The **Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board** met May 31 - June 1, 2004 in Regina.

**New Board Members**

Isabelle Butters (Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association) and Lois Smandych (Saskatchewan School Board Association) were welcomed to their first Board meeting.

**Promotion Steering Committee**

The Board received an update from the Promotion Steering Committee. The Committee has representation from all library sectors. They will be having their second meeting at the end of June. The outcome of the Committee is a communication strategy that all libraries can act on, using key and consistent messages.

**Cochrane Library Database**

There was a meeting with the Health Quality Council (HQC) and the University of Saskatchewan in April to examine ways to proceed with the purchase and delivery of the Cochrane Library Database despite the closure of the Saskatchewan Health Resource Centre. HQC is hiring a librarian to handle the training involved and it was noted that Public Libraries have the infrastructure to deliver the information to the healthcare practitioners. The Multitype Database Licensing Committee is planning to go ahead with a start date of July 1.

**Action Plan**

The Action plan was changed to reflect the strategic directions, goals and objectives of the Board’s updated strategic plan. The Board looked at the action plan to see what had already been accomplished in the past year, what is realistic to accomplish by the end of March and what the Board would like to accomplish in the future under each of the strategic directions.

**Digitization Forums**

The Board is working with the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) to present a Digitization Forum in the evening of September 22 and all-day September 23, 2004 in Regina and in the evening of September 23 and all-day September 24, 2004 in Saskatoon. The library community is greatly interested in working with a broad base of partners, including public sector, private sector, community and cultural groups interested in digitization. The Board would like to invite your organization as a potential partner to join the library community at the digitization forums to explore potential areas of collaboration. For more information and to register for the session, please see: http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/digitization/index.html.

In preparation for the Forums, the Board is conducting a survey about the issues, needs and benefits of digitization in the community. If you have not already done so, please complete the survey at: http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/digitization/survey.html.

**Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary**

The Board discussed the need for non-government funding for the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary with Judith Silverthorne, Executive Director of SLA. The Board decided to send a letter to winners of the earlier bursary in search of possible donations. The Board also suggested many other possible fundraising activities, such as auctions, planned giving, a challenge to the 1200 libraries in Saskatchewan, and more.

**Discussion Paper: Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together**

The Board discussed and revised their discussion paper: "Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together." They discussed possible benefits and uses of the discussion paper. It outlines what a multitype library system is for those both within and outside the library community. They decided that it helped to showcase the issues and accomplishments. The consensus was that the discussion paper needs to continue and it needs to be reviewed on a regular basis.

The next meeting of the Multitype Library Board will be held November 8-9, 2004 in Saskatoon.

Information on MLB is available at www.lib.sk.ca/staff/multitype/ Or contact the board’s secretariat: Provincial Library, 8-1945 Hamilton Street Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3V7 306-787-2355 arankin@prov.lib.sk.ca