



From the President's Desk

Fall 2018

Patricia Doucette

The Executive held its first in-person meeting on Saturday, October 13, in Halifax. It was fantastic to get the Executive together and discuss collaboratively the direction we want the association to take. An area of immediate concern is a decrease in APLA membership. Much discussion occurred around this issue with many ideas on how we can continue to benefit our current membership and how to appeal to new members. Stay tuned for some new and exciting ideas. We ended with a Media Workshop presented by Marlo MacKay. It was an exhilarating and productive day.

VP, President Elect Trecia Schell and I attended the *Summer Retreat of The Partnership*, a national network of provincial and territorial library associations, held at the OLA office in Toronto on August 13th. This forum provided a very rewarding and informative experience, especially as we talked about our individual and collective challenges, showcased our successes, and discussed future priorities and directions. This summer, we had an interesting discussion concerning each associations' strategic plans. Through this discussion both Trecia and I realized that APLA did not have a strategic plan and that our APLA Vision and Mission Statements need to be refreshed. Over the next several months we will be soliciting members for input.

VP, Newfoundland and Labrador, Amanda Tiller-Hackett had to step down for the rest of her term. The Executive decided to solicit an interim VP, as per our Procedural manual. We are happy to announce that Kate Shore joins the APLA Executive as VP, until June 2019.

The APLA website experienced a hacker attack just before the annual conference causing some problems for registration. The website had to be completely rebuilt. No personal member information was gained in this attack as this is kept in a separate database. A special thanks to computer science co-op student Miles Redgate and to Director of Academic Technology services, Marc Comeau, at Dal who fixed the Drupal APLA website. Also, a special thanks to Margaret Vail, our webmaster, for coordinating the recovery efforts.