

SLAte President's Message

April 2019

Greetings and Happy Spring! We did it! Winter is behind us and nothing but blue skies and warm temperatures lie ahead.

The unveiling of the provincial budget came as a relief as libraries were granted a 1% increase. We are thankful for the acknowledgement and are looking forward to a fruitful relationship with the provincial government in the coming year. In particular, I look forward to follow-up from the Engagement process, public survey and the recent announcement to develop a public library sector plan. The response by Saskatchewan people indicates that there is much value and concern about our libraries and the many spaces, places, resources and opportunities they provide.

Conference planning continues as we are close to a month away from the start of the conference. Thanks to everyone who continues to plan and organize so that we have a wonderful and enriching conference experience.

The board met at the beginning of March for its last full meeting of the year. We will have a teleconference meeting in April and an abbreviated board meeting during the conference in Saskatoon. As the board is preparing for significant turnover, we are trying to complete what we can and organize the projects and initiatives that will go forward to be handled by a new board. Thanks to all current board members and staff for all your hard work this year. We have accomplished a lot of policy and organizational work.

As OBOP events come to a close, I am hearing very positive reports of a successful program once again. Thanks to Lisa Bird-Wilson and everyone who helped out with the program this year. I anticipate another great run next year.

Please plan to attend the 2019 conference if at all possible – we look forward to seeing you there!

Alison