

Hello everyone!

Despite it being smack dab in the middle of winter there are signs that we are inching closer to spring. I've noticed this week that there are a few extra minutes of daylight each day. This was particularly noticeable on January 23 when I was carpooling back to Regina after the completion of SLA's Board meeting in Saskatoon.

A shout out goes to former SLA President Gwen Schmidt who graciously accommodated our request to have our Board meeting at the brand new Round Prairie Branch of Saskatoon Public Library. It is a great facility and is located in Stonebridge, a new subdivision in southern Saskatoon. Details about the library including the history of its Metis name are [here](#) and [here](#).

SLA's One Book, One Province Committee, chaired by Colleen Murphy, continues to move forward with securing funding and speakers, and finalizing schedules for the three planned program launches in Prince Albert, Regina, and Saskatoon in early March. Announcements will start going out very soon and libraries of all types are encouraged to participate! You can also tell us what activities you are planning and we'll communicate them on the [One Book, One Province](#) site and SLA's other communications channels.

Our annual conference is shaping up very nicely as our Conference Planning Committee, co-chaired by Bill Sgrazzutti and James Hope Howard, and is close to finalizing the program. If you haven't done so already, please remember to make a reservation at the Elk Ridge Resort by April 10 and mention SLA to get a discount. There are a variety of options including hotel rooms and economical shared accommodations (cabins, cottages, and townhouses). Conference registration will open very soon with an early bird member rate of \$195. Updates about the conference will be posted online at <http://saskla.ca/programs/conference> and on SLA's communication channels.

Finally, a friendly reminder that people can apply for the association's three categories of Continuing Education Grants. SLA's grants meet a variety of professional development needs and I invite you to apply. The application deadline is Feb. 15 and details, including the forms, are at <http://saskla.ca/continuing-education/continuing-education-grants>.

Best,

Michael Shires, President