## MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

**Friday, September 14, 2007**

Present: Zenon Zuzak (Chair) Julie McKenna (vice-Chair), Mary Chipanshi, Joan Martin, Isabelle Butters, Bryan Wilson, Joanne Beltramini, Charlene Sorensen, Bev Siebert, Joylene Campbell, Brett Waytuck, Jack Ma, Elgin Bunston (Provincial Library Support Staff)

Regrets: Heather West; Mark Vajčner; Wendy Sinclair-Sparvier.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<td>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Approval of agenda - Approval of March minutes</td>
<td>The agenda was approved after two items were added to the Business Arising section: 1. San Jose State University’s online MLIS program reception in Regina. 2. Closure of the Sask Learning Resource Centre. Board members felt that the current format of the Board minutes is more like a summary than a recording of meeting results. It was agreed that the Board change the title of the minutes to “meeting summary”. The meeting summary was approved with minor wording changes.</td>
<td>Publish minutes on the Saskatchewan Libraries website (Multitype Unit). Changing the title “Minutes” to “Meeting Summary”.</td>
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<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>The Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) sent the Board a thank you letter for sponsoring the information literacy and digitization sessions at the 2007 SLA conference. The Board provided a template letter regarding Bill C-458 to help local public libraries with their Library Book Rate advocacy campaigns. Unfortunately, parliament was prorogued. Libraries should continue to raise this issue with their local MPs since bills may be resurrected by the federal government after Parliament resumes. The Saskatchewan Library Association maintains a web page with Library Book Rate advocacy materials.</td>
<td>Send thank you letters from the Board to the panelists for the SLA conference session on information literacy (Multitype Unit). Share SLA advocacy information with the library community via the listserv (Multitype Unit).</td>
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<td>Business Arising</td>
<td>Library and Archives Canada (LAC) submitted a report to the Provincial and Territorial Public Library Council outlining their new strategic framework. Through AMICUS LAC will create a simple search interface that will give users seamless, integrated access not only to LAC holdings in a variety of media, but also to the collections of their partners across the country. Cartographic materials and online publications are now subject to legal deposit requirements and LAC is preparing to receive these resources. While these are positive developments in virtual access, the Board noted that some academic researchers have expressed concern about LAC’s recent reductions in reference hours. The Board is surveying the library directors for ideas to customize the online MLS from San Jose. Ask about five questions, drawing on the 8Rs report (Multitype Unit). All Board members—spread the message about the San Jose reception at your institutions.</td>
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aware of this and monitoring consequences.

**Online MLS through San Jose State University:**
If 25 students from Saskatchewan register for the program, some courses can be tailored to meet the specific needs of a Saskatchewan cohort. The Board should use contacts in their communities to encourage people to attend the reception at Regina Public Library where more details will be provided. It is especially crucial to encourage people who have completed an undergraduate degree to attend. Customization of the program may be done with students and employers in Saskatchewan in mind. First Nations people who might have ruled out the library profession because there is no program in the province may benefit from the online program. The Libraries forget that the most significant source of potential librarians is those who currently work in libraries.

**Resource Centre Closure:**
The Learning Resource Centre’s resources are no longer available for resource sharing and its librarians are not acting as librarians in their new roles. SLA sent a letter to the Minister and the Official Opposition about the closure of the Resource Center. SLA received response letters from both (available on the SLA web site). There is a wealth of literature on the impact of library closures, including the economic impacts. The Board will send Saskatchewan Learning a letter and encourage the department to measure the impact of this decision.

The Provincial Librarian removed herself from the discussion of how the Board should respond.

**Outline for Background Paper on Representative Workforce**
The Board would like to see the background paper expand its content to include all underrepresented people. This paper could help inform the Board’s next strategic plan by highlighting possible sector-wide library strategies on this issue. It needs to let the library community know what they can do to improve the situation. Equity must be defined in the paper. The statement on diversity from the Public Service Commission web site identifies many groups of people who are underrepresented in the general workforce. The background paper should address the situation for all these groups as well as possible.

Suggested changes are:
Have a general philosophy statement about the diversity at the beginning. It should be inclusive.

The two sections specifically about Aboriginal employment issues could go together or form an
appendix. A great way to get Aboriginal children interested in libraries is to have qualified Aboriginal teacher librarians in schools.

It would be better if the data in the 8Rs report was updated as it was from 2003. The Board recommended that data for school, special, academic and public libraries be separated. Public libraries have much more urgent human resources needs than other sectors. Mandatory retirement has been abolished since the 8Rs report was released; however, it remains to be seen what impact this will have on libraries since librarians often retire before 65. Another consideration is that librarians complete their degrees later in life than other professional groups.

At the November meeting, the Board will prepare for the strategic planning process. It would be a good time to discuss how to engage the library community in the Board’s strategic planning. If there is enough time at the AGM, the Board could ask the partners for feedback. If not, a forum some time early in 2008 might be an option.

| General Meeting Debriefing | The general meeting was a success. MDLP partners also expressed their support for the MDLP Committee. MDLP partners encouraged Provincial Library to try and negotiate better deals with the vendors who quoted double digit price increases. The committee should set up reviews for these products, though not necessarily full evaluations. The sub-committee will review the many suggestions for growing the program and prepare strategic options for the discussion at the next AGM. Some MDLP partners expressed a desire to have policy documents and decisions from previous meetings distributed before future meetings. There is also a possibility that the MDLP could work with national consortia as part of future development. The afternoon session asked MDLP partners for input on the scope and content of the Saskatchewan Libraries website. Various communication methods were discussed from online forums, RSS feeds and email lists to phone calls. Many good ideas were put forward to improve the Sask Libraries web site. There was wide support for the idea of separating information for the public from information targeted for library staff and trustees. A usability study of the site was recommended by some of the MDLP partners. | Provide the Board with a results summary from the September General meeting (Jack). |
If existing documents clarify the roles of the Board and the committee, they will be given to the Board for review in advance of the November meeting. If current documents do not clarify these roles, this item should be part of future policy development.

In the past, the Board had a liaison person sit on the MDLP Committee. Board members continue to be invited to take on this role but no consensus has been reached. This discussion will be moved to a future meeting.

**MDLP Participation Policy**

The MDLP Committee developed the following definition for partner libraries: “institutions with a designated person or persons who have responsibility for providing information retrieval services to that institution and that the institution must have a web page that indicates where the resources come from.” The committee also suggested the idea of non-voting members (i.e. institutions without librarians).

The Board suggested using the term “MDLP Partners” rather than “Partner Libraries.” Another possible term would be “information providers”, as defined in the Libraries Co-operation Act. Maybe some current partners could be “grandfathered” in if a new membership policy is developed.

The discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

**Saskatchewan Digital Alliance Report Multitype**

The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance (SDA) plans to launch its web site (http://www.saskdigital.ca) in September. The web site will highlight SDA activities, link to digitization resources and provide digitization news, including updates from the SDA's blog that will be launched at the same time.

The two Digitization Pilot Projects have submitted their interim reports to Provincial Library. The SDA will review the reports and provide the Board with their analysis of the grant program at the November meeting.

Elgin recently met with Patricia Moore, the current Education Director for the Saskatchewan Library Association, to discuss possible collaboration between SLA and SDA for one or more training sessions in 2008. SDA has also discussed using a “train the trainer” model for Alouette Canada’s new software. A number of SDA members plan to gain a level of competency using these tools that would enable them to act as a resource for others in the province who want to use create digital projects through Alouette Canada.

Joanne will provide Elgin with contact information.
### Multitype Library Development Unit Report

The Annual Report has been completed and tabled in the legislature. The Board noted some minor wording changes that should be made for next year’s report. The MDLP Committee has taken on more of a policy development role over the past year or two. The Board needs to maintain an oversight role as policies develop. The Board also needs to update its strategic directions with respect to MDLP.

The discussion resulting from the SLA session on information literacy will be continued at the Board’s November meeting.

Provincial Library is testing SharePoint, Microsoft’s document sharing software. The Information Technology Office (ITO) is providing this platform to the provincial government free of charge. Provincial Library is working with ITO to make this application available to the Board and partners in future.

Provincial Library is in the interviewing process for a Multitype Library Coordinator responsible for database licensing. [After the meeting, an offer of employment was accepted by Colleen Addison, a recent graduate from the University of Western Ontario]

It was suggested that the Board trademark its logo, at a cost of approximately $450.

### Sector Report

It was decided that sector reports are not required at every Board meeting. Board members are encouraged to send their reports to Elgin for inclusion in the Meeting Summary, if they would like.

### SLA Representative Report

Judith Silverthorne will be leaving her position as Executive Director on October 5, 2007. A celebration of her contributions will be held in Regina and invitations will be forthcoming. A search for her replacement is now underway.

The profit on the 2007 conference was approximately 5-6 thousand dollars. A decision has been made to give donations to the bursary in lieu of speaker gifts for the upcoming conference.

SLA is now actively working on a redesign of their Web site.

The SLA Board discussed the possibility of shared Executive Director functions, and other opportunities such as shared office space in order to build closer...
relations with SLTA. It was determined that this would not occur with the upcoming recruitment of Executive Director.

Brett Waytuck has been appointed to represent SLA on the CLA Copyright Committee. Colleen Murphy has stepped in as SLA Past President following the departure of Carol Shepstone for Mount Royal College in Calgary.

The print edition of Forum will end with the June 2008 issue. All future issues will be solely online and will be open access.

The SLA Board requests input on potential speakers or topics for the Education Institute sessions.

The joint conference planning (with Manitoba) is underway. The conference will be held May 1-3 in Regina. The Multitype Library Board is asked about their interest in bringing in a keynote speaker or hosting a session.

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**Wrap Up and Items for Communiqué**

- Representative workforce background paper
- Advocacy for Library Book Rate (refer to SLA advocacy kit)
- San Jose MLIS program
- September General Meeting update
- Digitization update

Draft and distribute communiqué before September 27th. (Elgin)

**Next Meetings**

The next meeting will be held November 22 and 23 in Regina.

The agenda will include a discussion on information literacy. The Board will begin preparing to update its strategic plan.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned.