

The Trustee

Summer 2017
Volume 9, Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Saskatchewan's public libraries collectively support the literacy and lifelong learning needs of 1.1 million Saskatchewan residents. Now, more than ever, libraries play a critical role in the social, educational, cultural and economic success of Saskatchewan communities. Our libraries are an essential investment in the future of our communities and they are essential drivers of success in school preparedness, reading readiness, economic and employment success, and social equity. Our public libraries are a vital link for every resident and every community ensuring success of all people of Saskatchewan, regardless of location or background.

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Library Trustees' Association, I would like to express our appreciation to the government on their decision to reverse their previous decision and reinstate the funding to Saskatchewan libraries. We appreciate the government taking time for consultation and look ahead to future collaboration.

SLTA will continue its work to advocate for necessary library funding and to support library workers. On behalf of the SLTA, and libraries across the province, please contact your MLA and let them know why you value your local library.

Please visit our website at www.slta.ca for more information.

Saskatchewan libraries matter.

Lorna Black (PNLS), President



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My Library Matters Because...

The joy of reading must be accessible to everyone.

Catherine, Nipawin

Knowledge is important!

Rose, Humboldt

I am not computer literate so I need my library books.

Lawrence, Wapiti

You can order any book you want and they try and get it. It's important to read and have books available. What would a town be without a library? I love our Library.

Marian, Carrot River



SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
REMEMBRANCE & RENEWAL

The SLTA AGM was held Friday, May 7th at the Elkridge Resort in Elkridge, SK. President Lorna Black (PNLS) chaired the meeting.

President Lorna Black (PNLS) will continue in her role as President of the Association and Sharon Armstrong (Parkland) will continue in her role as Vice-President. Donna Hartley (Southeast) was reappointed Treasurer. Executive Director Nancy Kennedy has been reappointed Secretary.

Minutes of the AGM and annual report can be found on the SLTA website—www.slta.ca.

At the conference, SLTA presented its 2017 Honourary Life Membership Award to Allie Raycraft from Lakeland. Please see page four for the

story.

SLTA was pleased to sponsor two sessions by Kitty Pope at this year's conference: Crisis Management in Libraries and part two a continuation with a focus on What Keeps You Awake at Night? For a copy of the presentation please see the SLTA website.

SLTA was an exhibitor at the conference. As well, SLTA provided a Kobo eReader as a door prize. It was won by Julie McKenna of RPL.

SLTA acknowledges and appreciates the efforts by the Saskatchewan Library Association in hosting this conference. It is a huge undertaking and always well done. We are pleased to assist where we can.



SLA Executive Director Judy Nicholson and presenter Kitty Pope.





SLA Banquet.

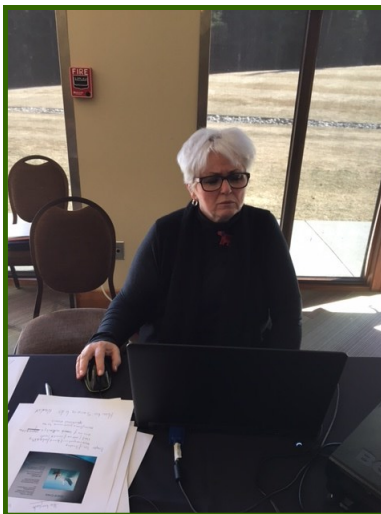


SLTA Honourary Life Award
Recipient Allie Raycraft,
Lakeland.

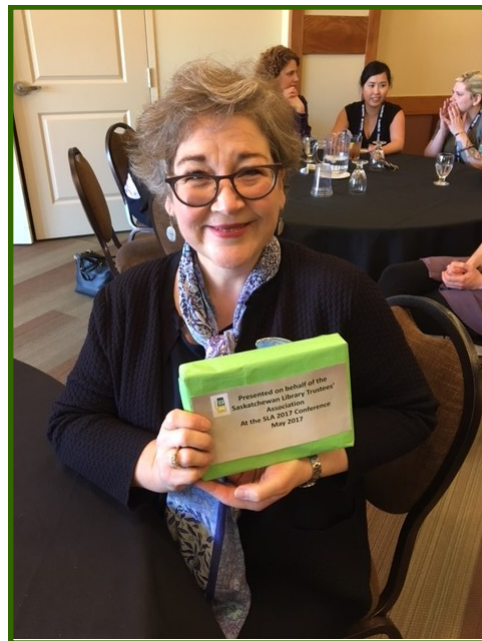
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SLTA Treasurer Donna Hartley,
Southeast, with presenter Kitty
Pope.



Kobo winner Julie McKenna, RPL.

My Library Matters Because...

Brings a lot of joy and information to my life.

Brenda, Weyburn

I don't have a personal computer. I use the one available at my local library.

Clarice, Kipling

I like meeting and talking to the different people I meet at the library.

Stan, White City

I can order any books etc. from anywhere in the province without having to drive to the city, especially helpful/convenient for seniors.

Lois, Lumsden

It's a gathering place where one feels safe and comfortable.

Tracy, Manor

A good book for me gives me my down time, my me time, a time to forget all your cares and worries and just ENJOY. Get lost in the moment. We all need me time and luckily our library provides me with that.

Brenda, Wolseley

All the books and audio books are a fun way to make winter shorter. The kids just love all the books and in an enjoyable way be more education.

P.B., Humboldt

There's tons of books and I get to read. I love books!

Rylee, Lucky Lake

There are lots of graphic novels.

Cheyenne, Dinsmore

SLTA HONOURARY LIFE MEMBER



Born in Inverness, Quebec, Allie Raycraft moved to Asquith, Saskatchewan in 1956. There she raised her family and began her career, in 1970, as town administrator. In 1984, she moved to Meota and became administrator for both the Village and R.M. Although she retired in 1997, Allie continued to do relief work for many municipalities, a well as acting as returning officer for school division elections.

Aside from her professional work in many Saskatchewan communities, Allie joined the Meota Library Board, the Lakeland Regional Board, and Executive Committee in 1996. In 2007, she was elected Regional Vice-Chairperson, and in 2009 she was elected as Chairperson for the board. After seven years in that role, Allie stepped down as Chairperson at the 2016 AGM, and after 20 years as a Lakeland Trustee, she resigned from the Board at the end of 2016.

When she is not running board meetings, Allie volunteers as a bingo fundraiser, sings in the church choir, and enjoys curling and golfing. She also travels to visit her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

The members of the Lakeland Executive Committee nominated Allie for the Honourary Life Membership Award in recognition of her many years of work on the board, for bringing her wealth of administrative experience to library governance, and for her dedication and tireless sense of humour.



SLTA board member Dennis Taylor, Lakeland.



SLTA INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

SLTA is looking for support from local library boards. We would also suggest buying an individual SLTA membership for your mayor, and/or members of councils as a way to show support for libraries. Your support can help us help libraries!

If you would like more information please contact your region's SLTA representative.

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Region _____

Library _____

Please remit the completed membership form along with **\$10.00** payment to SLTA Executive Director, 79 Mayfair Crescent, Regina, SK, S4S 5T9. **Thank you for your support!**

*Each region pays the membership for regional board members. This form is for members of local boards or anyone else who wishes to become a member of the SLTA.

*“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.”
- Henry Ward Beecher*



Center Picture: SLTA President Lorna Black (PNLS), SLTA board member Elmer Brenner (RPL), Life Member Recipient Allie Raycraft (Lakeland), SLTA board member Dennis Taylor (Lakeland), SLTA Treasurer Donna Hartley (Southeast).

LIBRARY SUCCESS STORIES

We are looking for more library success stories for our website.

Do you have a great story about some way your library has affected a patron's future, a service or resource that has really made a difference, or friendly help—just when it was needed the most?

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We encourage you to share. Please visit <http://slta.ca/advocacy/story-submission> to upload your story.

My Library Matters Because...

As a child libraries were my only means of books to read as we only owned about six. No I know a lot of seniors who use the library weekly and students who have access to information they need.

Ruth, Wapiti

I want my grandchildren to enjoy reading.

Mavis, Lake Alma

It's an important part of our community. All ages need this place to help with literacy, programming and services.

Melissa, Alameda

It is a place where my whole family is able to get various reading articles that wouldn't be purchased to be read once. I appreciate that we have a library that helps educate our children that reading is awesome.

Sheila, Wapella

It provides public access to the computers that I wouldn't normally have.

Jenna, Windthorst

It is a place for adults and children to obtain enjoyment in books, DVDs and friendship. We have a volunteer who delivers and returns books on a regular basis to the seniors in our area who are unable to get out. We have computers which are used by people who do not have access to one.

Whitewood

I can read and expand my imagination.

Tanner, Montmartre

WHY LIBRARIES MATTER—SOUTHEAST REGIONAL LIBRARY

Libraries are excellent value for the taxpayer's dollar

Using a value calculator, libraries take every \$1 of taxpayer money and turn it into \$3 of value. Libraries provide resources that many people otherwise could not afford. A family that makes even just modest use of public library services (books, DVDs, ebooks, programs, digital materials, etc.) uses an estimated \$1100 worth of resources per year.

Libraries support literacy and lifelong learning

Libraries help people learn about technology and information skills. Children and adults strengthen their reading skills at libraries via story times, research, recreational reading, summer reading clubs, etc. Libraries answer questions, offer new interests and share ideas. Children who participate in a summer reading program at a public library enter the new school year more confident, have a positive attitude about reading and perceive reading as important.

Libraries help government succeed

Libraries provide an established and trusted network of local institutions that can deliver government programs and services to new, remote and/or marginalized populations. Libraries close gaps in access to information and help government better understand local information needs.

Libraries build community

Libraries bring people together physically and online. Libraries offer a space for people from all walks of life to learn and grow with each other. Libraries provide resources, facilities, programs and experiences that help us learn from our differences.

Libraries strengthen families

Libraries offer a safe, comfortable and welcoming space for families to learn, grow and play together. Teens will find a place to develop positive values, skills and relationships in a library.

Libraries get busier during economic downturns

During economic downturns people turn to public libraries for an affordable outing with children, for free access to recreational materials like books and DVDs, free internet and computer access, inexpensive printing and faxing services and job seeking assistance. "Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries" – Anne Herbert (author).

Libraries are equalizers

Libraries serve people of all ages, persuasions, genders, ethnicities, physical abilities, income levels, educational levels, etc. Libraries provide equal access to resources and experiences many people otherwise could not afford.

Libraries serve rural and remote communities

Public libraries maintain a presence in many rural and remote communities in the form of weekly delivery of new materials, a full service branch, or a community drop off point.

Libraries protect our right to know

Libraries defend our rights to learn, grow, speak freely, be educated and seek information.

Libraries empower the individual

Libraries offer instruction, support and access to resources to help people lead better lives.

Libraries strengthen our province and our country

Through resources and programming libraries support and defend a citizenry that is literate, informed and democratic.

Libraries preserve Saskatchewan's cultural heritage

Libraries collect, organize and make available unique and historical documents that helps us to better understand our past, present and future.

Libraries provide direct economic benefits to the local community

Libraries provide funding for operations, materials and especially wages that provide direct benefit to the economy. Libraries support and compliment the local economy, bolster the economic prosperity of the community and provide jobs in an automated and community focused environment.

Libraries are well used

4.8 million NHL hockey game attendees each year in Canada
100 million library visits per year in Canada
112 million movie goers each year in Canada

Libraries attract newcomers to our communities

The number one consideration for a person moving to rural Saskatchewan is the number of amenities in town. Libraries directly contribute towards the services offered in our communities. At a time of declining amenities, population, schools, services and resources in small town rural Saskatchewan, public libraries are committed to remaining in under populated and remote areas.

The library is one of the last free public spaces

Libraries offer one of the last free public spaces where people can simply "be" year round. Visitors to a public library can socialize, meet friends, make new friends, have a discussion, read the paper, access free WiFi, find relief from the heat or cold, or simply "hang out" for as long as the library is open with no expectation to purchase, donate or contribute to anything.

YOUR SLTA BOARD MEMBERS

Lakeland Region

Dennis Taylor, Hafford
Email: dennis.taylor@littleloon.ca
Tel: (306)549-2165

PNLS

Lorna Black (President), Green Lake
Email: lornablack@nlsd113.ca
Tel: (306)832-4547

Parkland Region

Sharon Armstrong (Vice-President), Wynyard
Email: town.office.wynyard@sasktel.net
Tel: (306)554-3391

Regina Public Library

Elmer Brenner
Email: brenner.attic@sasktel.net
Tel: (306)789-9413

Saskatoon Public Library

Bev Brenna
Email: bev.brenna@usask.ca
Tel: (306)966-7563

Southeast Region

Donna Hartley (Treasurer), Ogema
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Tel: (306)459-2718

Wapiti Region

Leslee Serack, Nipawin
Email: lesleeserack@gmail.com
Tel: (306)862-8520

Wheatland Region

Steve Allen, Luseland
Email: sallen@sasktel.net
Tel: (306)



YOUR SLTA STRIVES TO:

- Promote and foster the development of libraries and library services in Saskatchewan.
- Provide for exchange of ideas and experiences among library board members through conferences and publications.
- Assist members by understanding their responsibilities as library trustees.
- Cooperate with associations of library trustees outside the province.
- Seek improvements and foster necessary changes in the legislation affecting Saskatchewan libraries.
- Work in close cooperation with the Saskatchewan Library Association.

Contributions are welcome. Please send suggestions for articles, photos, and stories to njk@sasktel.net.

Visit SLTA on the web at www.slta.ca



FIVE THINGS THAT PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE LIBRARIANS DO—BY REBECCA TISCHLER

Many people still have the stereotypical image of a librarian stuck in their head: an older kind of frumpy woman wearing glasses on a chain, her hair up in a bun, shushing people with one hand while stamping books with the other. Many of my Jr. High classmates predicted that I was going to be a librarian because I liked to read, and, during those years, I was very quiet and wore glasses. I still love to read and always have something to read, but since I'm much more comfortable with myself, I don't know if people would still say that I look like a librarian. Ironically, I did become a librarian, but for completely different reasons (part of it is the sheer variety involved in the profession).

As a librarian, we help to teach people how to become self-sufficient on the computer, find the answer to patron's questions (no offense Google, but while you may come back with a million answers, we librarians come back with the right answer), develop graphic designs for advertisement, act as a social media managers, handle reader's advisory, teach information literacy classes, act as storytellers, and teach children, to name just a few of our duties. We wear many, many caps.

And here are five things that you may have been unaware that librarians do (just a few of their caps), or that libraries offer.

1. **Librarians are teachers.** Many libraries have computer classes, which can include teaching a room full of people how to use Microsoft Office, how to use the internet safely, how to set up accounts and stay safe on social media, or how to use photo manipulation programs. Some libraries even teach computer programming classes. Librarians also do a lot of one-on-one tutoring if there isn't a class that specifically covers the need of the patron.
2. **Librarians are tech savvy.** Whatever computer classes librarians are teaching, or when we have to help a patron troubleshoot their own technology, we have to be computer and technologically literate in order to help. We have to know the basics of computer technology, at the very least. Most times, however, we know more, and if we don't know the answer off the top of our heads, we know how to find it.
3. **Librarians are advertisers.** Libraries mostly manage their own public relations and advertise their own services and events (and generally with almost no budget). They write the press releases, network and make connections, as well as create their own logos and graphic design. And many of the librarians are self-taught when it comes to graphic design software.
4. **Librarians are event planners.** Libraries have dozens of events every year, and the staff has to create budgets and event plans, and bring in volunteers or paid presenters. They plan the activities, the topic, the refreshments... everything. Most of the decorations are probably also made by the staff and, sometimes, the librarian is also the presenter if the librarian's outside hobbies coincide with the event's topic.
5. **Librarians are researchers.** Librarians not only know how to organize and find information. We know how to collate and analyze information. We see the patterns and can extract information from it. For example, have you ever gone to the library looking for the next book that you would love, and asked one of the librarians what they would recommend? If so, you were probably asked about what type of books you liked, if you have favorite authors, of those favorite books or authors, what was it that drew you in (location, characters, humor...), etc. These were all questions that help the librarian gather information to analyze your taste in books in order to hopefully provide you with your next favorite read.

With just those 5 things, librarians have to learn graphic design, communications, interviewing techniques, public relations, writing, event planning, budgeting techniques, DIY crafts, computer literacy and information literacy. And yet, there is so much more to librarianship that even just the 5 items discussed above. This in no way means that the librarians are ready to march into those other professions fully prepared, but we do have to study and learn multiple professions so that we can act as librarians. Librarianship is much more than just reading books, and organizing them. Libraries provide classes, events, public space, and access to computers and technology, just to name a few.

Libraries are more than just free bookstores.

**Please visit the SLTA website—
<http://slta.ca/trustee-development/in-a-nutshell>
- to view a new trustee training module:
“The Role of Libraries in Early Learning”.
A third module “Official Treaty Commission and Reconciliation” will be available fall 2017.**