What’s new at the Multitype Library Board?

Annual General Meeting
The 2014 AGM was held at the MacKenzie Art Gallery, Agra Torchinsky Salon on April 2, 2014. It was an opportunity for the community to come together to chart future directions for cooperation among the sectors.

49 people from libraries, archives and museums attended the Board AGM. In the morning Brett Waytuck, Provincial Librarian and Executive Director of Literacy Office, talked about libraries’ future roles in content production. Rob Zylstra, Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Information and Library Services (SILS), provided an update on future directions of SILS, including evaluating all current services, a common user experience across libraries, and an alternative discovery service.

Through co-operation, libraries contribute to the social and economic development of citizens of Saskatchewan.

Craig Harkema from the University of Saskatchewan presented on the latest Saskatchewan History Online (SHO) portal, as well as new collections added to SHO. SHO includes a wide range of cultural and historical materials from libraries, archives, museums and galleries. The Saskatchewan Archives Board newspaper project, part of SHO, is nearly ready for its launch. The first phase will include newspapers from the 1880s to 1914 to coincide with the centenary of WWI. The University of Saskatchewan will also hire students to translate headlines from community newspapers published in a number of languages.


2016 Saskatchewan Super Conference
Susan Baer, the MLB Chair, presented a proposal for a Saskatchewan Super Conference in 2016 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Multitype Library Board. Susan invited all library associations to participate. Volunteers are invited to please contact Barbara.Bulat@gov.sk.ca.

Strategic Planning
AGM attendees identified key MLB initiatives for the MLB Strategic Plan:
- Social media strategy and redesigned website for communication
- Broadening the SHO project
- Content producing with more partners
- Return on Investment, Saskatchewan evidence for outcomes and reporting
- Marketing more to other libraries

The MLB will finalize strategic objectives at its next meeting.

Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP)
At the MDLP Annual Meeting, partners agreed to renew all current products in the Core Collection and increase their overall contributions by 3 percent to cover the cost. Partners were invited to participate in a potential joint license for the EBSCO Academic Search Complete and Canadian Reference Centre as part of the MDLP Supplemental Collection.

Multitype Library Board Sessions at 2014 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference
Barbara Bulat and Michael Shires presented on a MLB session at the 2014 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference, which introduced the concept of
Saskatchewan multitype library system and introduced an environmental scan of other multitype systems in North American. It also highlighted MLB initiatives and potential areas of cooperation, with 25 attendees at the session.

Jack Ma hosted sessions featuring Gale Cengage, Britannica, EBSCO and ProQuest trainers – the daylong training workshop at the 2014 Saskatchewan Libraries Pre-conference, covered a range of relevant features from basic to advanced and highlighted recent changes to MDLP products. More than 30 people from public, school, and academic libraries attended the workshop, which helped refresh their knowledge of the resources in the MDLP Core Collection.

Multitype Library Board Appointments
Education Minister Don Morgan appointed five new members and re-appointed three current members to the Multitype Library Board on March 26, 2014. These members will serve a two-year term on the Board:

Suzy Bear, Librarian, Prince Albert Parkland Health Region – representing special libraries;
Melissa Bennett, Legislative Librarian, Saskatchewan Legislative Library – representing special libraries;
Allan Johnson, Library Director, Southeast Regional Library – representing public libraries;
Crysta Bradley, Archivist, University of Regina – representing the archives community;
Darren J. Okemaysim, Professor, First Nations University of Canada – representing aboriginal library services;
Jennifer Shrubsole, Collection Development Librarian, SIAST Library and Testing Services – representing post-secondary libraries;
Carlene Walter, Instructional Consultant, Saskatoon Public Schools – representing school libraries;
Brett Waytuck, Provincial Librarian

Thanks were also extended to four former Board members whose term recently expired for their service on the Multitype Library Board and their contribution to library cooperation in the province. They are Susan Baer, Pat Kolesar, John Murray and Edna Mirasty.

Orientation for new MLB members is planned for June, 2014. The next MLB meeting will take place on October 8, 2014.

New Multitype Library Services Coordinator
PLLO is pleased to announce the appointment of Regan Gunningham as the new Multitype Library Services Coordinator. Regan obtained her Library Information Technology Diploma (2003) from SAIT and MLIS (2009) from Dalhousie University. Regan started her library career in 2003 with Regina Catholic School Division as a cataloguer. After completing her MLIS, Regan worked as a librarian for the SIAST Kelsey Campus until July 2013. Over the past year she worked in the country of Qatar as the Electronic Resources Librarian for Weill Cornell Medical College – Qatar Campus. Regan is excited about returning to Canada to join the Multitype Library Development team.

Standards of Practice for School Library Learning Commons in Canada, 2014
Current and former MLB member Carlene Walter and Joanne Beltramini participated in producing Leading Learning: Standards of Practice for School Library Learning Commons in Canada, 2014. This publication represents a national collaboration of school library associations and leaders across Canada, and presents a model for the development and implementation of school library as a learning commons. It provides educators with a common set of standards of practice for moving forward, addresses the impact on education of new technologies, and provides practical approaches for all those engaged in creating successful 21st century school libraries in Canada.

Next Multitype Library Board Meetings
The Multitype Library Board will meet in Regina on October 8, 2014 at Provincial Library and Literacy Office.

Information on MLB is available at www.lib.sk.ca/Multitype-Library-Board/

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Saskatchewan Libraries
Successful communities through library co-operation.