

Name :Katelyn Haskell

Title: Library Technician

Born and lived: Born in Kelvington, SK., raised in Preeceville, SK. Living in Saskatoon currently.

Early Life: I grew up in a small town and always had a love for reading and books, however at that time, the public library and school library in my town were in desperate need of resources. It wasn't until after moving to Saskatoon that I truly saw what a library could be.

After high school I went to the University of Saskatchewan where I completed my B.A. in Religious Traditions. After that, I immediately enrolled in the SIAST (now known as Saskatchewan Polytechnic) Library and Information Technology program. I received my diploma and went to work!

Professional career and activities: I've worked as a Library Technician at the University of Saskatchewan, Prairie Spirit School Division, Saskatchewan Polytechnic (most recently) and am currently employed at St. Andrew's College as the Library Technician. I love my job and I feel like the work I do is important. I get to do so many amazing things at my job and no two days look alike. The library community in Saskatchewan is so vibrant, and the connections I've made with librarians, techs, and assistants throughout the province have solidified my love for my work.

I've sat on the Saskatchewan Association of Library Technician (SALT) executive as Workshop Coordinator and Vice President.

I'm currently enrolled in the MLIS online program through the University of Alberta.

In my spare time: I'm an avid knitter, baker, and I've recently taken up quilting. In my spare time I like to go shopping at thrift stores and spend time with my friends and family. I also have a fabulous Book Club group which forces me to read in between doing homework.

Favorite books: I have so many! My favourite books from childhood are the Little House on the Prairie series, as an adult I love anything by Margaret Atwood, David Sedaris, Roxanne Gay, and a recent favourite is *Shrill* by Lindy West.

I'm currently reading: *What I Think Happened* by Evany Rosen and *The Children Act* by Ian McEwan

How/where do I see the library industry in five years: I think the library industry is in a revival period, many people I've talked to say that they are busier than ever and I can say the same. Library folk are getting better at marketing their skills and getting the word out that what we do is important and that is having a pretty clear impact. Data and information management is a field that is just going to get bigger and bigger, and the responsibility of teaching our patrons how to find good and relevant information will continue to grow. I'm excited for the future of the library industry, however Saskatchewan had a pretty rough year in terms of budget cuts. If the large crowds of residents coming out to protest library cuts is an indicator of anything, it's that Saskatchewan loves libraries and our public libraries are not going anywhere.