

https://info.firstinspires.org/morethanrobots?utm_source=first-inspires&utm_medium=headline&utm_campaign=mtr-brand-022



Sanny Chan, BSc, MSc, PEng

Board Member

Sanny is a process engineer at Dow Chemical Canada and has been passionate about *FIRST*® robotics since 2009 when her son and daughter first joined a LEGO robotics team.

As a founding board member of SCRA and the Outreach Coordinator, Sanny is dedicated to expanding STEM extra-curricular opportunities for youth in the community. Her commitment to this cause has endured long after her own children graduated from the program, demonstrating her unwavering belief in the power of robotics to inspire and empower young people.



Dean Kennedy

Board Member

Dean is a Suncor Energy Pipeline operator and has been involved with *FIRST*® robotics since 2017 when his son joined the Cyber Eagles Robotics team. Despite his busy schedule, Dean spent countless hours coaching and mentored FTC teams from 2017 to 2020. He is a founding board member and past president of SCRA. Although Dean's children both graduated from the program over three years ago, he continues to take time to serve on the SCRA board as well as spend countless hours to nurturing the growth of STEM and robotics in the community.



Dave Stork, BSc, PEng

Board Member

Dave Stork, P.Eng, is a 27-year veteran at PCL Construction, where he designs software to help manage the company's operations. He has been involved with *FIRST*® robotics teams since 2018 and has had two sons go through the *FIRST*® robotics programs. Additionally, Dave has previously hosted a team at his place for two years. Currently, he is in his 6th year of coaching and mentoring *FIRST*® robotics teams. His commitment to the team stems from seeing the learning opportunities the *FIRST*® program provides students and from witnessing the growth in students working towards a common goal in a team environment.



Shawn Loewen, BSc

Board Member

Shawn is a Software Product Architect at Computronix and has been involved with *FIRST®* robotics since 2017 when his son joined a LEGO robotics team.

Shawn has spent countless hours mentoring students on software development practices and watching them grow. His son Ben will graduate from grade 12 this year and start studying engineering at the University of Alberta in the fall. Both Ben and Shawn plan to stay involved with *FIRST®* and continue to mentor the next generation.

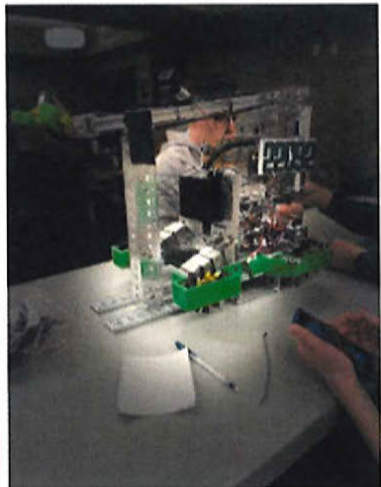
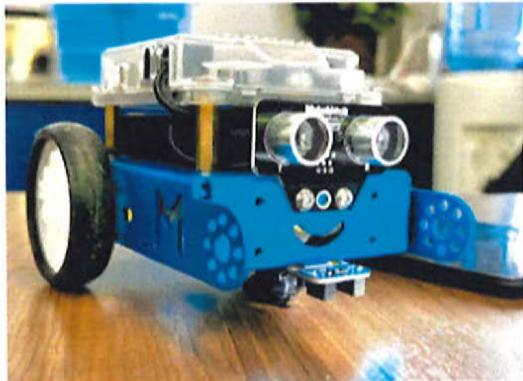
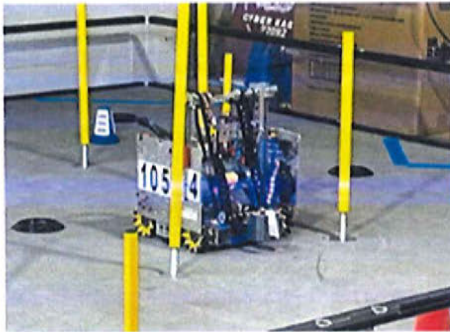


Angel Zarowny, CPA, CMA

Treasurer

Angel is the Vice President of Corporate Services at solūt ltd, a comprehensive IT management and consulting firm, and has been involved with *FIRST®* robotics since 2018 and is a founding board member of SCRA. Angel continues to support all SCRA accounting and operating functions. The ongoing success of SCRA is extremely important to Angel, so that other students may participate and enjoy the many positive experiences her son realized during his 4 years as a member of the Cyber Eagles FTC team.

More Photos





The Cyber Eagles Robotics Team will host teams from central Alberta and the Capital Region for a major competition this Saturday, Jan. 21 at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Centre's Agora. PHOTO COURTESY OF CYBER EAGLES

Robotics tournament set for Saturday

TRAVIS DOSSER

Compline hours in perfecting their robotics will be put to the test this weekend as the Cyber Eagles Robotics Team will host a major competition.

"This is a tournament and the last round robot play before regional championships and everybody is trying for top spot going into the championship. It's kind of like the Stanley Cup, if you will. There is no second place and you're vying for a good seed in the playoffs," explained Sunny Chan, one of the coaches for the Cyber Eagles Robotics Team. "We have 18 teams coming from all across southern Alberta. We've got teams from Red Deer, Lacombe, St. Albert, Edmonton and Sherwood Park."

"The competition gets underway on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Centre's Agora on 401 Festival Lane. It is expected upwards of 100 youth will be participating."

The Cyber Eagles Robotics Team is a community team and is not associated with any schools. They do compete against schools and other teams in the region.

"We now have a robot team too and have two Cyber Eagles teams, Cyber Eagles Jade, a senior and junior team," Chan said. "Currently, the Cyber Eagles Jade is ranked number one in northern Alberta."

Chan hopes for a big turnout. "The best time to come to the competition is at 11 a.m. because that is when we kick off and we'll have matches right away and lunch and then we will have matches after lunch all the way until 3:30 p.m.," she said.

The Cyber Eagles coach said the teams have been working on their robots since the fall and are excited for this tournament. "All the teams start at the same time and the round is the first week of September and that is the starting gun. All the teams have gone to at least five competitions and have learned a lot since September," Chan said. "We're expecting probably about 100 kids and 100 parents, teachers, spectators and others from the teams. We're hoping to get lots of parents out," she said. www.strathconrobotics.ca

6 THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

Local robotics team gears for Worlds

TRAVIS DOSSER

A local robotics team has blown away the competition and will now compete against the best in the world.

Over the weekend on March 4 and 5 in Red Deer, the FIRST Tech Challenge Alberta Championship saw more than 200 students from 32 teams take part in the robotics competition that challenges students to innovate, collaborate and create solutions.

The regional competition saw the teams robots create an alliance in a team game called Powerplay, with the goal of score more points, which are scored by moving cones into specified areas than their opponents.

Sunny Chan, outreach coordinator for Cyber Eagles Robotics team, said the two teams did excellent, with the Cyber Eagles Silver placing first overall.

"There was a lot of strategy development between the regional championships, the northern Alberta championship and the southern Alberta championship, there was a lot of strategy development and a lot of tweaks and a lot of progress made in autonomous mode," Chan said. "The autonomous portion is the first 30 seconds and is completely automate and requires the robot to do visual recognition and based on what they see, on a randomized scale, they have to do specific tasks."

The team's robots were able to do a lot in the autonomous mode and had a great strategy to build points.



Cyber Eagles Silver won the Inspire Award and Captain of the Winning Alliance and Cyber Eagles Jade won the Design Award.

THE FORT SASKATCHEWAN RECORD



Sunny Chan, outreach coordinator for Cyber Eagles Robotics team, said the two teams did excellent, with the Cyber Eagles Silver placing first overall.

The team has qualified for the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championships in Houston, Texas between April 19 and April 22. This marks the sixth time that the team has received an invitation in its eight years of existence and seven years competing.

"Only two of the 33 teams attending received an invitation to go to Worlds, so it is kind of like the Olympics because you have to qualify and receive an invitation," Chan said.

Cyber Eagles Silver won the In-



BGC Fort Saskatchewan hosts FIRST Lego League festival

ALPHEE BURNHAM

On Wednesday May 17, Fort Saskatchewan hosted a FIRST Lego League festival. The event was held at the BGC Fort Saskatchewan and was a great success. The festival was held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and was attended by over 100 students and parents. The festival was a great opportunity for students to learn about robotics and to compete in various challenges. The festival was a great success and was a great opportunity for students to learn about robotics and to compete in various challenges.

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Sturgeon Creek
Post
Fort Saskatchewan

Volume 26 Number 11 Wednesday, April 19, 2023

INSIDE

First Tech Challenge of Cyber Eagles



Champions off to Texas

The Cyber Eagles Robotics Team will be competing in the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championships in Houston, Texas. The team is excited to represent Alberta and to compete against the best teams from around the world. The team is looking forward to a great experience and to representing Alberta at the top level of the competition.

