



# MLTA Newsletter

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

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Did you know that . . . ?



## Manitoba Provincial Election April 19, 2016 Talk to your candidates about libraries

The Provincial election will soon be upon us and **Library Trustees can make a difference by speaking up and asking questions of candidates on issues important to public libraries.**

1. Provincial Funding is important to provide equitable levels of service to all communities, regardless of size or whether they are rural or urban;
2. Funding from the Province includes per capita funding (currently at a max of \$8.50 per capita) and grants that are a significant part of rural library budgets;
3. Citizen engagement in lifelong learning is critical to the future of our communities, and public libraries are one of the most important learning organizations in the community.

We suggest that public libraries and library trustees:

**Advocate** on behalf of your library by attending election forums (or when the candidate solicits your support by phone or in person) and asking all of the candidates to provide their position on library issues.

**Question** candidates about whether they support continued funding for public libraries and what is their Party's platform in respect of public libraries.

**Remind** candidates about the standing resolutions at AMM and letters written by Library Boards and their partner municipalities (including the MLTA) about the need to increase the *maximum per capita* provincial funding. The maximum has been at \$8.50 since 2004.

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**Educate** candidates and the public about library issues and the value of public libraries. Raise the profile of your library through marketing, submitting letters, or an article in a local newspaper.

**Facilitate** discussion and awareness about library issues by organizing an all-candidate forum or debate.

**Communicate** with candidates by having your Board write directly to candidates.

**Follow Up** with your elected MLA by extending congratulations and reminding her/him of important library priorities. Have your Board write a letter and invite your representative to a Board meeting at your library, to discuss important issues.

**More strategies for talking up your library can be found in the Trustee Voice section of our website**

<http://www.mlta.ca/trustee-voice-2/tips-for-showing-off-your-library-to-politicians/>

## Talk to Election Candidates The Value of Libraries

**Message 1:** Libraries are a critical piece of infrastructure contributing accessible and equitable services that have an immeasurable impact on communities. **Libraries are as important to the infrastructure of a community as bridges or water mains.**

**Message 2:** **As libraries continue to grow and adapt, they address community needs that are essential to the public; they are a key pillar of educational infrastructure.**

- Libraries help unemployed or underemployed people **find jobs**;
- They provide the community with **free internet access**;
- They **help small businesses** access marketplaces;
- They provide community residents with **access to health information** and in many cases access to health programs;
- Many libraries provide access to **Makerspaces** for gatherings and project planning; and
- They **offer partnerships with cultural programs.**



### 2016 MLTA Board of Directors

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

## MLTA 2014 – 2017 Strategic Plan Communication - Advocacy – Education

### Priorities for 2016:

1. Participate in discussions of the formation of one Manitoba Library Association
2. Programming for the Manitoba Libraries Conference May 4-6, 2016
3. Advocacy for provincial election April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016
4. Educate our members on providing relevant programs and services (e.g. First Nations)
5. Educate our members and RM Councillors on the importance of providing library services and sustainable funding.

### Update from the Manitoba Libraries Working Group

- Weekly meetings continue to discuss and develop what needs to be done for the participating library associations in Manitoba to become a part of a differently structured Manitoba Library Association (MLA) through the potential consolidation of several library associations in Manitoba. Donna Kormilo, MLTA Chair, is a member of this group that also includes reps from MLA, Manitoba School Libraries Association, Manitoba Association of Library Technicians, Manitoba Libraries Consortium, and the Manitoba Public Library Services Branch. The goal is to have the structure and operation approved at the MLA AGM in December 2016. Participating associations will also need to have approval to join/dissolve by then. MLTA's AGM will likely be November 22, 2016 in Winnipeg during the AMM Conference.
- The treasurers of the respective associations are working together to draft a budget for the new MLA.
- The MLTA Board of Directors continues to discuss this opportunity at each of our monthly meetings. We continue to have questions about the logistics of the process and operation of MLTA within the new association structure, and how much longer MLTA can operate, given the fact that there is declining interest from trustees around Manitoba to be part of our Board of Directors. They welcome any and all feedback.
- **A Town Hall meeting will be held on Thursday May 5, 2016, 3:45 – 4:45 pm** during the Manitoba Libraries Conference at the **Delta Hotel, Winnipeg**, to summarize what has been accomplished to date, as well as highlight the benefits, barriers and questions that have arisen. There will also be time for questions, comments and discussion. If you cannot attend in person, plans are being made to have this be a “virtual meeting”, available via internet, likely YouTube, for viewing.
- For more information, 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 can be found at <http://www.mla.mb.ca/sites/default/files/MB%20Libraries%20202.2%20Final%20pgs%20all%20single.pdf>



### Library Newsstand

Library Newsstand is full of curated content intended to inspire and celebrate libraries across Manitoba and throughout the world. Interesting service and marketplace trends are monitored, ideas and articles are shared, and local success stories posted. Many of the posts are ‘shelf ready’ and can be shared with your social network followers.

“Like” Library Newsstand on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/librarynewsstand/?fref=ts>

## Update from the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (FCAB)

**March 2016** – At the Canadian Library Association members meeting January 27, 2016, CLA members voted to dissolve the association (i.e. CLA). This decision was the result of a multi-year process that consulted with CLA members and the broader library community on a solution for an effective national voice for the Canadian library sector. The solution proposed is the creation of CFLA/FCAB. The [vision and scope](#) for this new organization is available in English and French.

Since January, representatives from provincial, territorial, and national associations have been meeting weekly via teleconference to incorporate and create the new CFLA/FCAB. We are excited about this new opportunity for Canada's library community, and we have a lot of work ahead of us! Much of our work to date has been somewhat internal in constructing a legal and corporate framework and foundation for the existence of CFLA/FCAB and includes the following tasks in progress:

- Drafting and reviewing by-laws and implementing the steps needed to incorporate;
- Identifying an inaugural board tasked with setting up the new organization;
- Securing member dues and setting up a financial framework;
- Hiring initial contract support to bring CFLA to operational readiness; and
- Liaising with CLA to steward any CLA initiatives that are within the scope of this new organization.

The initial board of directors includes Alix-Rae Stefanko, President of the Manitoba Library Association, as the Prairie Provinces (Saskatchewan and Manitoba) representative, and Camille Callison (MLA Past President) as the member at large Indigenous Representation. The initial board is tasked with oversight of CFLA/FCAB until the first elected board of directors is in place. The target inaugural election and AGM timeframe will be Jan/Feb 2017.



### Western Manitoba Regional Library Board 2016

Front row (L-R): Suyoko Tsukamoto (Brandon), Chair Donna Kormilo (Brandon), Vice Chair Councillor Norman Campbell (RM of North Cypress-Langford), Myrtle Nichols (Mun. of Glenboro South Cypress).

Back row: Councillor Nick Nowazek (Mun. of Grassland), Councillor Ron Brown (Brandon), Councillor Bill Stilwell (Neepawa), Deanna Henderson (alternate citizen rep Mun. of Grassland), Councillor Leanne Gates (Mun. of Glenboro South Cypress), Linda Baron (RM North Cypress-Langford), Councillor John Anderson (Carberry), Sharon McNeily (Carberry). Missing: Linda Phillips (Mun. of Grassland)

## UCN Celebrates Grand Opening of Third Community Library in Manitoba

University College of the North (UCN), in partnership with the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, held grand opening ceremonies on March 3, 2016 for the UCN/Pukatawagan Public Library, located in the Saskatew School.

This is the third such public library partnership UCN has formed. In 2009 UCN signed an agreement with Norway House Cree Nation. In 2011 a partnership with Chemawawin Cree Nation (Easterville) was formed. In all three developments, the key has been to provide fully functioning libraries where none had existed before.

Dr. Stan Gardner is the UCN Dean of Library Services and has overseen the development of all three libraries. "It takes time to build a public library to what it should be. . . . Norway House has now reached the tipping point that one can truly say is a public library that anyone would be proud to have in their community."

This new library in Pukatawagan is overseen by Gloria Richard, the community librarian.

<https://www.ucn.ca/sites/library/locations/puk/Pages/UCN--Pukatawagan-Public-Library.aspx>

(March 3, 2016 news release from UCN)



Pukatawagan Library is located in Saskatew School.



Chemawawin Public Library is located in Chemawawin School in Easterville.

***"Public libraries can become the living, breathing heart of a community. It draws in people from all ages, to all interests. It opens up the world in a comfortable, safe environment for everyone. It is more than just books, but a thriving community centre for activities, events, as well as a place for study and contemplation."***

- Dr. Stan Gardner

## Renovation and Expansion Plans Boyne Regional Library



Boyne Regional Library in Carman



Neil Strachan (Boyne Regional Library Board Chair), Sgt. Joanne Prejet, Susan Mooney (Renovation/Expansion Committee Chair).

### Having a Ball with RCMP Library Fundraiser

The Carman Area RCMP Regimental Ball in support of the Boyne Regional Library's renovation-expansion project was a sold-out success. The March 5 event drew 250 people to the Carman Community Hall for dinner, dancing and a taste of the RCMP's traditions. All monies raised go toward the library's renovation-expansion project. Being sold out ten days before the event was seen as a very positive sign that the community is really encouraged by this project and will be behind the project and support it.

In the main speech of the night, RCMP Staff Sgt. Joanne Prejet noted that there is an important link between low literacy and crime. "The inability to read and write may not be a direct cause of crime, but they are related," she said. Those who have trouble reading are less likely to be involved in their community, more likely to be isolated, and statistically more likely to be involved in a crime either as perpetrator or as a victim.

Susan Mooney, chair of the Boyne Regional Library renovation-expansion committee, topped off the evening's speeches with a surprise announcement, that an anonymous donor had given \$250,000 to the library's renovation-expansion project. That one donation makes up 12.5 per cent of the group's fundraising goal.

The evening served as the first unveiling of the new look the library committee has planned for their facility. "They worked really hard to incorporate it into the existing building," said Mooney. "It's going to flow very nicely with what's already there." Since the building, which started out as the town's post office, is a heritage site, the group will have to conform to some provincial guidelines when it comes to design.

The expansion/renovation plan proposes an addition and reconfiguration of the space as the solution to addressing the challenges facing the library and community. These include:

- more space for resources, reading, studying, learning, programming and staff work areas.
- Better able to accommodate and support community partnerships that promote literacy and learning.
- Being easily accessible for those with physical disabilities.
- Additional staff and hours of operation. The library is not open on Mondays or evenings. Teens seeking to participate with new technologies are not accommodated at the library.

(From Emily Distefano's article in The Valley Leader, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 edition)

## Vision 2018 - Renovation & Expansion Fundraising Russell & District Regional Library

The Russell & District Regional Library has begun a huge fundraising campaign in order to raise money for some desperately needed renovations in the Russell Library. The project began with conversations about wheel chair accessibility and grew from there. The existing library was built in 1967 as a Centennial project and has seen very little improvement since that time.

Changes to their local demographics, including an aging population base, along with the need to further adapt to technology requirements, mean it is time to retrofit the space to meet the community's current needs.

The proposed project, with a capital budget of \$540,000, will allow for additional user groups to benefit from this community facility. It will include:

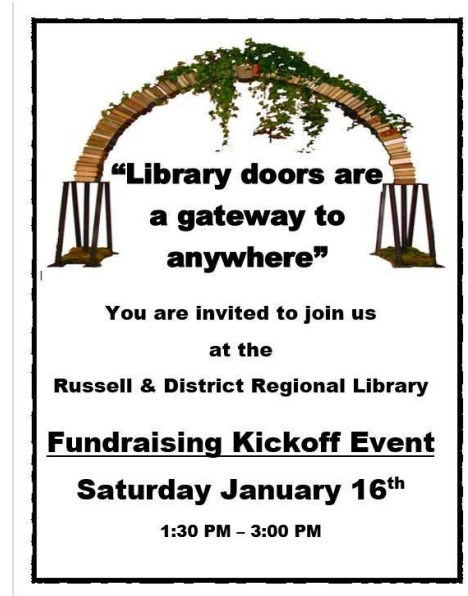
- An accessible entrance along the south side of the building;
- A landscaped outdoor courtyard;
- Accessible washroom facilities on the main floor;
- A new circulation desk;
- Upgraded electrical to meet the requirements of current technology;
- A 750 square foot addition that can accommodate a variety of programming, such as
  - Visual arts gallery/display space
  - Visual arts workshop space
  - Enhanced display space for the Beth Naylor historic clothing collection (located in the library)
  - Collective meeting space for additional library or other community programming.

The capital fundraising campaign is half-way to reaching its goal. Thanks to the Canada 150 Infrastructure program, a total of \$270,000 has already been secured. The Committee is in the process of sourcing support from a broad range of identified grant programs through local, provincial and national governments, agencies and foundations, as well corporate and personal giving, and fundraising events. Fundraising started with \$2000 raised by the library during a town wide garage sale. They are trying to do a seasonal or unique fundraiser every month in the library as well as doing whatever they can to raise funds in the community.

This project is truly a community partnership as members of the Library Board, Beth Naylor Collection, and Prairie Arts cARTel are on the committee.

Submitted by:  
Ruth Illingworth, Head Librarian

Check them out on facebook:  
**Russell Library – Russell & District Regional Library**  
<https://www.facebook.com/Russell-Library-Russell-District-Regional-Library-370523219628831/?fref=ts>



Garage Sale goodies filled the library.



Plan to attend – Early Bird Registration Discount

Wednesday May 4 – Friday May 6, 2016  
Winnipeg – Delta Hotel

<http://mla.mb.ca/conferenceprogram>

**Sessions of interest and relevance for trustees:**

- Friends of the Library: Making Connections that Count
- Library Transformers (sponsored by MLTA)
- Success Secrets (sponsored by MLTA)
- Library Space and Signage Evaluation
- Libraries as Safe Space
- What’s the So-Whatness: Policy Audit for Public Libraries
- LibPress Websites: Connecting Libraries and Patrons
- Public Libraries in Manitoba First Nation Communities
- Beyond the Desk: Providing Reference at Alternative Points of Need
- Libraries and Society: Stewards or Collectors
- Beyond 50 Shades of Grey: Developing Erotica Collections in the Public Library

**Preconference on Wednesday features:**

- Makerspace Programming (Winnipeg Public Library)
- Public Library Services Branch (free) – a full day of training (New librarian, general library promotion, assorted topics suggested previously by librarians)

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

- **Mary Toma**, Director of Library Services of **South Central Regional Library** (Altona, Miami, Morden and Winkler) is retiring at the end of June.
- **Darlene Dallman**, Head Librarian of **South Interlake Regional Library**, nominated by the SIRL Board, will be receiving the **Manitoba Library Service Award (Professional Category)**, and **Winnipeg Public Library** the **Library Innovation of the Year Award** (for integration of makerspace philosophy in programming and service delivery). The awards will be presented at the All Delegates Social, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup>, during the Manitoba Libraries Conference at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg.
- **Public Library Services Branch** will pay mileage for one trustee and one staff member to attend the Manitoba Libraries Conference.

*“Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation.”*

*Walter Cronkite*

**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

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