



MLTA

Newsletter

Manitoba Library Trustees Association
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www.mlta.ca

January 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Public library funding news
- 2** Photo of the new MLTA Board
- 2** List of MLTA Board Members
- 3** AGM Business Highlights
- 4** A.G.M. – Chair's Report and 2016 Priorities
- 5** A.G.M. – Speaker's message
- 6&7** One Manitoba Library Association
- 8** New library in Miami
- 9** Friends of the Library
- 10** Manitoba Libraries Conference
Did you know? News from Manitoba libraries

A note of appreciation to all of the library trustees who attended our AGM on Nov. 24, but especially to the six from Parkland Regional Library. You gave us a quorum. Thank you!

Public Library Funding News from the Province

Six months ago, following the initiative taken by the municipalities of Allard Regional Library, MLTA, in addition to other public library boards and municipalities in Manitoba, **wrote a letter to Hon. Ron Lemieux** requesting to meet with him to **discuss funding to public libraries, in particular, increasing the maximum provincial per capita levy for the basic operating grant.** The reply that MLTA received in November stated:

"Thank you for sharing your interest in discussing the challenges faced by public libraries toward providing modern and responsive service to Manitobans. While public libraries are entities under local authority, I can assure you that my department is committed to providing provincial programs that promote local investment and regional development interests.

Over the course of the next fiscal year, I have directed my staff to engage with you and other stakeholders as we move forward in the context of policy review. . . I am hopeful that through this process we can identify areas where provincial policy and program alignment can be strengthened to support and develop local library service delivery."

* * * * *

December 11, 2015 Manitoba Government Press Release

PROVINCE ANNOUNCES NEW CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PLAN

Public Consultations to be Part of a Three-Point Plan to Strengthen Support to Cultural and Creative Industries in Manitoba

The Manitoba government is seeking input to help create a new cultural and creative industries strategy to position the province's creative community as a driving force for economic and social development. This strategic plan brings together three key elements:

- new investments in museums and community attractions,
- a renewal and redesign of cultural and creative industries programming (includes historical institutions, libraries and the arts),
- enhanced financial support for cultural and creative activities.

<http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=37030&posted=2015-12-11>



2016 MLTA Board of Directors

L-R: Andrew Robert (Vice Chair), Dave Walker (Treasurer), Donna Kormilo (Chair), Bud Sigurdson (Member-at-Large), Trevor Surgenor (Director of Manitoba Public Library Services Branch).
Missing: Patricia Brown (Member-at-Large), Orest Kinasevych (Member-at-Large), Marvin Plett (Past Chair).

2016 MLTA Board of Directors

Chair – Donna Kormilo , Brandon	kormilod@mymts.net	Chair, Western Manitoba Regional Library Board
Past Chair – Marvin Plett , Winkler	mp@mymts.net	Chair, South Central Regional Library Board Councilor, City of Winkler
Vice Chair – Andrew Robert , Stonewall	acmarob@mymts.net	Chair, South Interlake Regional Library Board
Secretary - vacant		
Treasurer – Dave Walker	carol.dave.walker@gmail.com	Erickson, Parkland Regional Library
Members-at-large:		
Patricia Brown	pattibrown_3@hotmail.com	Portage la Prairie Regional Library
Orest Kinasevych , Winnipeg	orest@kinasevych.ca	Winnipeg Public Library Board
Bud Sigurdson – Gladstone	jakri@mymts.net	Gladstone Library & Parkland Regional Library Boards Councilor, RM of Westlake-Gladstone
Ex-Officio Member - Trevor Surgenor, Director, Manitoba Public Library Services	Trevor.Surgenor@gov.mb.ca	

Please Volunteer

MLTA will be undertaking some important issues this year and would like to have a few more members on our Board of Directors.
If interested please contact Chair Donna Kormilo at kormilod@mymts.net

November 2015 Annual General Meeting Business Highlights

1. Annual membership fee rate will remain the same for 2016.
2. Discussion of the opportunity for MLTA to become part of the restructured Manitoba Library Association
3. Election of a Board of Directors for 2016
4. **Presentation of an Honorary MLTA Membership to Diane Bazin**



MLTA Chair Donna Kormilo presenting Diane Bazin with her Honorary Life Membership to MLTA.



<http://www.fbmb.ca/fr/accueil/>

Diane Bazin began her involvement with MLTA in spring 2008 when she was asked by then chair Bill Stilwell to join the MLTA Board as a francophone representative. He had a vision of having the MLTA handbook translated into French, and of developing other promotional tools such as brochures in both English and French. Both of these, as well as a bilingual MLTA website, were accomplished under her leadership with her extensive connections with the francophone community in Manitoba through being:

- a community development manager and Réseau Communautaire for SFM
- a past town councillor for the village of Notre Dame de Lourdes
- involved with the Association of Bilingual Municipalities in Manitoba, and FBMB – Fédération des bibliothèques municipalités bilingues.
- Chair for many years of the Bibliothèque Père-Champagne library in Notre Dame de Lourdes
- Current co-chair of the new RM of Lorne library board, a new board that is responsible for the amalgamation of the Somerset Library and the Bibliothèque Pere-Champagne to serve the entire Lorne municipality.

From 2008-2014, Diane was on the MLTA Board of Directors serving as Vice Chair, Chair, Past Chair and Member-at-large. Diane was appointed to Manitoba's Public Library Advisory Board in Sept. 2011 and currently serves on it as Past Chair.

We wish to recognize Diane for her great contributions to MLTA and the public library community in Manitoba by awarding her with a life membership to MLTA.

"My passion for reading will probably keep me near libraries and book stores all of my life, and thanks to MLTA and PLAB, I've had the chance to visit some of the best and most unique libraries in the province. " Diane Bazin

November 2015 Annual General Meeting MLTA Chair's Report

Major Accomplishments

- At a full-day planning meeting in March we reviewed our 2014-2017 Strategic Plan and developed **priority actions for 2015**:
Continue to improve communication and networking with members:
 - “Advertise” success stories from library boards across the province;
 - Have MLTA be seen as a resource for advocacy; and
 - Educate and inform our members about such topics as the role/use of MLTA, planning for the future, financial considerations.
- MLTA, in addition to other public library boards and municipalities in Manitoba, **wrote a letter to Hon. Ron Lemieux** requesting to meet with him to discuss funding to public libraries, in particular, increasing the maximum provincial per capita levy for the basic operating grant.
- Maintaining our **website** and **newsletter** communications. www.mlta.ca
- Posting of additional **advocacy** materials relating to “value of a library in a community” and election messages to ask candidates onto our website.
- Continuation of discussions with the Manitoba Libraries Working Group regarding the formation of **‘One Library Association’ in Manitoba**.
- Monitoring the effect that **municipal amalgamations** had on library service in rural Manitoba.
- Personal **visits to libraries** in Boissevain, Morden, Holland, Deloraine, Stonewall, Selkirk.
- Contacted libraries to take part in the MLTA planned and sponsored sessions on “Transformers” and “Success Stories” planned for the May 2016 **Manitoba Libraries Conference**.
- I represented MLTA at the Canadian Library Association Conference in Ottawa June 3-5 and attended the **CLA Trustee Network** meeting held at that time. This is an opportunity to network with trustees from across Canada to discuss current and common issues and trends affecting public libraries. (e.g. funding new libraries, the absence of a trustee voice in the proposed restructuring of CLA)

Looking ahead to 2016, our priorities include:

- Determining the best position for MLTA within the proposed restructuring of the Manitoba Library Association. Shall we remain a separate organization or become a division of MLA? Either way we will still need a Board of Directors.
- Continue active involvement with the Manitoba Libraries Association Working Group and the Manitoba Libraries Conference Programming Committee.
- Maintaining a viable number of trustees willing to serve on MLTA’s Board of Directors. If this does not happen we will seriously have to look at the relevancy of our organization and whether our mandate can adequately be carried out by the Manitoba Library Association.

I am grateful for the continuing support and advice provided by the MLTA Board of Directors, the Public Library Services Branch of Manitoba Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection, and my colleagues on the Western Manitoba Regional Library Board. Together we can achieve better.

Respectfully submitted by
Donna Kormilo, MLTA Chair



AMM November 2015 Conference Theme

Creating Legendary Leadership

More MLTA AGM Highlights

Guest Speaker's Remarks

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

On behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection, Mr. Surgenor recognized the leadership MLTA has demonstrated over the past year stating 'MLTA activities have been successful and MLTA is excelling as a vehicle for celebrating the accomplishments of public libraries in Manitoba'. Mirroring the theme of the 2015 Association of Manitoba Municipalities Conference *Creating Legendary Leadership*, Mr. Surgenor encouraged attendees to reflect on sources of leadership for Manitoba public libraries stating 'Leadership begins with each one of us in the values that guide our actions, activities, and interests'.

He acknowledged MLTA for demonstrating leadership across the sector by engaging in the efforts of the Manitoba Library Associations Working Group toward a unified association which can speak with a representative voice for Manitoba within the proposed national framework. His speech also reinforced the importance of recognizing and selecting library directors and branch librarians for their leadership qualities – the placement of talent might be the single most important decision library board members can make.

While highlighting the evolving role of libraries and library staff Mr. Surgenor quoted Sali Feldman, President of the American Library Association, stating '*...the future relevance of libraries and library professionals will depend on what we do for people rather than what we have for people.*'

Latest edition of the Manitoba Libraries Journal

<http://www.mla.mb.ca/sites/default/files/MB%20Libraries%202.2%20Final%20pgs%20all%20single.pdf>

Read about:

One Manitoba Library Association: A new direction for associations working for Manitoba Libraries
Moving Towards a Federated Model for CLA
Manitoba's Prison Library Outreach Program
International Indigenous Librarians Forum 2015
Highlights from MLA AGM December 2015



Trevor Surgenor, Director of Public Library Services Branch, delivering his message on behalf of the Government of Manitoba.



Public Library Services

manitoba.ca > Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection

Monthly Training and Resources News

Did you know that PLS (Public Library Services) of Manitoba puts out a **monthly training calendar** of webinars, online courses and other **development opportunities suitable for library administrators, staff and Board members**? This month's calendar features such training sessions as the Board's role in fundraising, roles and responsibilities of the Board, library apps, working with volunteers, community engagement, your library's web presence, liability issues, programming ideas.

This monthly training and development publication also includes **information and resources on a particular topic related to library operation**. Recent monthly themes have included adult programming, developing a technology plan, and creating an annual report (the link below).

<http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/?u=9d987316238ae73cbc534a0a4&id=f0f5702de2>

Ask your library administrator to forward you a copy of this publication each month, or sign yourself up at

<http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/home/?u=9d987316238ae73cbc534a0a4&id=9949d2a7ce>

Opportunity for MLTA to become part of ‘One Manitoba Library Association’

As MLTA representative, Chair Donna Kormilo was asked to become part of the Manitoba Libraries Association Working Group in September 2015. A framework paper “**One Manitoba Library Association: A new direction for associations working for Manitoba libraries**” outlining the purpose, vision and strategy of this Association was released on October 15th, 2015.

<http://www.mla.mb.ca/sites/default/files/MB%20Libraries%202.2%20Final%20pgs%20all%20single.pdf>

Urgency of the restructuring is being necessitated by proposed changes to the Canadian Library Association to be a federation of national and provincial associations. Manitoba and Saskatchewan will share a seat at the CLA Board table. No other library associations from Manitoba would be able to be recognized at that level, only MLA. A vote to dissolve CLA as it is will be held on January 27, 2016.

http://www.cla.ca/wpcontent/uploads/SGM_16_01_002E_Proposal_Cdn_federation_library_associations_Final_2015_12_18_EN.pdf

One Strong Provincial Association that will represent Manitoba libraries through Effective collaboration – all associations/library sectors will be part of the executive = everyone has an equal voice.

Stronger voice = advocacy. All the associations would combine to work for common goals.

Combined resources = decrease duplication and fatigue, effectively use human resources.

Decision needed from MLTA:

- **Is MLTA willing to dissolve and become a division of MLA?** What would MLTA need to succeed?
- **What is MLTA’s willingness to proceed with the opportunity to be part of ‘One MLA’?**

As a Division, we would still need a chair, vice chair, sec, treasurer and some members-at-large to fulfill our responsibilities. What we wouldn’t have to do is collect fees because MLA would collect one fee and it would be portioned out the way member library boards/associations indicate (e.g. to trustees, library technicians, or MLA in general).

Discussion by MLTA Board of Directors:

- **Our main mandate** needs to be in MLA, namely to promote and foster the effectiveness of public library boards. We are the only employer group in the library sector organizations.
- **MLTA has been the voice of public libraries and trustees**, speaking up for how to best support rural libraries, from a trustee perspective (e.g. increase to per capita levy, broad band speed and access). **How will these interests best be served?** By MLA, keep MLTA as is, or as a division of MLA? MLA is open to working with groups such as MLTA to determine the best structure for their needs.
- If MLTA ceases to operate, will the voice and needs of rural public libraries be adequately heard and considered within MLA? Consider a public library arm, subcommittee for this, and ensure that the Board of MLA has representation from rural public libraries, both staff and trustees.
- Over the last few years there has been the concern of lack of people willing to serve on MLTA Board, with the possibility of the closure of the association.

MLTA position that was presented to the MLA Working Group on Nov. 10, 2015:

The mandate/purpose of MLTA is to promote and foster the effectiveness of public library boards through leadership in communication, advocacy and support of trustee education.

Our objectives

- To be a voice for library trustees in Manitoba.
- To foster changes in government policies for libraries in Manitoba.
- To promote a better understanding of the duties and responsibilities of library trustees.
- To provide opportunities for exchange of ideas and experiences amongst library trustees in Manitoba through conferences and publications.
- To develop channels of communication with other provincial, national and international library trustee associations and other partners in order to share information and ideas.

MLTA is interested in pursuing the opportunity of 'One Manitoba Library Association' but we need to be assured that MLA will (and how):

- Fulfill our mandate
- Represent the interests and needs of public libraries, boards, trustees and staff across the province. (i.e. be the voice for their unique needs, keeping in mind that the majority of library boards are in rural areas)
- We want the MLTA newsletter and website to continue.

Next steps in the development process

- Creating a vision
- Develop an organizational structure for the new association (i.e. Board members, Divisions, committees, etc.)
- Determining the "work" of each Division
- Proposing a timeline and plan of action (transition plan)
- Reviewing governance and terms of reference
- Understanding legal implications
- Developing a communications plan
- First task of the New Board will be to develop a strategic plan

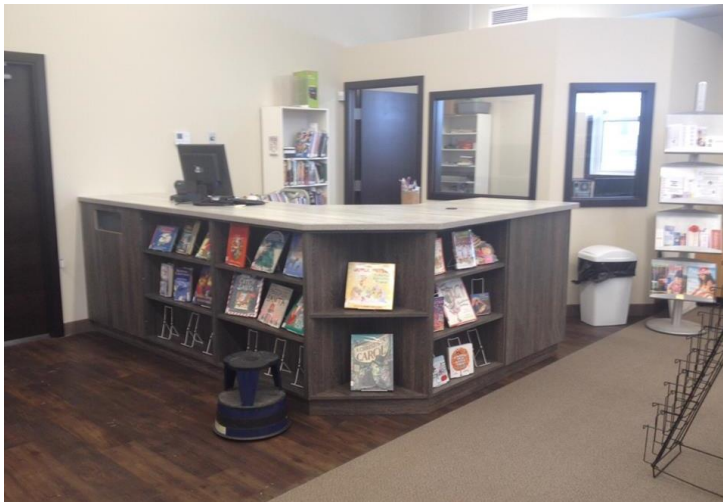
What do you think?

Should MLTA proceed with the opportunity to be part of 'One MLA'?

For 2016 we propose that MLTA continue operating as per 2015.

New Library in Miami

On November 27, 2015 South Central Regional Library and the R. M. of Thompson had the official opening of the R. M. of Thompson Municipal Civic Centre that includes a brand new facility for the Municipal Office, Council Chambers and the Miami Library, located at 423 Norton Avenue, Miami. The exterior color and design blend in well with the nearby Miami Museum housed in a former railway station, seen in the distance in the photo below of the exterior of the building.



For the last 18 months, the Miami Library was squished into a 700 sq. ft. Grandeur trailer; no one was happy. Prior to that they were in an old house that has since been torn down. The staff and community are very pleased to be in this spacious 1400 sq. ft. library space that features high ceilings and lots of light.



More photos of this new library can be found on Miami Library's Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/South-Central-Regional-Library-Miami-Branch-968290616531119/?fref=ts>



Friends of the Library

Various organizations, particularly those publicly funded or not funded at all, have organized 'boosters' called *Friends* groups. A prominent news story in Manitoba in 2015 was the success of *The Friends of Upper Fort Garry* in their efforts advocating and fundraising for the preservation of this historic site in downtown Winnipeg.

Public libraries across North America have historically benefited from *Friends*. The ***Friends of the San Francisco Public Library*** website describes its historical efforts to advocate for new library buildings; the ***Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association*** assisted with a Save our Services (SOS) mail in campaign which helped prevent the closure of 10 branches.

What do *Friends of the Library* do? Typical activities include fundraising (used book sales, fall suppers or even a pie auction), advocacy, volunteering, sponsorship of library programs and general promotion of the library.

The **Winnipeg Public Library** has had *Friends* support beginning in the 1960s; and in the 1970s, prior to amalgamation with the Winnipeg Public Library, several suburban libraries had active *Friends* groups. In 1992 *The Friends of the Winnipeg Library* became an incorporated entity focused on advocacy concerned with possible branch closures in the 1990s and now continues as a registered charity focused primarily on fundraising (over \$150,000.00 since 2002!). www.friendswpl.ca <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsWPL/>

Robert Bond, a Director of the Friends of the **Jake Epp Public Library (Steinbach)**, advises that their Friends group was incorporated in 1997, and is a registered Canadian charity. The Board of Directors meets monthly, and the Friends' primary role is twofold: to advocate literacy and to support the well being of the Jake Epp Library. <http://www.jakeepplibrary.com/friends.shtml>

In western Manitoba, the *Friends of the Rapid City Regional Library* will be holding their 16th annual Pie Social in February to continue with their longstanding fundraising for the purchase of books, movies and furniture. www.rapidcitymb.ca

Heather Graham is a Board Member of both the *Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library* and the national umbrella association ***Friends of Canadian Libraries (FOCAL)***. She suggested that a group can have different roles, and may in fact change its focus over time.

The exact roles and composition of a *Friends* group depends on the needs of the library, and the abilities and goals of the *Friends* – a group may be an incorporated entity with a constitution and its own Charitable CRA #; or it may have a more informal relationship.

If your library has a *Friends* group, other libraries may be interested in learning more about its activities. If your library is interested in learning more about *Friends*, the FOCAL website (<http://www.accessola.org/FOCAL/>) has numerous resources on advocacy and organization of a *Friends* chapter. In either case, MLTA is interested in hearing from you. Contact Andrew Robert, MLTA Vice Chair. acmarob@mymts.net



Mark your calendars

Wednesday May 4 – Friday May 6, 2016

Winnipeg – Delta Hotel

Many sessions about successful practices in public libraries, including two sessions sponsored by MLTA that feature some of the good things happening in rural libraries. Come and hear their stories.

Did you know that our website www.mlta.ca has a slide show featuring some of the public libraries in Manitoba?

The following libraries are currently featured:

Fort Garry Branch (Winnipeg Public Library)
Gaynor Family Regional Library – Selkirk
Victoria Municipal Library – Holland
Prairie Crocus Regional Library – Rivers
South Interlake Regional Library – Teulon & Stonewall
Bibliothèque Ritchot Library (Ile des Chenes) & Bren
Del Win Centennial Library (Deloraine)
Brokenhead Regional Library (Beausejour) &
Evergreen Regional Library (Gimli)
Hamiota Centennial Library (Parkland) & WMRL
Glenboro-South Cypress
Lac du Bonnet Regional Library & Lakeland Regional
Library (Cartwright)
Lakeland Regional Library (Killarney) & Pembina Trails
(Winnipeg Public Library)



Manitoba Library Trustees Association

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Sacramento Public Library lends out “things”
such as sewing machines, board games, musical
instruments, crafts tools, etc. Check these out!
<http://www.saclibrary.org/Services/Library-of-Things/>

Did you know that . . . ?

Some of the public libraries in Manitoba are connecting well with their communities via Facebook. Are you? Check out the following Manitoba libraries as some examples of how to use Facebook to keep “friends” up-to-date with current and future library happenings, including some unique programming ideas.



Bibliothèque Allard Regional Library
Dauphin Public Library
Thompson Public Library (they offered Parent & Me
Halloween Yoga)
South Central Regional Library
South Central Regional Library Miami Branch
The “If Money Was No Object” Fantasy Library!
(Courtesy of Cherie Debreuil of SCRL Miami)
South Interlake Regional Library – Teulon Branch
South Interlake Regional Library – Stonewall Branch
Jake Epp Library
Bibliothèque Ritchot Library (lots about book club)
Flin Flon Public Library
The Pas Regional Library

**Is your library on Twitter? If so, let us know
so we can do a feature on that in our next
issue.**

Library Activity in the Province

What is your library/Board proud of?

What projects are underway/just completed?

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

Send your info and photos to

manitobalibrarytrusteesassn@gmail.com