

Jeff Barber, Library Director/CEO at Regina Public Library, has been selected to receive the national 2017 Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship.

The award recognizes exceptional achievement outside of the usual awareness activity a professional is expected to do. Jeff joins a small group of library leaders including Wendy Newman, Ernie Ingles, Pilar Martinez and, most recently, Leslie Weir.

"This really is an honour," Barber said. "Part of the award is about being out in the professional world and engaging in it to strengthen the profession and, of course, bring that world to your own library. RPL has a long history of reaching out to the broader worlds of libraries, galleries, film – to share the great things we do and to make sure that we are bringing the best experience to the citizens of Regina. I'm proud to be a part of that and appreciative of being in a community that values it."

Criteria for the award includes demonstration of exceptional success in enhancing the public recognition and appreciation of librarianship, accomplished through exceptional practice as a librarian, teaching the profession in formal and informal settings, or through writing.

The award originated with the Canadian Library Association and moved to the Ontario Library Association (OLA) following dissolution of the CLA. The Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) leads the nominations process through a nominations committee composed of representatives from across Canada. The committee makes a recommendation to the OLA Board of Directors for ratification.

This year's award is being jointly presented by OLA and CULC at the OLA Super Conference in early February.

Congratulations Jeff!