The **Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board** met November 8-9, 2004 in Saskatoon at the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living Office.

**Saskatchewan Association for Community Living (SACL)**

The Multitype Library Board heard a presentation about the SACL’s website and its redesign by Dr. Rick Schweir and Karen Schweir. The presentation included discussion about the design process and the accessibility issues that occurred during the redesign. This discussion stemmed from the Board’s third strategic direction: *Connect libraries of all types to provide equitable access to and delivery of information*. The Board plays a leadership role in ensuring the way information is developed is appropriate, inclusive and easy for the public to use. The Board discussed two possible roles that they could play related to this direction including an educational role and a modeling role, especially with respect to digitization projects.

**Digitization Forum Report**

More than 100 people from libraries, archives, museums, associations, schools, and other groups attended the Forums in Regina and Saskatoon in September 2004. It was decided that there was a need for further consultation with potential partners regarding a Saskatchewan digitization alliance. There is also a need to create an inventory of current digitization initiatives in the province and of existing collections. Provincial Library will seek a contractor to undertake the inventory. An interim report on these efforts will be provided at the Multitype Library Board’s Annual General Meeting to be held on February 10, 2005.

**School Library Research and Development**

Delee Cameron, Director of the Instructional Resources Unit at the Department of Learning, spoke to the Board about current research and developments in school libraries. The Board is very concerned about the current crisis in school libraries and discussed how libraries contribute to student achievement as well as what role they could play concerning this issue.

**Discussion Paper: *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together***

The Board discussed and continues to revise their 2002 discussion paper: *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together*. The discussion paper outlines what a multitype library system is for those both within and outside the library community and identifies the issues and accomplishments.

**Promotion Steering Committee**

Julie Arie, Co-chair of the Promotion Steering Committee and Rian Misfeldt, as a Multitype Library Board representative, provided an update on the committee’s work. The committee met in June and October to discuss the potential of a province-wide campaign starting during Library Week 2005. The group also provided Provincial Library with three concepts to take to the design company. An advisory committee with representation from each of the sectors will meet to review the designs and will provide a recommendation to Provincial Library. The Steering Committee’s last meeting is in December and the work will be passed on to a new Implementation Committee, which Amy Rankin will chair.

**Multitype Library Board AGM**

The Multitype Library Board AGM will be held on February 10, 2005 at Wanuskewin near Saskatoon. The agenda will include updates on promotion activities, digitization initiatives and, if available, the discussion paper: *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together*. Other potential topics for the morning session include web accessibility and health information. The afternoon will be dedicated to the Multitype Database Licensing Program, which will be a financial decision-making session. Please watch for an invitation in December. If you would like to register now, please contact Amy Rankin (arankin@prov.lib.sk.ca).

The next meeting of the Multitype Library Board will be held February 9, 2005 in Saskatoon, followed by the AGM on February 10, 2005.

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