

## From the President's Desk



**Emily Blackmore**  
**Spring 2025**

Hello APLA Membership! Happy spring to you all.

As the seasons change, so does the APLA Executive. This will be my last letter to you as the APLA President, with my term coming to an end at our OGM in June. With that in mind, I have been reflecting a lot on what APLA means to me, and what it can mean for our entire library community. Library Associations across Canada are important for many reasons we can list, but for me it comes down to community. APLA recently wrote a letter in support of New Brunswick's school libraries, after cuts to school library staff in New Brunswick's Anglophone School District West. We received a lot of supportive responses to this letter from the membership- a reminder that our advocacy work for library workers is important and timely. We have a voice and we can use it to stand up for our library communities and to speak out against things that go against the principals of librarianship. In this way we are stronger together as an association than we are as single individuals.

APLA will come together as a library community for our upcoming conference, taking place virtually **June 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**. There are lots of great sessions to attend, as well as our **OGM**, taking place on **June 12<sup>th</sup>**, which we encourage you as members to attend, even if you can't make the rest of the conference. With this year's theme being **Breaking Barriers**, we aim to explore how libraries are challenging traditional boundaries, embracing innovation, and empowering individuals and communities. There's no better example to me than what a library association can accomplish than those words - empowering us as library workers and communities to work and grow together.

Thank you to all of the outgoing executive members, whose work has been much appreciated over the last year. And thank you to all of our incoming volunteers - this association would not run without you. It is through your work, every day, in libraries across our four provinces, that the heart of APLA is kept beating.

Keep up the good work, and thank you very much.

**Emily Blackmore**

APLA President, 2024-2025