Executive Directors Report

February Winter Socials

February 20 5:00 - 7:30:
Regina Confirmed- Host Linda Winkler
Regina location is La Bodega at 2228 Albert St (between 14th and 15th Avenues).
Saskatoon TBA - SLA does not provide funds for the winter social. If we recruit a host and determine a venue a newsflash will be sent out.

Conference Planning: Save the Dates May 2 – 3, 2019

The Conference Prospectus has been sent out to potential sponsors and exhibitors. We are most appreciative of those who support the conference through sponsorship or purchase of display and vendor booths.

The program is currently being finalized; presenters who submitted proposals have been notified. We expect a program to be available on the website mid-February.

Saskatchewan Libraries Conference provides the opportunity to:

- Attend a Saskatchewan based professional development;
- Enhance professional skills and understanding of key developments;
- Discuss significant issues affecting library service now and in the future;
- Engage informally with other conference participants to exchange information and network;
- Acknowledge and celebrate achievements in library service;
- Attend an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to discuss constitutional and financial matters related to the association and to ensure the election of officers to administer the affairs of the organization.

Remember Saskatoon at the Hilton Garden Inn on May 2-3. A block of rooms is being held at the conference rate so please indicate that you are attending the SLA conference when you register.

Mary Donaldson Memorial Lecture

We are pleased to welcome Zarqa Nawaz as the speaker for the Mary Donaldson Memorial lecture. Zarqa is a renowned writer, journalist and broadcaster. Her comedy hit, *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, ran on CBC Television between 2007 and 2012. Most recently she has written a bestselling comedic memoir, *Laughing All the Way to the Mosque*, in which she explores what it was like to grow up as a Canadian of Muslim faith.

The lecture is scheduled for May 2 at 7:30

Key Note Speaker

Our Keynote speaker is Jack Saddleback. Jack is a well-known speaker and from Saskatoon who brings messages of self-awareness, identity and embracing our authentic self. An excellent choice to begin our conference.

As further information is available it will be posted on our website.

Call for Nominations for the Board of Directors

There are 5 Board of Director Positions to be filled in the 2019-20 year. The call for nominations is posted. Please thoughtfully consider making a contribution to library services through your association or nominate a colleague who you know could contribute. Information on the roles and nomination process can be found below.

Awards, Bursaries & Recognition of Peers

Mary Donaldson Award of Merit

Applications are invited for the 2019 Mary Donaldson Award. The Mary Donaldson Memorial Trust was established in 1966 to honour the memory of Mary Donaldson, who was Saskatchewan's first Provincial Librarian from 1951 until her death in 1966. The Mary Donaldson Award of Merit was established in 1977 to provide a bursary to a full-time or part-time Saskatchewan student enrolled in a library and information technician program. The award will be presented during the annual Saskatchewan Library Association Conference in May. Please note the deadline for applications is March 31, 2019.

SLA Frances Morrison Award

The SLA Frances Morrison Award is an award of merit for outstanding service to libraries given in the name of one of Saskatchewan's exceptional librarians. This award is open to all, individuals or institutions or groups, and not restricted to professional librarians or SLA members. It is an honour to have one's work recognized by this award. Please think about who you could recognize and consider making a nomination no later than March 1, 2019.

Honorary Life Member

An Honourary Life Membership is conferred upon a current SLA member who has made a substantial and recognizable long-standing contribution to SLA and/or library service in Saskatchewan. As a member of SLA for life, the recipient has full voting privileges, does not pay annual dues, receives all Association publications, and may serve on committees. As well, this membership entitles the recipient to discounts at all SLA functions and workshops.

Partnership Committee

The Partnership Committee is Canada's national network of provincial and territorial library associations. The Partnership meets twice a year to develop services and programs for members of their respective associations. I'm pleased to attend the Partnership meeting on January 29, 2019. This is a great opportunity to connect with representatives from library associations across Canada. As a member of the Communications Committee I have worked on compiling information related to advocacy and media contact from other jurisdictions. Once it receives final review by the Partnership we will post on the SLA website as a resource.

Life Cycles Capacity Building

Although not profiled regularly the work that was initiated through this project carries on. Thanks to Alison Jantz, Linda Winkler, Lukas Miller and Michael Shires our committee members. SaskCulture has supported SLA on specific capacity building initiative. One initiative has been to transition some of our administrative functions in- house. We are fortunate to have Marina dos Santos Candeia accept a part-time role as Research & Administrative Assistant. Welcome Marina!

Strategic Planning moves forward

Sask. Culture through the Life Cycles project has also supported facilitation of Strategic Planning. Dawn Martin, facilitator is continuing to provide consultation to SLA. We are planning a session at the conference to invite input from members before finalizing a plan.