The **Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board** met September 25-26 and November 20-21, 2003 in Regina.

**Farewell to Board Members**

Merrilee Rasmussen, Hélène Stewart and Susan Powelson are leaving the Board. Their commitment to the library community and the people of Saskatchewan has been demonstrated through their years of service on the board.

An update on the Board membership will be announced when new board appointments are made.

**Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Board has selected Frank Winter as the new Chair and Carol Shepstone as the new Vice-Chair.

**Strategic Plan and Action Plan**

In September, the Board reviewed the strategic plan and developed an action plan that concentrates on recruitment and retention, the creation of a digitization session, the development of a Promotion Steering Committee and the formulation of standards and policies for interoperability of the multitype partners online. The Board finalized the strategic plan in November.

**Multitype Database Licensing Program**

The Board was updated on the revisions made to the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) partner agreement, which partner libraries have signed. It was decided that the current structure of partner agreements and decision making by consensus is appropriate. Financial decisions will be made at the AGM by the partners. Decisions will be made by consensus. Consensus is reached on a one member, one voice principle.

**Haycock Report**

The Board discussed the Haycock report and the implications for the Board’s discussion paper: *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together*. Among its recommendations, it commends the multitype library system. The report presents evidence that student scores increase in schools that have strong libraries. The Board is deeply concerned about this issue and urges Saskatchewan Learning to initiate Saskatchewan-based research on the link between school libraries and student achievement.

The Board will update *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together* based on their discussion of the Haycock report.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on February 12, 2004, preceded by a Board meeting on February 11. The AGM will be divided into a morning session, which will concentrate on the Multitype Library Board’s new strategic plan and an afternoon session, which will focus on the Database Licensing Program. There will also be a report from the Promotion Steering Committee and on the digitization session. The afternoon session will look at the budget, products and services, a financial report and how to deal with surplus(es) This will be a financial decision-making meeting, where decisions will be made by consensus. The Multitype Database Licensing Committee will present their recommendations. All those interested are encouraged to attend the AGM, but partner libraries are asked to designate someone to speak on their behalf for purposes of consensus decision-making.

**Digitization Session**

A digitization session is being planned. This session will enable libraries, archives and other information providers to come together to discuss their digital content interests. The desired outcome for the session is a process to design a province-wide digitization strategy.

The next meeting of the Multitype Board will be held February 11, 2004, followed by the Annual General Meeting on February 12 in Regina.

Information on MLB is available at www.lib.sk.ca/staff/multitype/ Or contact the board’s secretariat: Provincial Library, 1352 Winnipeg Street Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3V7 306-787-2355 arankin@prov.lib.sk.ca