What’s New at the Multitype Library Board?

June 2019

MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD (MLB) NEWS

The Board met in person in Saskatoon on May 1, 2019, and will next meet in Regina on October 1, 2019.

Multitype Database Licensing Program’s (MDLP) 2019 AGM took place in Regina on April 11, 2019.

The MLB website at http://mlb.libguides.com provides more information on Board initiatives.

TRAINING WEBINARS

PLLO hosted webinars in March 2019 highlighting the health databases Health & Wellness Resource Center and Health Reference Center Academic, as well as french-language periodical database Repère.

Missed a webinar? Watch the recordings on the Library Toolshed site.

LIBRARY TOOLSHED

The Library Toolshed is a repository of library training, programming and promotion resources developed by British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan libraries. The Library Toolshed now has an interface to allow libraries to share their policies.

NEWS

Provincial Archives on the move - The Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan announced its new location at the CBC Building in Regina’s Wascana Park in late February 2019. The physical moves from five locations will take place over the next year or so, beginning with the transfer of Saskatoon records in July 2019 followed by the move from the Hillsdale Street location in Regina in late summer/early fall. During this period, any disruptions to public services will be kept to a minimum and notices will be posted on the Provincial Archives website.

The Provincial Archives will be offering full reference service hours, five days per week, by late August 2019.

Saskatoon archival material -- The Provincial Archives has been working with the City of Saskatoon Archives and the University of Saskatchewan’s University Archives and Special Collections to examine archival collections of Saskatoon-based and/or University-based interest. This has resulted in transfers of material to those institutions. As well, records from certain split fonds have been transferred from the University Archives to the Provincial Archives.
Public Library Engagement -- The *Report of Saskatchewan Public Library Engagement* was released by the provincial government on January 10, 2019. This report summarized the work undertaken by the Provincial Public Library Engagement Panel across Q3 and Q4 2018. The report identified eight key priorities or concerns in Saskatchewan public libraries: Funding Structure and Predictability; a Provincial Public Library Strategic Plan (later reworded as a Sector Plan); the One Card, One Province system; Communication with the Provincial Library; Governance Training; Indigenization; the Value of Public Libraries, and; Legislation.

The subsequent online public reaction survey, which ran from January 10–25, 2019, received over 5,800 responses. The summary document for those responses, *Public Engagement on Public Libraries Survey*, was released on March 18, 2019. All eight key themes listed in the engagement report received at least 70% public support (marked as either Very Important or Somewhat Important), with four of those eight themes receiving at least 90% public support.

Both the Report and Survey summaries are available as PDFs on the saskatchewan.ca website.

Public library directors will be participating in the Ministry of Education’s upcoming work to establish a Saskatchewan Public Libraries Sector Plan, identified as a common theme in the Report mentioned above. There is, at present, no timetable established around the Sector Plan, but more details will be made available as the planning progresses.

Truth & Reconciliation Resources -- Saskatchewan School Library Association (SSLA) is a recipient of a grant from the Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation to continue with their digital curation of quality resources to support FNMI content, Treaty Education, and the ideals of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC): Calls to Action 2016. SSLA’s collection of K – 6 resources is available on their website. The new funding will allow the group to curate resources for grades 7 – 9.

Saskatchewan Library Association’s (SLA) AGM was held on May 3, 2019 in Saskatoon at the Hilton Garden Inn, Saskatoon SK. SLA welcomes new Board members, Amy Rankin, Darrell Yates, Nicole Bergen, Amber Daigneault, and Christina Winter.

SLA is extending its gratitude to retiring board members, Alison Jantz, Brad Doerksen, Alan Kilpatrick, Tony Murphy and Nina Verishagen for their contributions.

Marina Candeia joined SLA as a Research and Administrative assistant. This role is a shift away from contracting out administrative assistant duties.

University of Regina Library launched a new homepage in February, 2019, as part of the first phase of updating its website. Students, faculty, staff and members of the public were encouraged to provide their feedback through a short survey.
A Digital Preservation Policy was recently approved at the University of Regina: https://www.uregina.ca/policy/browse-policy/policy-GOV-070-007.html. This high-level policy outlines the roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of campus units in preserving digital assets having long-term value.

The province-wide public library ILS, Polaris, was updated system-wide to its 6.1 install on March 11, 2019. Aside from brief and expected interruptions to the email and telephone notification system, the upgrade went smoothly and successfully.

The University of Saskatchewan is evaluating e-resource subscriptions in light of constraints to its collections budget. The library is working to minimize the impact of the cancellation through several key principles, including usage analysis, and maintaining core strategic resources for teaching, learning and research. Stakeholder discussions with faculty and student groups across campus are ongoing. More information on this process is available online.

**PAST WORKSHOPS & EVENTS**

The One Book One Province, Saskatchewan Program (OBOP) launch was held at Government House on February 28, 2019. It provided an energetic introduction to the seven author tours and other scheduled events throughout the province. OBOP is an ambitious program that continues to gain support each year. The final event was held in Saskatoon at McNally Robinson in partnership with the bookstore and Coteau Books. The 2020 OBOP selection was announced at the SLA conference – A Geography of Blood: Unearthing Memory from a Prairie Landscape, by Candace Savage.

Saskatchewan School Library Association (SSLA) has celebrated its 60th Anniversary! Formed on April 18, 1959, the Saskatchewan Association of School Librarians (SASL) included the following in its stated aims: the promotion of the school library and school librarianship; the encouragement of the use of the school library within the curriculum and in the life of the school generally; and the encouragement of co-operation with all organizations concerned with strengthening the educational programs. Sixty years and several name changes later, the mission statement for SSLA still echoes the same principle which is to provide leadership for the improvement, development and promotion of school libraries. Current and past members celebrated this diamond anniversary at a social held on April 11, 2019 in Regina.

In April 2019, the Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists hosted the Canadian Conservation Institute’s Digital Preservation Workshop at the Moose Jaw Public Library.

Saskatchewan Libraries 2019 Conference was held in Saskatoon on May 2–3, 2019 at the Hilton Garden Inn. The theme for this conference was Libraries Transform which represents the transformative influence of libraries. Thanks go out for the hard work of conference coordinators, presenters and volunteers.

Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation’s Saskatchewan IT Summit was held on May 6-7, 2019 in Saskatoon. Teachers explored exemplary practices for teaching and learning with technology to support the actualization of Saskatchewan curricula. Elgin Bunston, Ministry of Education and Charlotte Raine, Multitype Library Board member, co-presented a session showcasing the online databases provided by the MDLP. Keynote presenters include Jennifer Casa Todd, a leading educator in the area of digital citizenship and technology integration, and Brian Aspinall, an award-winning educator, author, and STEM innovator.

SLA has completed participation in the Sask Culture sponsored Lifecycles Project. The assessment and improvement plan provided a timely foundation to begin a strategic planning exercise. The Board has completed a status review of the current Strategic Plan 2015-18 and identified four areas of strategic priority for the future. These strategic priorities are: communication and advocacy, stakeholder and member engagement, support educational & learning opportunities and sustainable healthy organization. Following member consultation, the plan will be completed and provide a framework for the organization for the period 2019-23.

During Archives Week in February, the Provincial Archives signed a collaboration agreement with the Société historique de la Saskatchewan outlining goals and commitments towards the development of French-language archival services and opportunities. The Société also offered two French-language archives workshops in April, 2019 hosted by the archives at the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**June 2019** -- June is National Indigenous History Month, with June 21, 2019 recognized as National Indigenous Peoples Day.

**June 24, 2019** -- The Annual general meeting of the Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists, North Battleford features a return of the “show and tell” session from last year’s AGM – short talks showcasing recent activities by archives and archivists in Saskatchewan.

**June 26, 2019** – OCULA Free Webinar: Academic Freedom. Please see The Partnership site for more details, including pre-reading and registration.

**Fall 2019** -- University Archives and Special Collections at the University of Saskatchewan Library are planning a summer digital project showcasing the Hugh “Howdy” McPhail collection of approximately 8500 aerial photographs. The photographs, largely taken in the 1950s, feature individual farms, towns and cities, and they provide valuable and comprehensive documentation of the mid-20th century in Saskatchewan. Once completed, the digital project will result in the full set of photographs being available online, with a physical exhibit at the Murray Library Link Gallery in the Fall of 2019.

**September 27-29, 2019** -- SLA is planning for Culture Days. Ten grants are provided for Culture Days special projects. 2019 grant application information is available online.
The Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples (LSSAP) committee will be holding a strategic planning session on June 10, 2019 followed by their regular meeting on June 11, 2019.

For more information on LSSAP activities visit their website: https://lssap.wordpress.com/

October 20-26, 2019 -- Saskatchewan Library Week. Twenty-five grants are available to participating libraries from SLA. Library Week is an important opportunity to profile libraries in our province. Libraries are encouraged to participate whether or not they are interested in applying for a grant. The theme for 2019 is “Libraries: Building the Future.” 2019 grant application information is available online.

Information on MLB is available at https://mlb.libguides.com/

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