

Letter from the President

Greetings! It is a beautiful day in Regina – lots of sun and very little wind. It made for a lovely picnic lunch today. I am trying to find the beauty and the little things to celebrate during this time of uncertainty. I know a lot of you have been affected by COVID-19 – either in your personal life or in your work life. I don't think that anyone can say that they have not been affected. At the very basic level, I feel that everything just takes more energy. Make sure you are doing what you can to take care of yourselves. Be gentle. Even though many workplaces are opening up again, many of us are still trying to figure out what that means.

I missed seeing you at the Saskatchewan Libraries Conference and I missed the learning opportunities it normally provides us. I hope that we are able to have an in-person conference in May 2021. I, again, want to thank everyone who contributed to what would have been an awesome 2020 conference.

You may be wondering what this means for the 2020 AGM. Wonder no more! Like many other associations and library regions, SLA will be having a virtual AGM. We will be communicating the details to you in the coming days and all necessary material will be made available on the website. The AGM will be held on June 25 at 10:00 a.m. Save the date! Please remember that we will need a quorum of 25 members to move forward.

As many of you had already noticed, SLA saw no mention of libraries in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan. Although libraries have not stopped offering services, they did shut down their physical spaces. I know we all want to get back to offering a full slate of services, resources and space to our patrons, but we all want to do that safely. As you have already seen, SLA sent a letter to Deputy-Premier Wyant to seek further information on where in the plan libraries fit. We later heard back that libraries will fit into phase four of the plan.

In the last month, we had a board meeting to discuss plans for the AGM and other regular business pieces. Dorothea, Anne, Marina and I have a regular weekly meeting to discuss SLA business and the operations of the association. Staff are still working from home, but are available to members by email. Work continues at SLA: website clean-up, policy development, program planning and more. Anne and the program committee have met to discuss programming options for the fall programs – whether that will be in person or virtual. There are some exciting ideas being discussed.

Thank you for all that you are doing during these uncertain times. Please take care of yourselves and your families.

Amy Rankin

SLA President 2019-2020