The Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board met February 11, 2004 in Regina.

New Board

The Honourable Andrew Thomson, Minister of Learning, has appointed new representatives to the Multitype Library Board from around the province.

The new members are:
- Isabelle Butters (Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association)
- Lois Smandych (Saskatchewan School Board Association)
- Brett Waytuck (Special Libraries)

Re-appointed members are:
- Carol Shepstone (Saskatchewan Library Association)
- Frank Winter (Post-secondary Libraries)
- Joylene Campbell (Provincial Librarian)

Seven members also continue their term:
- Audrey Mark (Public Libraries)
- Stephanie Olson (School Libraries)
- Rian Misfeldt (Post-secondary Libraries)
- Lalita Martfeld (Special Libraries)
- Cheryl Avery (Archives)
- Phyllis Lerat (Aboriginal Libraries)

Multitype Database Licensing Program

The Board met with the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) Committee to discuss common areas of interest and communication strategies. The two groups concentrated their discussions on three main topics: communication and decision-making, future directions and growth of the MDLP, and roles and accountability. Communication will be facilitated by the creation of a communiqué from the MDLP, which will include member contact information. The MDLP Committee’s role is to communicate with the partners about new products, changes and other committee information. These issues will be reviewed in two or three years. The Annual General Meeting will continue to be the place where consultations with the sectors and where financial decisions will be made per the current partner agreement. This will also be reviewed at a later date. Other areas of concern were mentioned and will be dealt with at a future meeting.

Saskatchewan Library Association Conference Session

The Board, in conjunction with the MDLP, decided to sponsor a training session on the databases at the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) conference on Saturday, May 8, 2004. This session will include an overview of the MDLP, how to select databases for the specific users, features of each interface, and tips on searching skills and strategies.

Strategic Plan

The Board’s new five year strategic plan was submitted to the Minister of Learning, Andrew Thomson. It was then published on the Saskatchewan Libraries Web site: http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/multitype/strategicplan.html.

Digitization Forum

The Board is working with Saskatchewan Library Association to present a Digitization Forum on September 23, 2004 in Regina and September 24, 2004 in Saskatoon. This session will enable representatives from a broad spectrum of possible partners to come together to discuss their digital content interests and will include an information session on digitization standards. The desired outcome of the Forum is an alliance across the partners and a strategy for implementing a province-wide digitization program.

The next meeting of the Multitype Board will be held May 31-June 1, 2004 in Regina.