Letter from the President

I cannot believe it is September already. I look around my garden and it definitely looks like fall out there. I know a lot of you are thinking about back to school – either for your kids, or for those of you in the academic sector. This has always been a time of renewal and a fresh start – maybe even more than January 1. This year feels a little different with the uncertainty of COVID-19 times. I am still working from home most of the time, although we are planning a return to work this fall. Dorothea, Marina and Anne are also working from home, with an occasional foray into the SLA office. Routines have been established, as I am sure they have in your worlds.

Instead of going to Toronto to physically attend the Partnership meetings last month, Dorothea and I will be attending a couple of days of Zoom meetings later this month. This will give us an opportunity to see what is happening in associations across the country. We will provide updates in next month's newsletter.

The SLA Board and staff just met for our Board orientation/retreat, which was also different this year. We normally have a retreat in conjunction with a Board meeting in person. This year, we met via Zoom. With the addition of a great Board orientation manual, we had an excellent start for the upcoming year.

I have had the opportunity to preview the Saskatchewan Library Week materials and they look great! I am also looking forward to seeing the videos that SLA is producing for use by libraries during Saskatchewan Library Week and Culture Days (and beyond). This is new for SLA and it shows that great things can come out of necessity. It has been interesting to see the amazing creativity that has come out as a result of COVID-19.

SLA committees are starting up again. It is not too late to put your name forward if you are interested in any of the committees. Planning for the Saskatchewan Libraries Conference is in the initial stages. It is hard to know what the world will look like in May, but I think we can be sure that the conference will look different than in the past.

The One Book, One Province Committee and Anne are already hard at work planning for March 2021. I am intrigued and excited by Paul Seesequasis' *Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun: Portraits of Everyday Life in Eight Indigenous Communities.* We are looking forward to working with Paul for a month of exciting and engaging programming.

I wish you all a peaceful and healthy start to your fall. Please reach out to us if you have questions, ideas or would like to volunteer.

Regards,
Amy Rankin
SLA President, 2020-2022