



# MLTA Newsletter

Manitoba Library Trustees Association  
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[www.mlta.ca](http://www.mlta.ca)

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## MLTA Launches Website

We are pleased to announce that our new MLTA website was launched at our Annual General Meeting that was held on November 27 in Winnipeg.

<http://www.mlta.ca>

Check us out for public library and trustee-related info:

About MLTA                      Trustee Learning                      Advocacy  
Resources                      Provincial Laws & Docs                      News, blog  
Links to public libraries in Manitoba and Canadian library associations

Our news section will be updated regularly as we become aware of events and issues. The blog will feature opinions and we welcome yours.

Please send us your library's news so it can be put on the website or into the next newsletter. Send it to the email address above, or use the comment box on the "Contact us" page of the website.

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*We welcome volunteers for any of our vacant positions or to be a member-at-large. Contact Donna K. if you are interested or have questions.*

*Our aim is to have representation from across the province.*

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## 2013 MLTA Board of Directors

**Chair – Donna Kormilo**, Brandon      [kormilod@mymts.net](mailto:kormilod@mymts.net)  
Western Manitoba Regional Library Board

**Past Chair – Marvin Plett**, Winkler      [mp@mymts.net](mailto:mp@mymts.net)  
Deputy Mayor, City of Winkler

**Vice Chair – (vacant)**                      **Secretary – (vacant)**

**Treasurer – Dave Walker**, Erickson      [carol.dave.walker@gmail.com](mailto:carol.dave.walker@gmail.com)  
Parkland Regional Library Board

### Members-at-large:

**Diane Bazin**, Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes      [dbazin@sfm.mb.ca](mailto:dbazin@sfm.mb.ca)  
Fédération de bibliothèques des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba (FBMB); Bibliothèque Père Champagne

**David Chung**, Winnipeg      [david\\_yellowbird@yahoo.ca](mailto:david_yellowbird@yahoo.ca)  
Winnipeg Public Library Board

**Ted Klassen – Altona**      [tedkla@gmail.com](mailto:tedkla@gmail.com)  
South Central Regional Library Board

## Trustee of Distinction Awards

The Manitoba Library Trustees Association is pleased to announce that we presented two “Trustee of Distinction” Awards at our Annual General Meeting on November 27, 2012. This award recognizes outstanding participation in the advancement of public libraries and trusteeship in Manitoba. Applications/nomination forms for this award can be found on the MLTA website/About MLTA section, and are to be submitted to MLTA by September 30<sup>th</sup>.



L to R: Marvin Plett, Past Chair of MLTA; Conrad Artibise; Colleen Artibise; and Allen Dowhan, Deputy Mayor of Dauphin and Parkland Regional Library Board Chair who gave the presentation address.

### Conrad Artibise

Conrad Artibise, a former long-time resident of Dauphin currently residing in Winnipeg, has had extensive involvement in the Dauphin Public Library, the Parkland Regional Library Board, and as a Board member of the Manitoba Library Trustees Association. During his library trustee career, Conrad was most proud of being the Co-Chair of the Building Expansion Committee (1985-1988) at the Dauphin Public Library. This \$700,000 project was a significant addition to the community and the foresight and dedication of the committee resulted in a first class facility which continues to serve the Dauphin well today. Conrad was nominated by the Parkland Regional Library Board, The Dauphin Public Library Board, and William (Bill) Shackel, former MLTA Board member and WMRL Board Chair.



L to R: Maurice Butler, City of Morden Councillor and South Central Regional Library Board Chair; Grace Schellenberg; Marvin Plett, Past Chair MLTA; Mary Toma, Head Librarian, South Central Regional Library. The award was presented by Marvin Plett.

### Grace Schellenberg

Grace Schellenberg, former Councillor in the City of Winkler (3 terms), and former trustee of the South Central Regional Library Board (15 years), was instrumental in campaigning and advocating for the building of the new public library in Winkler and its neighboring Bethel Heritage Park, and was honoured as Winkler's Citizen of the Year in 1987. She was recently awarded a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for community involvement. To date she has been the only female municipal Councillor in Winkler. Grace was nominated by Ted Klassen and Mary Toma of the South Central Regional Library Board.

## November 2012 Annual General Meeting – Highlights

### Greetings from the Province of Manitoba

**Trevor Surgenor, Director  
Public Library Services Branch (PLSB)  
Manitoba Culture, Heritage & Tourism**

The theme of the AMM Convention is “The Challenge of Change” and can be applied to what lies ahead for the library sector and its associations. It’s the time to reflect on the achievements of the last year and also an opportunity to renew to face the future and to set the course to address the challenges ahead of us.

- Trends in publishing, technology and telecommunications will drive the directions we must engage locally, provincially and nationally to provide responsive public service.
- Shared-service goal of high-quality sustainable public library services for all Manitobans.
- **Accessible services** \*\* – libraries, as public service providers, have a responsibility to ensure access to their facilities, services and resources. This obligation is recognized in the UN Declaration of Rights for Persons with Disabilities and in Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Public libraries are for everyone.
- Libraries and the communities they serve will need to transform to become sustainable. Complex pressures impact the capacity and service provision of small municipal and library systems. Regionalization and system mergers should shape service provision over the foreseeable future.
- PLSB is committed to supporting us and the broader library community to build-out the future together.

*“Manitobans and their families look to you for leadership in designing the library system of tomorrow, today.”*

### MLTA Chair Report

**Marvin Plett  
Deputy Mayor, City of Winkler  
South Central Regional Library Board**

Increased financial resources for 2012 assisted us in achieving our goals. This came from increased membership fees and support from Public Library Services (i.e. toll-free teleconferencing, operating grant and hosting an in-person meeting at PLS in Brandon last April).

Major projects for 2012 were:

- Developing a website for MLTA that has information and links useful for libraries and their Boards. The website will help us meet the challenge of training trustees to maximize their input within the public library system. Special recognition to Donna Kormilo, Vice Chair, for the endless hours she spent on this task.
- Began the work of studying and revising our Constitution and By-laws so that they better reflect our mandate. Thanks to Diane Bazin, Ted Klassen and Donna Kormilo for the excellent work with this.

Jane Fudge, out-going Secretary-Treasurer, was thanked for her 10+ years of dedicated service to MLTA. Her energy, passion and devotion will be missed. Appreciation was extended to the Board members who joined us this past year – Ted Klassen (South Central), David Walker (Parkland), David Chung (Winnipeg) and Marlene Gouge (Springfield). This gave us representation from a larger area and more energy and ideas on how we can improve our service to our library Boards across the province. **I am encouraging any of you, especially from areas under-represented on this Board, to offer your help by serving the libraries of Manitoba as a MLTA Board member.**

It has been a great honour to work with many fine people over the years in our efforts to improve library services to Manitoba library patrons.

\*\* **Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities** is Section 3 in *Municipal and Regional Public Library Standards and Guidelines* (Province of Manitoba, 2012). The link can be found on our website/links/Manitoba PLS publications.

English version: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/pls/pdf/librarystandardsguidelines\\_e\\_web.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/pls/pdf/librarystandardsguidelines_e_web.pdf)

French version: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/pls/pdf/librarystandardsguidelines\\_f\\_web.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/pls/pdf/librarystandardsguidelines_f_web.pdf)

## November 2012 Annual General Meeting – Highlights

### Manitoba Library Associations Working Group Summary Report

Presented by Donna Kormilo

The purpose of this group:

- Examine the current library associations and structure in Manitoba.
- Determine support among the library community in Manitoba for the creation of an umbrella library organization or some other library association model. A survey was conducted and analyzed.

Findings:

- Most provincial library associations across Canada have a structure that allows for divisions, committees or interest groups.
- For library trustees – BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have separate organizations. Ontario Library Boards Assn (OLBA) is a “Division” within OLA. Canadian Library Assn no longer has CLTA but a Trustees Network.

Top 5 Factors for Membership:

- Advocacy on behalf of libraries or librarians
- Continuing education
- Annual conference
- Networking opportunities
- Website

Presidents of library associations in Manitoba are to bring this to the attention of their members for discussion and to reach consensus on a course of action.

#### What do you think?

MLTA is aimed at supporting library boards in Manitoba who govern public libraries. As such, we are the only “employer” group within MLA.

- **Do we need to continue as a separate entity? What would be lost or gained if we all amalgamated?**
- **Will the educational needs of trustees be adequately met within a large “umbrella group” association that might have a “division” for trustees?**
- There would be a reduction in duplication of services from the various organizations (e.g. websites, advocacy, news from CLA, one membership fee, auditor fees).
- **Do we have enough trustees willing to serve on the MLTA Board so that we can sustain ourselves?**

### Message from Incoming Chair Donna Kormilo

There are exciting and challenging times ahead for MLTA in 2013-2014, with much to discuss and deliberate.

- Renewal and transformation - Time to revisit our purpose, vision and goals as an organization, and set a course of action. Adjust the constitution accordingly.
- Revise our communication strategy, including our newsletter format. What is the best way of keeping people informed? How can we make the fullest use of our website and e-mail for this?
- Manitoba Libraries Association Working Group – I will be attending meetings on behalf of MLTA.
- Should MLTA remain a separate organization or become part of the Manitoba Libraries Assn?
- Provincial desire for municipal amalgamations – what effect will this have on library systems? Increased regionalization? What role does MLTA have in working with library boards to achieve sustainable library services?
- Political action/advocacy – looking ahead to municipal, provincial and federal elections in 2 years time; preparation of library advocacy materials.

There is much to do and discuss over the next two years. If we are to maintain ourselves as an organization and as a voice, we must have more members on our Board, from different regions in Manitoba, as we currently are only a small group of 6.

### SHOULD MLTA MAINTAIN ITS CURRENT STATUS AS A SEPARATE ORGANIZATION OR BECOME PART OF A CONFEDERATION OF MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS?

What do you think?

Send your comments to MLTA Chair Donna K.  
[manitobalibrarytrusteesassn@gmail.com](mailto:manitobalibrarytrusteesassn@gmail.com)

or enter them in the News/blog area of our website.

Mark your calendars

**Canadian Library Association  
National Conference & Trade Show  
May 29 – June 1, 2013  
Winnipeg Convention Centre**

<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2013>

Since CLA will be in Winnipeg in 2013, there is no MLA conference this year. It will return in May 2014.

**Library Activity in the Province**

What is your library/Board proud of?

What projects are underway/just completed?

Let Donna K. know so they can be featured in a newsletter or on our website.

Send your info and photos to

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



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**Did you know that . . . ?**

- **Jake Epp Library in Steinbach** received the most votes in Manitoba for the CLA LEGO DUPLO “Learn Through Play” project, held during Canadian library month, Oct. 3 – Nov. 18, 2012. Each winning library will receive \$500 worth of building sets including the newly launched LEGO DUPLO *Read and Build* Collection, a series of kits that blend early reading with construction play.
- The **Western Manitoba Regional Library Board** hired new administrators this summer. Shelley Mortensen was appointed Chief Librarian for the Region and is also the Brandon Branch Supervisor. Robert Kowaluk replaced her as Assistant Librarian.
- CLA publishes a bi-weekly e-newsletter called the **CLA Digest**. It can be found in the resources section of the CLA website.

[http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CLA\\_Digest\\_2013&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=13688](http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CLA_Digest_2013&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=13688)

- The Canadian Library Association (CLA) publishes **FELICITER**, a 40-50 page magazine six times a year. It can be found in the resources section of the CLA website.

<http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Feliciter1&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=13655>

- **Manitoba does not have a Public Library Association.** Right now, MLTA is the only library organization within the Manitoba Library Association speaking out solely for the interests of public libraries in Manitoba. The MLA Working Group is looking at a confederation model with “Divisions”, including one for trustees, and one for public libraries.

What do you think about this?

**Should there be a Public Library Association in Manitoba?**

What should its purpose and mandate be?  
Should trustees be in it or out of it?