

Greetings. I can't believe it is February already, but here we are. In getting ready to write this year's message, I looked back at the one from February 2021. The first line you see here is the same as last year; I kept it because it feels exactly the same way I am feeling now.

Similar to other years at this time, the SLA staff, Board and committees are busy with the work involved in the upcoming programs, conference planning, and any required policy development for the approaching AGM and year end. I have the pleasure of serving on the OBOP committee and it is shaping up to be another amazing program this year. I would like to acknowledge Anne Pennylegion's legacy, part of which is OBOP. The work that Anne did in the first years with the program created such a strong foundation, that even without her, the program continues to successfully use the well-established model and processes. The committee and Leslie are doing great work and I am looking forward to it and the February 24 launch.

The Conference Planning Committee is also hard at work. We are in such uncertain times, so planning for an in-person event, even though it is in May, has added a whole layer to the process. I would like to take the time to thank my Co-chair, Regan Gunningham, and the rest of the committee (and program committee) and the office staff for all their commitment. I am excited by the proposals submitted and I am looking forward to seeing the program. We are planning for a safe and healthy conference full of amazing learning and networking opportunities. Keep an eye out for the messages and updates that will be announced soon.

Don't forget Freedom to Read Week, which is February 20 - 26, 2022. We have received some excellent grant applications for programs and events across the province. Please take this opportunity to consider, acknowledge and celebrate the intellectual freedom that we enjoy in Canada, guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Our SLA Executive Director has indicated her intention to retire so we will begin a recruitment process and an orderly transition once recruitment is completed. Dorothea has agreed to a thorough orientation and timely change over process.

I can't believe that it is already time for OLA's Super Conference. This also means that the Partnership's semi-annual meeting is coming up on February 10. This is a meeting where the "business" of the Partnership is discussed. We will be getting updates on the Partnership Job Board, the Education Institute, the Partnership Journal and we will also be talking about the CEC review. Please look to the March SLate for an update on the meeting and on what is going on across the country at other associations. The CFLA annual meeting will be taking place on February 11, and I will be attending as SLA's voting delegate.

I hope you are enjoying the longer days. I have found this January somewhat difficult, and I am sure taking note of more light carrying me forward. Take care of yourselves and stay healthy!

Regards,

Amy Rankin

President