



MLTA Newsletter

Manitoba Library Trustees Association
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January 2018

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*A note of appreciation to all
of the library trustees and
guests who attended our
AGM on Nov. 27.*

Thank you!

Happy New Year – Hello 2018!

2018 has started very quickly, as MLTA looks forward to a new partnership with Manitoba Library Association and the Manitoba Association of Library Technicians to form a new MLA.

On the heels of our successful Annual General Meeting on November 27th in Brandon, we have continued working on the necessary transitional steps. On January 3rd, Donna and I attended a final Working Group session, and on January 11th I attended the first MLA Board meeting. We will continue to work on the development of the new governance and financial framework which will be presented at the MLA AGM in May, in conjunction with the Manitoba Libraries Conference.

As we work towards merging our websites and newsletters, we will continue to operate the MLTA website and circulate our newsletter. In the meantime please visit our existing website www.mlta.ca and MLA's website <http://www.mla.mb.ca/> .

In past years, MLTA has sent out membership 'invoices' to all public libraries in the Province as an invitation to join us. We shall continue this practice, except that this year we will be contacting libraries as part of MLA. We would ask library Boards to **consider joining the Manitoba Library Association and encourage their Trustees to participate, particularly in areas of interest and importance to public libraries.** In the proposed MLA, Library Trustees will have a permanent voice on the MLA Board, but its real influence will be based upon participation of Trustees and the memberships of public library Boards.

Looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,
Andrew Robert, 2018 MLTA Division Chair



MLTA Executive – (L-R) Patti Brown (Secretary), Dave Walker (Treasurer), Donna Kormilo (Past Chair), Andrew Robert (Chair),

January – June 2018 MLTA Directors

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Past Chair – Donna Kormilo , Brandon | kormilod@mymts.net | Independent MLTA member |
| Chair – Andrew Robert , Stonewall | acmarob@mymts.net | South Interlake Regional Library Board |
| Vice Chair – Keith Parry , Brandon | keith.parry@westoba.com | Western Manitoba Regional Library Board |
| Secretary - Patricia Brown | pattibrown_3@hotmail.com | Portage la Prairie Regional Library |
| Treasurer – Dave Walker | carol.dave.walker@gmail.com | Erickson, Independent MLTA member |
| Members-at-large: | | |
| Marilyn Bayrak – Headingley | mbayrak@mymts.net | Headingley Municipal Library Board |
| Sandy Heaman – Hargrave | bgh@rfnow.com | Border Regional Library Board, Councilor RM Wallace-Woodworth |
| Monique Ireland - Winnipeg | moniqueireland@icloud.com | Winnipeg Public Library Board |
| Bud Sigurdson – Gladstone | jakri@mymts.net | Gladstone Library & Parkland Regional Library Boards
Councilor, RM of WestLake Gladstone |

November 27, 2017 Annual General Meeting Business Highlights

1. 22 people attended the meeting, including 3 participants via telephone.
2. Trevor Surgenor, Director of Public Library Services Branch brought greetings on behalf of the Province.
3. Presentation of a Trustee of Distinction Award to Donna Kormilo
4. The election of an interim MLTA Board for January 1, 2018 – June 1, 2018 that will continue to be led by Chairperson Andrew Robert.
5. Annual membership fee rates for MLTA will change to be the rates of joining the Manitoba Library Association.
6. Proposal and ratification vote for MLTA to become a Division of the Manitoba Library Association, effective January 1, 2018

The following motion received approval:

MOTION: That the MLTA agrees, in principle, to dissolve as a stand-alone organization in order to become a Division of a reformed Manitoba Library Association, provided that the transition and operating terms are amenable. Dissolution and reformation is expected to take effect on January 1, 2018.

Trustee of Distinction Award Presented to Donna Kormilo

Donna was nominated by the Western Manitoba Regional Library Board, and Marvin Plett, Chair of South Central Regional Library and former MLTA Chair for “her strong interest and enthusiasm for libraries and education in Manitoba”. The nomination referred to the following accomplishments and service:

- 8 years as a library trustee for WMRL, with particular note of her work with strategic planning, policy review, personnel and 2 years as Chair of the Board. As Chair she provided forward thinking and growth minded leadership to improve and grow the service provided by WMRL. As the Personnel Committee Chair, she was instrumental in developing the guidelines and process for evaluating the Chief Librarian’s performance, and was on the selection committee.
- Involvement with MLTA since 2011, including 3 years as Chair. Donna was instrumental in developing MLTA’s web presence and in representing MLTA on the Manitoba Libraries Working Group that is working to create one strong library association in Manitoba. She is currently the Past Chair of MLTA.



Myrtle Nichols (R), Vice Chair, Western Manitoba Regional Library presenting the Trustee of Distinction Award to Donna Kormilo (L) at the Nov. 27th AGM.



Guest Speaker's Remarks

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

At this, the 2017 AGM, we are celebrating the leadership and collaborative efforts of the MLTA. In addition to the support the PLSB provides individual library systems throughout the province, we recognize and support the incredible work undertaken by the sector associations.

I am particularly thankful for the invitation to speak to the dedicated local trustees and those that have stepped forward to serve for the provincial association. On behalf of my colleagues at the Branch, Division and Department I would like to express our appreciation for the work you do to advance library service across Manitoba. As ex-officio participants, we have a unique view into the ongoing support you provide to libraries and each other.

Certainly holding the AGM over the last several years in conjunction with the AMM convention has raised the profile of the work the MTLA undertakes in communities across the province. As municipal entities, library boards share a common goal to strengthen local communities and your consolidated efforts strengthen Manitoba. It is appropriate that this year, the theme of the AMM convention is 'Strong Municipalities – Strong Manitoba'. **This is work library trustees are deeply invested – delivering responsive services to everyone.**

Just as it is important for libraries to consistently and effectively demonstrate local outcomes to municipal authorities. It is equally important to regularly reflect on the changing needs of the community and develop responsive strategies. There are plenty of examples highlighted by MLTA newsletters where collaboration and innovation is leveraged by library boards to deliver on these important mandates.

One of many prominent activities MLTA has undertaken to strengthen the sector has been to work closely, and in partnership, with other sector associations - toward building a unified and strong sector association with the capacity and mandate achieve more – together. It takes vision. I commend MLTA for their leadership in this important objective. As with the reorganization of sector associations in other jurisdictions, and at the national level, this collaborative endeavor has promise to position Manitoba libraries under an effective and sustainable structure now and into the future.

Under the mandate of the department, the PLSB has been involved in both a library stakeholder review process and a broader public consultation on culture. Through surveys, regional forums and one-on-one interviews we asked the library community to reflect in an effort to explore legislative, regulatory or program options that could achieve better results. The information gathered through these consultations will provide valuable perspectives on the perceptions and priorities of library systems and Manitobans. We are aware of the interest from the sector in finalizing these processes and have committed to distribute a summary report of findings as soon as it is available. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to MLTA and all member library boards for their active participation and your patience with this process. Once the summary report has been published, there will be another opportunity for libraries to submit feedback on their observations.

For library associations, and the PLSB, 2018 will be a year of transition to build a stronger future for libraries throughout Manitoba. Thank you very much for your time. My team and I look forward to working alongside you to build a stronger sector to the benefit of all Manitobans.

"A leader is someone who steps back from the entire system and tries to build a more collaborative, more innovative system that will work over the long term."

- Robert B. Reich (1946 -), American Politician and Writer

Why Switch to Evergreen ILS? (Integrated library system)

Headingley Municipal Library recently made the switch from Follett Destiny to Evergreen Sitka, joining more than 40 Manitoba libraries in the Spruce Co-operative. Is your library thinking of making a change? **Our experience has been positive and the benefits are well worth it.** Why join Spruce?

Automation

How often do you hear your patrons say “**I wish you’d send out reminders when my books are due?**” How much time does your staff spend printing overdue reports, contacting patrons by phone or by email to ask them to return overdue items, contacting patrons when holds come in and reminding your non-resident patrons that their membership renewals are due? With Evergreen, all of these things are done automatically as long as the correct patron information is on file. When a hold comes in, all staff have to do is check it into the computer and a hold slip will print and the patron will automatically be emailed to pick up his/her item. It’s so easy that for the first few days, our staff actually thought they must be doing something wrong!

Interlibrary Loans

Find FiLL frustrating? Tired of managing two systems and trying to keep track of your patrons’ ILLs in addition to their local checkouts? While you’ll still use FiLL intermittently, with Evergreen, the overwhelming majority of your ILLs will be done through the Spruce Cooperative. With almost 50 libraries in Manitoba belonging to the Cooperative, you’ll only need fiLL if you can’t find an item within Spruce. Simply search for a title within the Spruce Cooperative, click on “place hold”, enter the patron’s barcode and you’re done! Once the hold arrives in the mail, check it in through Evergreen and your patron is automatically notified by email that his or her book is here. Again, it’s so easy that you’ll think you’re missing a step. Similarly, filling holds for other libraries is as simple as pulling the book off the shelf, checking it in, printing the shipping label and putting it in the mail.

Cataloguing

Cataloguing in Evergreen is also simpler. The program allows you to create templates based on different circulation and item categories. Once these are saved, all you have to do is add your new item and apply the template. This saves a lot of time customizing different items such as DVDs, magazines, fiction, non-fiction, etc.

Patron Access

Patron access through “My Account” allows patrons greater control over their accounts. Patrons can log in to renew items, place holds, maintain a reading history and even view their electronic checkouts through ELibraries Manitoba together with their library checkouts.

Support

If you have your library’s website with LibPress, then you will already know about the BC Library Cooperative’s amazing technical support. The team will see you through every stage of the conversion process, will train you at your own pace via webinar, will stay in close touch for the first few days of the launch and are readily available to deal with any technical issues or questions you may have.

Overall, the switch to Evergreen is something our library wishes we had done sooner. The amount of time saved is well worth the extra expense (in our case, it really isn’t that much more than we were paying for Destiny) and the effort to train staff.

Alison Au, Assistant Librarian
Headingley Municipal Library

<https://bc.libraries.coop/services>





Manitoba Community Services Council Continues to review existing grant applications, seeks administrative funding

Read the full January 15, 2018 MCSC
press release at:

[http://www.mbcsc.ca/files/file/MCSC%
20Media%20Release.pdf](http://www.mbcsc.ca/files/file/MCSC%20Media%20Release.pdf)

The province of Manitoba has served notice to MCSC that effective April 1, 2018 the organization will no longer receive provincial funding to cover administrative costs. It is expected that without a new source of administrative funding MCSC will cease to exist. During this difficult time, as the organization searches for new sources of administrative funding on a very tight timetable, MCSC continues to review applications as funding has been received for the final fiscal quarter of the year, ending March 31, 2018.

Manitoba Community Services Council is an arms-length granting organization funded by the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries. Applications are accepted year round, from qualifying Manitoba based non-profit organizations that are volunteer driven.

“For MCSC to survive, the government needs to hear from Manitobans how MCSC has improved the lives of the people they serve. MCSC is grateful for the written support we’ve received to date and request that **anyone that has been touched by funding support from MCSC to reach out to their local MLA and to Minister Jeff Wharton, Minister for Municipal Relations and the department MCSC reports to, and let them know how impactful the help of MCSC has been and how devastating the loss of program funding would be.** The intangibles brought by the extensive experience of the volunteer board cannot be replicated within a government bureaucracy, and certainly not at a reduced cost,” said Jay Boaz, MCSC Chairperson.

In 2016-2017 MCSC supported over 200 organizations in rural and urban Manitoba by allocating \$2.2 million in grants. Grant recipients included, but not limited to, childcare centres, children & youth serving organizations, family & community support groups, recreation clubs and programs, healthcare groups, culture arts and heritage organizations, schools & educational groups, and qualifying emergency capital projects.

The province noted that should MCSC obtain a new source of administrative funding, granting funds distributed by MCSC may still be available to the organization to allocate after this quarter. **A final decision on this important matter will be determined by February 2018.** MCSC will continue to review existing grant applications and uphold its commitment to provincial granting, for as long as it has the capacity to do so.

Will this reduction of funding to MCSC and possible cessation of grants affect your library?

If so how?

Have you applied for this grant to assist with projects (e.g. equipment and furnishings)?

Let us and your MLA know of the impact the MCSC program has had in your library and it’s ability to serve your community.

In our October Newsletter we reported on your feedback about internet connectivity. Below are some recent news articles on initiatives to improve connectivity in rural and northern Manitoba.

January 8, 2018

‘A good start’: High-speed internet to reach 112 rural, remote Manitoba communities

Nearly 25,000 homes with spotty internet in rural towns and remote Manitoba First Nations may unlock speedier connections by next year as part of a joint \$83.9-million infrastructure pledge from the Manitoba and federal governments.

"This is a very good day," Sheila North, grand chief of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, said Tuesday. "It's still a long way out, but it's a good start."

The plan will improve high-speed internet access in 112 remote Manitoba communities with help from private service providers, federal Innovation Minister Navdeep Bains announced Tuesday in Winnipeg.

The federal government is committing \$43.7 million through its previously announced \$500-million Connect to Innovate program, along with \$3.5 million from Indigenous Services Canada. The bulk of that (\$38.5 million) will be used to bring fibre-optic infrastructure to 19,000 homes, while another \$5.17 million is earmarked for connecting 4,150 underserved homes that currently have very sparse service.

Manitoba is committing \$20 million, and \$16.7 million is coming from other contributors, including \$7.5 million from service providers Clear Sky Communications and RFNOW Inc.

Read the full article at:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/internet-rural-remote-manitoba-communities-1.4478989>

Winnipeg Free Press Editorial, January 12, 2018

Connecting the north a digital-era duty

. . . it's [the federal government's funding commitment] biggest impact by far will be in Manitoba . . . which has the greatest connectivity gap in the country."

. . . Internet access is so sufficiently crucial to health care, business and education, as well as social contact and community programming, that the United Nations in 2016 declared it to be a basic human right. In order for Manitoba's farthest-flung places to be part of the digitally connected world, access to the internet is essential.

Read the full article at:

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/editorials/connecting-the-north-a-digital-era-duty-468924293.html>

The Brandon Sun, August 3, 2017

Municipalities offering internet

Three municipalities in Westman are pushing aside the telecommunication giants to become an internet service provider for their residents. The move is an acknowledgment of the importance placed on high-speed internet access. Hooked up to the fibre-optic line installed at Park West School Division, Hamiota Municipality, the Municipality of Yellowhead and Prairie View Municipality will soon latch onto the network to provide super-fast internet for subscribers.

Read the full article at:

<https://www.brandonsun.com/local/municipalities-offering-internet-438231983.html>



Training staff an investment, not an expense

Ongoing training is important for maintaining and improving employee morale, knowledge and performance. Learning new skills and techniques, and keeping abreast of changes in the library world are critical to providing the best responsive service your library can for reaching out and responding to patron and community needs.

For a solid training and development plan:

- Assess employee needs
- Set up a personal learning/development plan with goals and time frames.
- Determine delivery methods - e.g. webinar, face-to-face, courses, seminars, online learning, attend conferences, films/videos, tutorials, group discussions, demonstrations
- Activity-based training – e.g. hands-on practice to learn a new skill, participant-centered, role play, case studies
- On-the-job training – e.g. take on a new project; learn by doing.
- Coaching/mentoring
- Following up to ensure learning has taken place



Manitoba Library Association



Keep up to date with MLA news:

<https://www.facebook.com/MBLibAssn>

<http://www.mla.mb.ca/news>

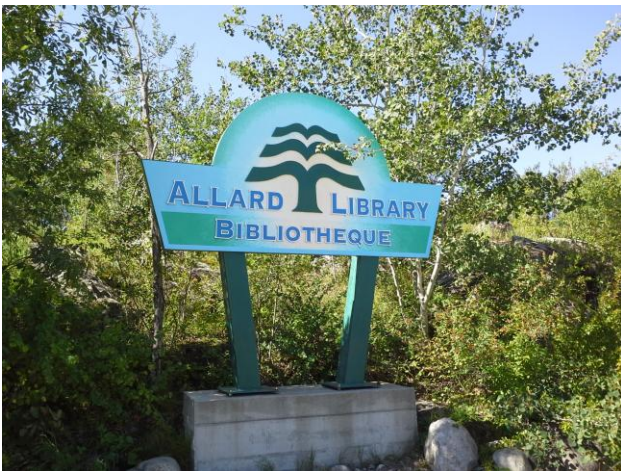
<http://mailchi.mp/10127398179b/mla-news-january-18-2018-advocacy-efforts-social-events-and-opportunities-for-manitoban-library-workers?e=868754d31b>

The 2017 **Intellectual Freedom Challenges Survey** is now available from CFLA-FCAB!

<http://cfla-fcab.ca/.../2017-intellectual-freedom-challenges.../>

Did your library experience any challenges to materials, resources, services, or policies in 2017?

Challenges include disputes about Internet access, meeting rooms, speakers, library displays, exhibitions, or other matters that would prevent or restrict access to titles, collections, services, or other resources. If so, please report the details of each challenge in this longstanding survey, now managed by the Canadian Federation of Library Associations-Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB).



Craving Change is a 3-week program offered by Bibliothèque Allard Library this winter in conjunction with the Interlake-Eastman Regional Health Authority. Through classes and a workbook, this program helps you understand why you eat the way you do and to learn to manage emotional eating habits (e.g. triggers for poor choices). It's a how-to workshop for changing your relationship with food to transition to more healthy eating choices.

Other programming and coming events:

- Lego Club
- Crochet/Knitting Club
- Intro to Beading
- Superhero for a Day
- I Love to Read month-long book sale with a book draw every Friday in February

- Our **35th anniversary celebration**
Sat. June 9th, 2018 from 1 to 3 pm.



Bibliothèque Allard Library along Hwy 11 in St-Georges, MB, south of Pine Falls.

Come to a Cabaret!

The **Flin Flon Public Library** is planning a new fundraising venture that we hope will become an annual event. It will be a kick-off for the 60th anniversary year of the incorporation of the Flin Flon Public Library name.

“Talk Wordy to Me: A Library Cabaret”

A Valentines-themed dessert night fundraiser for the Flin Flon Public Library with live entertainment

Saturday, February 10th 2018

8:00 pm - 1:00 am, R.H. Channing Auditorium

Tickets \$40 available at the Library, Northern Rainbows End, and The Gateway

Raffle * Candy/dessert bar * Photo booth * Door prize

Funds raised will go into the general fund as we're expecting to receive less funding from the Province of Manitoba this year based on the population decrease.

Submitted by Courtney Campbell
Administrator, Flin Flon Public Library



The stumps are a new seating option for adults in the Children's section of Flin Flon Public Library.



ENGAGE & INSPIRE COMMUNITIES

Manitoba Libraries Conference Winnipeg, MB May 30 - June 1

MLC 2018 is a great opportunity to connect with and learn from colleagues from around the province. It will be held at Downtown Winnipeg's Delta hotel. Registration opens Feb. 20 and closes May 16. Early bird and MLA member savings.

Libraries are vital community members, constantly adapting to ensure their services encourage their communities to thrive. **MLC 2018 aims to explore the many ways in which libraries work to engage and inspire their diverse communities.**

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

Of particular interest to library trustees and administrators is the half-day session sponsored by MLTA entitled:

Public Library Governance and the Board- Administrator Relationship

To be held on **Wed. May 30** as one of the pre-conference sessions.



Manitoba Library Trustees Association

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Did you know that . . .?

- **Winnipeg's 2018 budget** has a 4.3% decrease in community services budget (libraries, pools) to \$109.9 million from 2017's \$114.9 million.
- **Russell Library's renovation** is getting nearer to completion.

<https://www.facebook.com/RussellBinscarthLibrary/>



The proposed new look to the Boyne Regional Library in Carman. Fundraising continues.

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