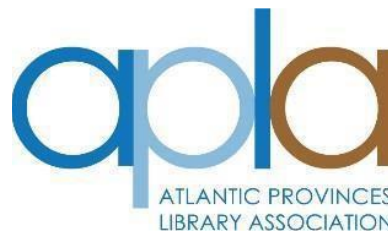


From the President's Desk



Fall 2019

Trecia Schell

Dear all,

Winter is just around the corner and before we bury ourselves in warm woolens, the APLA Board met on Saturday October 5, 2019 at the beautiful Atrium centre adjacent to the St. Mary's University Library to discuss our activities coming up for the next year. Many thanks to the SMU crew, Amy Lorencz (our Board Secretary) and Terri Winchcombe (our Board Treasurer) for hosting us. Almost all Board members were present, and a few Island folks joined us virtually - including the newest wee addition to the Woods Family in Newfoundland (we are seriously expanding the efforts of our Board Recruitment intentions). With our open-door meeting policy, Winston the campus cat, also wandered to say 'hi!'.

And we do have some exciting plans. The Board discussed many items – from joint memberships to interest groups, promotional swag and conference opportunities, and benefits to partnerships. And we are pleased to say that we have several initiatives underway.

APLA is an association for library workers because it is by library workers. Our association is about making personal connections in our field and supporting our professional development. Our PR & Communications Committee has been struck, we have added a Facebook to our suite of social media (please follow us!), and you can reach the committee convenor, Courtney Pyrke at contact@APLA.ca

Cate Carlyle, our VP Nova Scotia is heading up our Continuing Education Interest Group and has started recruiting members (as indicated on your APLA membership registration form). If you may be interested in joining, you can reach Cate at NS@APLA.ca.

Ann Smith, our President-Elect (and convenor of the Aims & Objectives Committee) is also examining the interest in several other Interest Groups (as indicated on APLA membership registration forms) and we should hear some more details soon too. If you have any questions, or if you're interested in forming an Interest Group – you can reach Ann at president-elect@apla.ca . If you have any questions about your membership registration, you can reach Erin Alcock, our VP Membership at membership@apla.ca .

Ryan Lewis, the Canadian Federation of Library Association's Board representative from the Atlantic Regional, also shared with us a comprehensive report from CFLA-FCAB's activities over the past year, their new strategic plan, and a look ahead to their upcoming national forum in April in association with the Manitoba Library Association. It has been three years since the formation of the new national library federation – and it is still going strong. There are opportunities for APLA members to participate in national activities on several committees. For information, please contact Ryan at rmlewis@mun.ca .

Many thanks to Jennifer Devlin, our APLA Games @Library convenor for an outstanding 2019 campaign – including some new Games @Library graphics created by the Design class at the NSCC Ivany Campus, that we are excited to be sharing with you soon! Jennifer can be reached at games@apla.ca .

The Finance Committee has several meetings, and we are well set for investments in our various association trusts, that support the association's grants and awards. The current budget is on track – although there is a slight decline in revenue from Education Institute webinars, but an increase in revenue from The Partnership JobBoard postings. The investment in the new membership registration software, and online payment system is paying dividends with ease of use and saving valuable time in report generations too.

Plans for the 2020 Conference are well underway, for early June on the campus at Acadia University in Nova Scotia (during Apple Blossom time in the Annapolis Valley). The call for conference presentation proposals is currently open. You can reach our growing list of amazing conference organizing folks at conference@apla.ca . And many thanks to all who participated in organizing - and attending our 2019 Conference on campus at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's. With the legendary, warm and welcoming hospitality of Newfoundland, the conference was a great success – including leaving a lasting generous legacy for the 2019 CODE/Grow-a-Library gift, and the opportunity to provide contributions to several APLA award trusts.

This coming season let's strive for work-life balance, and take some time to reflect. Is there an interesting project, or opportunity for professional development you'd like to explore? On behalf of the APLA Board, we encourage you to consider applying for the Memorial Award, nominating an outstanding colleague you admire for the Merit Award, and newer members - please consider applying to our 1st Timers Conference support grant too. Details and applications are available at www.apla.ca .

Take care,

~Trecia

APLA President, 2019-2020