



APLA Vice President – New Brunswick Report May 2025

Marc Harper

As a former APLA President, I've given myself the creative freedom to approach the role of VP-NB with a little bit of an informal tone, all while respecting the guidelines and fulfilling my official duties.

I have maintained correspondence with my contacts in the province and encouraged them to reach out to me if, at any point in time, they believe APLA can help any ideas or initiatives. I have also reminded them when APLA Bulletins are upcoming. I also stressed the need for membership engagement and encouraged everyone to put in a good word for APLA sponsored groups, meetings, town halls, conferences, etc.

Along with other provincial VPs, we will be choosing recipients for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship.

My role as VP-NB over the last year has involved working with the Advocacy Chair (which is currently vacant). I worked with the Chair and APLA President last Fall to address the Halifax Public Libraries strike. The strike was thankfully resolved before APLA could make a statement, with the only drawback being that it prevented APLA from making its voice heard. More recently, APLA was able to release an open letter to government and school district representatives in New-Brunswick regarding upcoming budget cuts to school libraries.

My volunteer work with the Dalhousie Library and Information Alumni Association (DLIAA, formerly known as the School of Information Management Associated Alumni) has also intersected with APLA.

Finally, I am happy to continue in this role for another two years, even though I am also willing to cede my place to any fresh voice (especially a less established library worker) if APLA can find other volunteers.

Respectfully submitted May 13th, 2025,

Marc Harper
Vice President-New-Brunswick