



MLTA Newsletter

Manitoba Library Trustees Association
manitobalibrarytrusteesasn@gmail.com
www.mlta.ca

February 2014

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Did you know? News from around the province

A note of appreciation to all of the library trustees who came to our AGM on Nov. 26. You raised some good questions and ideas.

Welcome to the three additional Board members who came forth to join us.

2014 MLTA Board of Directors

Chair – Donna Kormilo, Brandon kormilod@mymts.net
Western Manitoba Regional Library Board

Past Chair – Marvin Plett, Winkler mp@mymts.net
South Central Regional Library Board
Deputy Mayor, City of Winkler

Vice Chair – (vacant)

Recording Secretary & Newsletter – Cathie Brereton
Lac du Bonnet Regional Library Board
Councillor, RM of Lac du Bonnet rebrereton@gmail.com

Treasurer – Dave Walker carol.dave.walker@gmail.com
Parkland Regional Library Board
Councillor, Town of Erickson

Members-at-large:

Erica Bardarson, Evergreen Regional Library Board
Councillor, Town of Arborg binnaolafson@msn.com

Patricia Brown pattibrown_3@hotmail.com
Portage la Prairie Regional Library

Diane Bazin dbazin@sfm.mb.ca
Fédération de bibliothèques des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba (FBMB); Bibliothèque Père-Champagne; Councillor, Village of Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes; Chair of the Manitoba Public Library Advisory Board

David Chung, Winnipeg dchung62@gmail.com
Winnipeg Public Library Board

Ted Klassen – Altona tedkla@gmail.com
South Central Regional Library Board
Councillor, Town of Altona

Ex-Officio Member - Trevor Surgenor, Director, Manitoba Public Library Services
Trevor.Surgenor@gov.mb.ca

Honorary Membership to MLTA awarded

The Manitoba Library Trustees Association is pleased to announce that we presented an Honorary Membership to **Jane Fudge** at our Annual General Meeting on November 26, 2013. This award recognizes her outstanding contribution to the development of library service in Manitoba.

Jane has been, and still is, a person of great passion, for and about libraries. She has meaningfully contributed to both the Brokenhead Regional Library and the Winnipeg Public Library in a number of capacities as a past member of the WPL Board and the Riel and City Centre Library Advisory Committees. Jane served as Secretary-Treasurer of MLTA for several years and coordinated the publication of the MLTA newsletter. She retired from MLTA in November 2012 after 10+ years of dedicated service.



MLTA Chair Donna Kormilo presenting Honorary Membership to Jane Fudge



Trevor Surgenor, Director of Public Library Services Branch, speaking at the AGM.



2014 MLTA Board of Directors

Front row (L-R): David Chung, Diane Bazin, Donna Kormilo (Chair).

Back row (L-R): Dave Walker (Treasurer), Cathie Brereton (Recording Secretary), Ted Klassen.

Missing: Erica Bardarson (Website review), Marvin Plett (Past Chair), Patricia Brown, Trevor Surgenor (Director of Public Library Services).

November 2013 Annual General Meeting – Highlights

Greetings from the Province of Manitoba

Trevor Surgenor, Director
Manitoba Public Library Services Branch (PLSB)

With this year's AMM convention theme "**Shaping Our Future**" in mind, I would like to express my gratitude towards the executive for supporting the objectives of the MLTA and Manitoba public libraries **as you continue to assist us in 'shaping the future' of valued library services.**

Manitoba has resurrected the **Public Library Advisory Board** and I look forward to working with these individuals and the interests of the associations and library systems to move Manitoba libraries forward.

Provincial legislation has been brought forward that will assist in building a supportive, open, and accessible province. A barrier free Manitoba with **accessibility standards** will bring positive transformation to our communities. Libraries can be a guiding example of these practices as we **break down physical, visual, information or technology-based barriers** through increased eBook and digital content availability, increased access to resource-sharing, and digitization projects that create content previously unavailable to some.

Public libraries and the Public Library Services Branch have seen **many transitions in the past year**. The support that we've given each other and the **adaptability** that has been exemplified is an impressive testament to our **future sustainability**.

I would like to thank all of you here for your continued advocacy and cooperation. We would like to express **our continued support of you all as we work together to provide community-driven, accessible library service for all.**

So let's imagine the future of libraries, and in the coming year, let's continue to create partnerships that support our vision, library service that supports our communities, and to all of us here, let's support each other in shaping a society that is conscious, engaged and resourceful.

MLTA Chair Report

Donna Kormilo
Western Manitoba Regional Library Board

Major Accomplishments

- Launch and maintenance of the **MLTA website** (www.mlta.ca). From 1 Aug 2013 to 19 Nov 2013 the website had 13,424 visitors.
- Revised our **communication strategy** so that newsletters and memos to library boards are sent via email to their library administrators instead of using Canada Post.
- Some **personalized** telephone and face-to-face **contact** with individual library boards and administrators re: fee payment, requesting support from MLTA for arising issues of local concern, attending events.
- Finalized the revisions to the **MLTA constitution** and by-laws for adoption at this AGM.
- **Lobbied at the national level** in an effort to make legislators aware of the needs and importance of public libraries and the services that they should provide to address the needs of a variety of patrons.

This has been a year of great learning for me, in this my first year as MLTA Chair, especially in the area of **advocacy** and speaking up on behalf of MLTA and Manitoba's public libraries. I am grateful for the support and advice provided by the MLTA Board of Directors, the Public Library Services Branch of Manitoba Tourism, Culture, Sport and Consumer Protection, and my colleagues on the Western Manitoba Regional Library Board.

www.mlta.ca

A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it. . . It's a community space. It's a place of safety, a haven from the world. . . . What the libraries of the future will be like is something we should be imagining now." (Neil Gaiman, 14 October 2013)

More AGM Highlights from MLTA Chair's Report

Looking ahead to 2014, our priorities include:

- Having an MLTA **strategic planning** session to set goals and an action plan.
- Participation in the planning of the **May 2014 Manitoba Libraries Conference** through organizing and sponsoring a half-day session on a topic related to the work of library trustees.
- Preparation and distribution of **advocacy materials** relating to “**value of a library in a community**”.
- **Evaluation of our services**, website and communication strategy with library boards.
- Monitoring the effect that **municipal amalgamations** will have on library service in rural Manitoba and how we can support library boards through the process.
- Continuation of discussions with the **Manitoba Libraries Working Group** regarding the formation of one libraries association in Manitoba.



Royal Society of Canada Expert Panel on the Status and Future of Canada's Libraries and Archives

The Royal Society of Canada has established an eleven-member international expert panel to investigate the status and future of Canada's libraries and archives. A key element of the panel's work is to hear from Canadians generally about the value they place on libraries and archives, the services they receive and expect from these institutions, and the ways digital technology is transforming our knowledge universe. They also want to hear about the challenges currently being faced in determining and delivering the services expected by Canadians.



MLTA Chair Donna Kormilo appeared before this panel in Winnipeg on Saturday October 19, 2013. Our full presentation can be found on the MLTA website at

<http://www.mlta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/RSC-MLTA-Panel-presntn-Oct-2013-final.pdf>

MLTA Chair Donna Kormilo meets with RSC panel members at the St. Boniface Library. L-R: Jessica MacQueen (recorder), Dr. Patricia Demers, Ernie Ingles, Donna Kormilo.

Winnipeg Public Library Board in for a Busy Year

2014 is shaping up to be a busy year for the Winnipeg Public Library Board. Board member Joan Blakely has volunteered to assist the Library with its upcoming **strategic planning process** and has recently attended a two day introductory planning session. Work on the Library's Strategic Plan will continue throughout 2014 culminating with a report and new five year vision for the library due by November 2014. Early in spring, Board members will come together themselves to prepare a new strategic vision for the Board as their current four year plan is winding down in 2014. A one day workshop is being planned.

Work continues in 2014 on the Board-sponsored project to have a **book written on the history of Winnipeg Public Library**. Eve Dutton, writer, has been gathering information, interviewing library patrons and staff, and will be participating in a number of Library Advisory Committee (LAC) sponsored chats later in March and April 2014. The goal is to have a final manuscript prepared by the end of 2014. The book will be published in 2015 in time for the 100th anniversary of the Cornish and St. John's libraries.

For more information on Winnipeg Public Library Board activities call (204)986-8028 or email the Board at <http://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/contact/board.asp>.



New Library Opens in Selkirk

The new **Gaynor Family Regional Library** in Selkirk is now open. It is located at 806 Manitoba Avenue in Selkirk. Check out their new website and take a virtual tour of the new facility. Their facebook page has photos of the January 10th grand opening. <http://www.gfri.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Red-River-North-Regional-Library/123919044304982>

“The community really turned out. I planned for 300 and we had around 600 show up and lots of people said they just drove by as the parking lot and streets were packed. Some even walked 10 minutes from Walmart parking to attend. The building is quite an amazing partnership as funding came from three municipalities, the province, the local planning board and their six municipalities, and \$1.9 million in private donations. It was amazing how the community came together to make this wonderful community place happen.”

Quote from Ken Kuryliw, Director of Library Services for GFRL



Mark your calendars



Theme: Unlimited Potential

Monday May 12 – Wednesday May 14, 2014
Winnipeg – Delta Hotel

MLTA is sponsoring a half-day session entitled
“Performance Coaching: Achieving higher results with and through your staff”.

Participants will learn how to get the best results from the annual performance appraisal system (i.e. setting goals, use of the job description, coaching and delivering feedback).

This workshop is a useful resource for anyone responsible for overseeing another person’s performance, whether they are an elected official/library board trustee with the responsibility of evaluating the CEO, or a paid staff member.

<http://www.manitobalibrariesconference.ca/>



Manitoba Library Trustees Association

c/o Donna Kormilo, Chair
Box 590
Erickson, Manitoba
R0J 0P0

Phone:
204-726-0025

E-mail:
manitobalibrarytrusteesassn@gmail.com
www.mlta.ca

Did you know that . . . ?

- **Every public library in Manitoba has an opinion survey on their website**

As a result of a request from the Public Library Advisory Board (PLAB) of Manitoba, a province-wide initiative has been implemented whereby **each public library has an on-line customer satisfaction survey link on its website**. This survey is coordinated by Manitoba Public Library Services through "Counting Opinions". The data collected from each library will be most **useful for strategic planning purposes by library boards**. To date, Manitoba and Massachusetts are the only jurisdictions that feature state or province-wide implementation of this.

Go to your library’s website to fill out a survey or use the provincial link below to connect you to the master menu for all of the public libraries in Manitoba. The survey is available in English or French.

http://mb.countingopinions.com/s/index.php?loc_id=en_CA&branch_id=14702-0

Library Activity in the Province

What is your library/Board proud of?

What projects are underway/just completed?

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

Send your info and photos to

manitobalibrarytrusteesassn@gmail.com

**Canadian Library Association
National Conference & Trade Show
May 28 – 31, 2014**

Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria BC
<http://cla.pwebhost.com/conference/2014/index.php>