The Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board (MLB) held its most recent meeting on April 4, 2012 in Regina.

Chair and Vice Chair
Susan Baer was elected Chair and Brad Doerksen was elected Vice Chair to stand in for Susan on occasions when she is unavailable.

School Library Inquiry Project
The Saskatchewan School Library Association (SSLA) and the Ministry of Education are working on a strategic partnership called Constructing Understanding through Inquiry. Its goal is to support teacher-librarians in fostering inquiry learning through the development of professional learning resources that would facilitate the actualization of curricula in schools by engaging teacher-librarians as instructional leaders.

The Inquiry project has two phases: phase one is to develop and conduct a survey among educators in Saskatchewan; phase two is the development of a variety of professional resources to support teacher-librarians.

The Board decided that they need to learn more about the impact of digital technology on library services and agreed to invite Dr. Alec Couros to the next meeting.

MLB Discussion Paper
Most of the Board was not part of the original conversation about developing a discussion paper. They decided that the priority should be a short briefing-note style paper for the senior government officers, while a more in-depth paper for the library community could be completed later. The aim is to highlight the value added services provided by libraries, including supports provided to people in the community. The Multitype Development Unit was asked to prepare a draft of the two-page document for the next meeting.

MLB AGM (April 3, 2012)
The partners approved the renewal of all products as proposed by the MDLP committee. Library PressDisplay was added to the Core Collection.

The partners also agreed to upgrade to Novelist Plus and Novelist K-8 Plus and to transfer the following products to the Supplemental Collection: Index to Canadian Legal Literature, Newscan and Canada Info Desk.

The partners agreed that there would be no increase in partner contributions for 2012/13. The MDLP contribution amounts were adjusted for seven regional libraries and PALS. These new MDLP contribution levels to establish a new base amount for the future.

Three vendors were invited to demonstrate web-scale discovery layers: OCLC WorldShare, Summon by Serials Solutions and EBSCO Discovery Service. A number of partners expressed interest in these products, but a consortium-wide purchase is not feasible at this time.

The partners gave the Committee the authority to use any uncommitted surplus to fund the program’s growth and development at their discretion. The Committee was asked to communicate with all partners ahead of time about any purchases. The partners approved the proposed MDLP Policy.

Information on MLB is available at http://www.lib.sk.ca/Multitype-Library-Board Or contact the board’s secretariat: