



NEWSLETTER

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MLTA Executive – 2008-2009

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MLTA Mailing Address

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The MLTA Newsletter is published irregularly throughout the year to assist and aid Library Trustees throughout the province of Manitoba in carrying out their trustee obligations.

MLTA Handbooks

\$6.00 each available from the Treasurer. We are now distributing this handbook in a three hole stapled format suitable for binder mounting.

MLTA is working hard at getting version 3.0b published. We hope to have it available for the member trustees in the near future.

The Chairman's Remarks

Well, February the 9th was a very busy day for the Board of Directors of MLTA. We had a retreat, a planning retreat. The main task was to look ahead for the coming year and the next with tasks MLTA can embark on in order to create an organization, which will better serve the needs of libraries in Manitoba.

We looked at potential tasks such as
* Developing better ways to communicate with the 59 library Boards of Trustees in Manitoba (Conrad Artibise is responsible)

- * Improve the items we use for communication, for example; the newsletter, the brochure, direct communication with trustees and so on.

NOTE: if any of you have ideas and/or suggestions please contact the President at (204) 638 8779

- * Develop strategies to encourage membership on the Board of at least one trustee from each of the 8 regions in Manitoba. For your information we DO NOT have representation from three regions. They are
 - * Winnipeg Public Library Board
 - * Interlake Region, including Selkirk, Evergreen, Red River North & South Interlake Regional Libraries
 - * South Central , Boyne, Portage Plains, Bibliotheque Pere Champagne, Bibliotheque Somerset, Bibliotheque St. Claude, North Norfolk, McGregor, and Headingly Regional Libraries

If any board member is interested please contact the President at 204 638 8779

- * Develop a stronger relationship with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, other Trustee organizations across Canada, and Manitoba Public Library Services (the Chair's task)
- * For your information we will be meeting with AMM on Feb 27
- * Develop a proposal for a re-tooled funding formula from the Province (we have Richard Hayes working on this)
- * Develop a Trustee training program, which is user friendly and very portable. The President is working with Public Library Services on this task)
 - * Redesign MLTA's Annual General Meeting so that it will be more accessible and useful to Library Trustees, e.g. workshops, as well as, include more members of MLTA involved in electing the MLTA executive.
 - * Re-write and reorganize the Library Trustees Handbook and Brochure into much more useful form (Jane Fudge and Al Northam have already spent hours on this task)

What I wanted to do in this report is inform each of you about the work your executive is performing for the betterment of MLTA so all of us can serve the library users of Manitoba well
From C Artibise – President - MLTA

A Message From the Vice Chair

As vice-Chair I would like to say a few words on behalf of the MLTA.

From talking to a number of trustees, I find that they do not know who we are or what we do. The MLTA is YOUR association and we are trying to represent you to government, and to assist with programs such as C.A.P and the Book Rate.

One of our goals this year is the funding formula. We are finding that smaller communities do not get the funding they need. As Vice chair I am trying to find a new way of getting that funding to you.

I would like the Library Board Chairs to e-mail me at rhayes@mts.net, if they have any suggestions on how we can do this. You must remember the stronger our membership, the more that we, the library boards and the MLTA together, will be able to accomplish.

Richard Hayes – Vice Chair

A Message from the Past Chair

MLTA is a member of the Canadian Library Trustees Association. To help better communicate with the provincial associations, CLTA has established a new Advisory Council (Council). As past president of MLTA I will be representing MLTA on the Council. I have considerable experience with CLTA, having been a director for many years. I also served as CLTA's Vice-President and also as a member of the CLA's Executive.

CLTA is a "trustees organization" established to serve the needs of library trustees across Canada. It is run by an executive consisting of a Pres, VP, Secretary and one Director-at-Large.

In the words of CLTA President Lawrence Lavender, *"Any national organization needs to be truly national if it is to be a successful organization. The establishment of the new Council was determined by a past executive of the CLTA.."* Prior to reorganizing, the CLTA

structure included a representative from each province.

Hopefully the new Council will make it possible to coordinate ideas and programs on a national level among trustees. This is viewed as an attempt to rebuild CLTA. The plan is to meet via conference call and have one meeting each year concurrent with CLTA's AGM.

On another note, CLTA is seeking nominations for the "*CLTA Merit Award for Distinguished Service as a Public Library Trustee.*" I am not aware of any nominations from Manitoba in the past. If you have a worthy nominee please let me know

bills@mts.net).

The Nominee must be a current or past member of CLTA, who has provided distinguished service as a trustee at the local/regional, provincial or national levels (any two levels of outstanding service). The deadline is Feb 28, 2008.

Bill Stilwell - Immediate Past Chair

Trustee of Distinction Award 2007



Doug Deans – Trustee of Distinction – November 2007

On the evening of November 9th, during the Manitoba Public Library Services gala dinner a very special presentation was made by Bill Stillwell.

Bill Stillwell, the Chair, presented to Doug Deans of Dauphin the coveted "Trustees of Distinction Award" for the year 2007. In announcing the award, Mr. Stillwell recited a long list of accomplishments Mr. Deans had achieved as a trustee in the City of Dauphin and the Parkland Library Region.

"Mr. Deans", Bill Stillwell said, "was chairman of the Dauphin Public Library Board (part of the Parkland Regional Library) for more than 25 years. Also during that period of time Mr. Deans, he continued, was chairperson of the Parkland Regional Library Board, the first regional library organization in Manitoba."

Mr. Deans told the writer that the task was a challenging one for he, the rest of the Board of Trustees and the Library Administrator, had to create the rules of engagement on a day to day basis.

When the writer first served with Mr. Deans on the Dauphin Public Library Board, we very quickly became involved in chairing, organizing, planning, then fund raising for a \$1 million plus addition to the Dauphin Public Library.

It was a pleasure to work with him.

Yes, Mr. Deans was a very valuable promoter and trustee of library services in the Dauphin/Parkland Library systems for a great many years.

As Mr. Stillwell said to the gathering, "Wow, it is a privilege for me, on behalf of the Library Trustees of Manitoba, to present this award to a person who has served well the users of libraries for more than 25 years.

Congratulations and thank you Mr. Deans! "

Submitted by Conrad Artibise, President, MLTA

MLTA AGM

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday November 10, 2007 at the Victoria Inn, 3550 Victoria Avenue, Brandon Manitoba.

As the Term of the current Chair expired this year we nominated and voted in a new Chair. **Conrad**

Artibise, our most able Vice Chair, has consented to sit as the Chair for a two-year term.

Conrad has much experience in running boards and meetings. He has a wealth of Library Board Experience from serving on the Dauphin Library Board and the Parkland Regional Library Board. Conrad has established a number of incentives and plans for the coming year.

Richard Hayes has accepted the challenge of the Vice Chair. Richard is passionate about library service in Northern Manitoba.

His experience on the Thompson Library Board as well as years of working in the northern airlines industry has given him unique and much valued insights into the library needs of Northern Settlements and how that is achieved with minimal funding.

We also had two people step forward to serve as Members at Large.

Marvin Plett of Winkler is very active as a library board member and one of the moving forces behind the building of the new Winkler Library. The Winkler Library is part of the South Central Regional Library Board, which is also comprised of the libraries in Morden and Altona. We feel quite fortunate to have Marvin joining us in motivating libraries in Manitoba.

The second new Member at Large is **Bill Shackel** of Glenboro, Manitoba. Bill is distinguished as being the recipient of the Trustee of Distinction Award in 2004. Bill has served on Western Manitoba Regional Library board for many, many years. He also brings with him a wealth of knowledge and ability in small town services because he is the currently the Mayor of Glenboro.

The Past Chair, **Bill Stilwell** will assume the role of Immediate Past Chair and serves with a background of knowledge of the past activities of the MLTA and the Senior Member of the MLTA. Bill also has abundant knowledge and ability in small town meetings, service on the Neepawa Library Board and on the Western Library Board of Manitoba. Bill also is the MLTA representative to the Canadian Library Trustee Association (CLTA) and maintains the information flow between the CLTA and the MLTA. Additionally Bill is a published author of Wildlife oriented books and therefore it can be said that he has a vested interest in the health and vigour of libraries in Manitoba.

That is the slate of new members on The MLTA for the coming year. It is the opinion of your humble ink stained wretch of an editor that we have a Board with sterling attributes and abundant vigour for the business of the coming year.

At this time we also make our usual offer (or plea) to our readership that if you know of anyone that would like to serve as a Member at Large, please ask them to "Step Forward" and have them contact us- we would be most appreciative.

Report on Branding Strategies -

Jane Fudge – Member at Large

The Victoria Inn, 3550 Victoria Avenue, was the site for a presentation by Dr Fang Wan, of the Aspire School of Business, University of Manitoba. Dr. Fang presented many good ideas how to raise the Public Library profile through branding strategies.

MLTA AGM 2008

MLTA is planning a Library Trustee Workshop in the late fall of 2008. We intend holding the AGM at the same time. Date and location to be announced later.

From the CLA Digest

Largest Ever Canadian Book Drive Aims for 1 Million Books to Support Literacy

December 12, 2007, Vancouver, BC - Used Books New Start

(<http://www.usedbooksnewstart.org>)

is a national campaign created and run by volunteers to raise proceeds for Canadian and international literacy programs.

During the week of February 4-8, 2008, Canadian corporations and their employees will be called upon to donate used books through a corporate book drive event. Employees will be dusting off those unwanted books at home that can be donated to a "new start".

The concept behind the Used Books New Start campaign is to collect donated books which

become re-marketed through various web portals such as Amazon, EBay and others. The net proceeds of re-marketing will then be directed towards local and global literacy programs.

This item forwarded by H. Graham of the WPLB

Library Activity in the Province

1. The Winnipeg Public Library Board's 2008 Executive Committee:

Chair - Sandy Hyman
 Vice-Chair - Vernon DePape
 Treasurer - David Hultin
 Member-at-Large - Rita Burgess

Community Outreach Grant - WPLB was pleased to award to Millennium Library Readers' Services' staff, the 2007 Jack Montgomery Community Outreach grant to implement the Broadway Jack project.

In her submission, Tannis Gretzinger, Head of Adult Services said that the project will target "Adults and children who are living in transitional shelters or temporary housing and therefore may not enjoy the same access to Library materials as other citizens. It attempts to bridge this gap by providing a core collection of new books for reading enjoyment, including children's books, teen titles, and magazine subscriptions, [and] an institutional card so that staff and residents of the shelter may have access to WPL collections and services such as online databases."

Staff would provide information packages on Winnipeg Public Library's services and programs, and each residence would be added to the mailing list for *@ the Library*, WPL's newsletter.

This item forwarded by H. Graham, Secretary, WPLB

CAP Program

The Computers for Schools workshop will

provide technical support in the form of computer repair. When needed, they will replace replace obsolete computers

A further word to libraries, - if you should have unused computers or computer accessories (E-Waste) sitting in a closet, they MUST be disposed of through the GREEN Manitoba Program.

PLS Newsletter OnLine

If any trustee/members wishes to have PLS Newsletter sent directly to their e-mail box please contact Lara Jennings of PLS at; -

Library.gov.mb.ca

or

Ljennings@gov.mb.ca

Renewal Notices 2008-2009

The Invoice Notice form is in the process of being revised to reflect the 2008-2009-membership year. We are revising the invoice to be sent directly to the Chair of each library board. A duplicate will also be mailed to the Library Administrator so we are not forgotten in the invoice payment routine.

The listing is being revised and brought up to date. WE have asked PLS to provide the mailing address of the Chairs of the Libraries so that we can communicate more directly with the Boards.

The notices are expected to be mailed by Friday March 29, 2008. Allowing for Canada post delivery the invoices to your library we are hoping to receive the first renewals by the middle of April.

Library Trustee's Handbook V3.0, January 2008.

The MLTA has been most diligently working on getting this document into the hands of the Trustees. The current handbook is showing its age and does not really reflect what the library trustee of 2008 must know to be an effective trustee.

The Handbook has many parents to get it this far. One objective has been to make it web accessible. In order to keep the size of the file controllable; the number of illustrations has been reduced greatly.

We are publishing it in Acrobat PDF format. What you see what you get. All trustees will be getting the same format and style of document thus making it easier for trustees to talk to each other within a board, within a library region and within the Province.

MLTA will also be providing it as a printed document but we have not arrived at an appropriate pricing structure at this point in time.

Library Book Rate

Merv Tweed, Member of Parliament for Brandon, continues to present petitions to the House of Commons in support of his Private Members Bill to protect the Library Book Rate (LBR).

While Canada Post has once again extended the LBR to Jan 2009, there is no commitment to the future. "I don't want our libraries to be subjected to this year-to-year evaluation from Canada Post," Tweed said. "My bill takes the continuance of the LBR out of the hands of Canada Post and into the hands of Government."

Tweed continues to receive letters of support and petitions from across the country. "Libraries and regional and provincial associations from all over Canada have forwarded petitions in support of my bill and have encouraged their local Members of Parliament to support protection of the LBR." This bill is not jeopardized should an election be called prior to its passing "Private Members Bills stay on the order paper if Parliament dissolves for an election" said Tweed. "When Parliament reconvenes, the bill will still be on the order paper"

"We must continue the awareness of how important this bill is to our country's libraries and the people who use them," said Tweed. "I encourage everyone to continue forwarding their letters of support and petitions to myself and their local MPs."

Excerpted from the Glenboro Gazette, Feb 1, 2008 submitted by B. Shackel, MLTA Member at Large.

Scratchings from the Editor

We are continuously working towards making it easier to get the MLTA Newsletter to you. One of the activities have been continuing negotiations with the Manitoba Library Association to use their website to carry our material,

We hope to have the current and back issues of the MLTA Newsletter, the new Library Trustees handbook, the MLTA Constitution and by-laws as well as other MLTA brochures and material available to members on the web site.

You will be able to access this material from your home computer if you have Internet Service or it can be accessed from the CAP computer in your local Library.

If anyone has items of a newsletter worthy nature, please forward the item to me at;

anortham@mts.net