

## From the President's Desk



**Summer 2019**

**Trecia Schell**



Dear all,

Sincere wishes you are enjoying some of our beautiful summer weather our Atlantic Provinces have to offer, at this time of the year.

It was a great week, and weekend in downtown St. John's, Newfoundland for our Annual APLA conference, and so many thanks to our gracious conference hosts, fantastic organizers and amazing venues. The stunning new Emera Innovation Centre on the Battery Hill Campus of Memorial University was the perfect setting, to experience 'the Tip of the Iceberg!'. We had a fabulous conference - from the inspiring opening keynote by Beth Maddigan (also our 2019 Merit Award recipient), to the very thought-provoking closing keynote by Kelly Brownbill (on ensuring authentic Indigenous Content). And with heartfelt gratitude, to all who stepped up at last minute to fill in for a few presenters who were unable to join us, due to family & health situations. Librarians, we're creative, innovative, resourceful and resilient!

And huge congratulations to all our 2019 award winners, it was a banner year – and we received so many outstanding nominations for all our awards, and grants. Please take a few moments to read the articles shared by our colleagues in this edition of the APLA Bulletin. We are truly blessed with having such an amazing and supportive paraprofessional and professional library community. Next year, we look forward to meeting up again in early June in the Annapolis Valley (just after the annual Apple Blossom Festival) in Wolfville, NS.

At the 2019 OGM we welcomed in all our new APLA Board members, who are all excited to create some great opportunities for our membership over this coming year – and we have a few projects already on the go. APLA has already switched to our [new website](#) and secure webhosting service, which will also enable us to efficiently manage our membership database (including issuing automatic notices of renewals). And, the new website will also permit us to host the APLA conference website with the enhanced capability to archive shared conference content (presentations, etc.). We encourage you to drop by and check it out. A huge ‘thank you!’ is extended to the APLA membership for supporting the investment, with great appreciation from Margaret (our ever diligent APLA Webmaster) and Erin (our new Memberships convenor).

Courtney, our new APLA Communications guru, has been active updating our online reach (great conference posts!) and will be seeking members to join the Communications Committee. Please do “like, follow, @mention and friend” us online.

Looking for some new ideas? On the Professional Development front, the Education Institute (EI) has some great webinars coming up this Fall, and is always looking for suggestions of topics and presenters. If you had a great APLA conference presentation experience, please consider suggesting a presentation or giving your presentation again – as a webinar for [the Partnership’s Education Institute!](#) (Besides an impressive note for your resume, presenters and co-presenters do receive an honorarium.)

In the coming year, APLA will be looking to clarify the situation with APLNB (the Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick and our APLA joint membership category status). Hopefully the provincial association will be revived. In the interim, for this year, APLA is not actively offering a joint APLNB membership, and will revisit issue if a formal address is needed to update the APLA Bylaws for next spring’s OGM. We will also need to add another join membership category, for the NSLA retired + APLA membership, to be brought forward at our 2020 OGM in the Spring.

We’ve also heard from the membership, and our volunteer Board members, about considering our opportunities and the steps needed to include the Webmaster and Communications convenor positions as elected positions. This year, we will also further investigate and develop a proposal to also be brought forward for the 2020 OGM.

And as always, we are actively seeking for ways to support, encourage and advocate for our members and the work of our libraries in the Atlantic Provinces. Please, feel free to [contact us](#) with your concerns, ideas, suggestions and input, we look forward to hearing from you.

Take care,

And hope to see you soon, at the library!

~ Trecia