

Hello everyone,

It's the middle of summer and southern Saskatchewan has been in a heat wave for weeks. Plus I don't think Regina has received rainfall for a month. But I shouldn't complain as summers always seem so short.

In addition to regular ongoing projects, SLA Office staff and association committee volunteers are starting work on the One Book One Province for 2018. The One Book Committee drafted a report with recommendations and it was subsequently discussed and endorsed by your board of directors. Amy Jo Ehman's book, *Out of Old Saskatchewan Kitchens* has been selected and details are forthcoming. Suffice to say that there are some great programming ideas based upon the book!

On August 27-28 your board will gather at St. Peter's College in Muenster, SK for a retreat. This will be the third summer that board members have met there. The executive director will once again facilitate discussions about committee work for the upcoming year and how projects need to support SLA's strategic and diversity plans. It's also an opportunity for everyone to socialize and enjoy the beauty and serenity of St. Peter's Abbey and the surrounding countryside.

Judy Nicholson, SLA's executive director, and I will be traveling to Toronto to attend The Partnership's annual summer retreat. The Partnership consists of all provincial and territorial library associations in Canada. The retreat takes place August 15-16 and the agenda includes updates from association board members, CFLA-FCAB, and a panel about advocacy. It's a wonderful learning opportunity and a great way to network with other association board members from across Canada.

On a final note, please note the upcoming deadlines for applying for Saskatchewan Library Week, Continuing Education, and the Anniversary Conference grants. One of the fantastic SLA membership benefits is being able to apply for these grants. Details are in this issue.

Best,



Michael Shires, President (2016-2018)