



Thank you to the members, stakeholders, and many others for four great years in the role of SLA Executive Director! This has been an excellent experience for me both professionally and personally.

It takes many players to make a team! I appreciate the contributions and support of the staff and board to the work of the association over my tenure. This helped make my job productive and continued to move toward the renewed vision of the association after the governance review of 2011.

As a team we have initiated new programs and services, revitalized existing programs and services, and maintained many others.

The best part of this period has been the many people that I met and worked with, acquaintances that were renewed, new friendships made, and relationships that were forged. I have had the opportunity to meet so many members of the association and library community; travel throughout the province to regional headquarters, public libraries in cities and rural communities; work with many members of provincial and national associations; and connect with businesses with which we used on a regular basis.

Conference is always the highlight of the association year as members come together to learn, network, socialize, and build relationships. I have been fortunate to be involved in conferences in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 with a glimmer of 2019 on the horizon. These events are always a lot of work but also so exciting. It is my intention to see many of you in Regina at the 2018 conference (as a volunteer) as SLA joins with CFLA-FCAB to mark the first CFLA-FCAB Forum and set the bar for subsequent years. I hope to see many of you there.

I have been the brunt of many jokes over the past couple of months from family, friends, and acquaintances as I enter retirement – this will be the 4th – and so far I haven't managed to make it stick. I can't guarantee that I won't do any kind of work but I can say that I am going to try to embark on a retiree's life and get good at it!

So thanks to all of you who have made my years with SLA happy and busy and hopefully a contributions to the progress of the association.

- Judy Nicholson