

### **Letter from the President**

I am writing this from my most amazing craft room/home office with sun shining through the window. I am very fortunate to be able to continue to work and do it from home. I know that this has been a challenging month for everyone out there – even the introverts. As my sister told me the other day, I have never wanted to visit people and have fast food more than now, and she is a major homebody. In all seriousness, I hope that you and your families are able to weather this storm with as little stress as possible.

I would like to express my appreciation for all of you doing your best to self-isolate according to your circumstances. I am doing the same with my husband, who is seriously immuno-compromised. We are still going outside for an almost daily walk. I hope that people are finding that this is a time when you are in fact connecting more often and perhaps more deeply with people. I have been finding that my workmates are reaching out to me more often and I am having more regular conversations with friends and family.

I feel that it is important to recognize and acknowledge the amazing hard work being done by library workers across all sectors and across the province. It is hard to see libraries close their physical spaces, and in fact, I don't remember ever seeing it done – we are in uncharted territory. I know this introduces new challenges to many of our community members, but hopefully we will come out of this time stronger than ever. I love to see how you are all communicating with your communities and I am impressed with the quality of online library resources and services being offered to our citizens.

Finally, I want to thank the SLA staff, Board and Committees for all their hard work during this time of uncertainty. We have seen conferences and other events be cancelled across the country and around the world. It was a very tough decision for the SLA Board and Conference Executive to cancel the 2020 conference, even though we knew it was the right thing to do. I would like to acknowledge all the hard and amazing work the committee put into this conference. I hope that a lot of that work can carry forward to the 2021 conference. The SLA Board has also been very dedicated to the association both right now and throughout this year. I have been lucky to work with such an amazing group of people. Finally, I would like to thank the SLA staff – Dorothea, Anne and Marina for their amazing work, support and good cheer throughout the year and, and especially right now. They continue to work on SLA business (mostly from the health and safety of their homes).

THANK YOU all!

Amy Rankin

SLA President