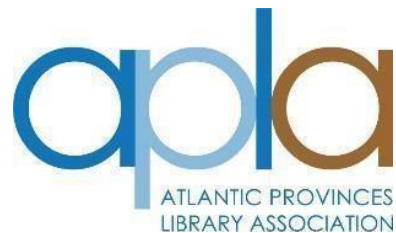


From the President's Desk



Fall 2020

Ann Smith



Welcome

We held our first Executive Meeting on Tuesday October 20th. Traditionally, this is our first in-person meeting, but this year we moved to a virtual setting. It is wonderful when the Executive get together and share our thoughts whether it is in-person or virtually. These are tough times for library and information workers, their families, and library associations. It is delightful to share and hear about the dedication, and enthusiasm from our members, volunteers, supporters, and allies who continue to work in the best interests of libraries and information workers and the communities they serve. Thank you to all our members for your continued support and work.

The Partnership

VP President-Elect Marc Harper and I attended the *Fall Retreat(s) of The Partnership*, a national network of provincial and territorial library associations. This year the Summer meeting was held in the Fall and moved to two shorter virtual sessions. These roundtables allowed member associations to share our collective challenges and exchange ideas. Maintaining membership is of course important and continues to be discussed at all meetings. However, there are additional challenges during covid-19 such as delays and cancellations in conferences whilst associations “go virtual”, and challenges moving to virtual OGMs, sometimes where the bylaws only allow for in-person voting. Associations are stepping up and seeking ways to support their members through these challenging times.

APLA Governance Working Group

At the Summer APLA Executive meeting, the Executive decided to form a working group to look at our governance structure. The governance structure ultimately serves the members. We last looked comprehensively at programs and structure in 2012 and were led by then President-Elect Lou Duggan. The terms of reference for the working group are provided by me and are to examine the governance

structure of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association to see if the current structure serves the needs of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. The working group will produce recommendations as to whether the governance structure should be modified, and if so, how it should be modified. Ideally, any potential changes will be brought to the 2021 OGM; however, given the challenges faced by all members and associations during covid-19 this may be a later OGM.

The governance working group is ably led by President-Elect Marc Harper and members are Erin Alcock (VP Membership), Cate Carlyle (VP Nova Scotia & Convenor of the Continuing Education Interest Group), Sarah Gladwell (APLA President 2010-2011 and current APLA Chair Memorial Awards Committee), and Cynthia Holt (APLA Secretary 2018-2019, Executive Director, CAUL-CBUA). We are grateful to these APLA members for agreeing to undertake this important work on our behalf and look forward to the results of their work.

Games at the Library

Special thanks to Jennifer Devlin our APLA Games @ the Library Convener who convened a socially distanced Games @ the Library this year. There was a total of 218 participants in the ballot for the grand prize. Denise Green Jesso participated at the A.C. Hunter Public Library in St. John's, Newfoundland, to win a \$175 card for EB Games.

APLA Grow a Library Committee

There are changes coming to the fundraising efforts for the fabulous Grow A Library Committee. Stay tuned for more information, coming soon!

Dalhousie SIM Association Day

Cate Carlyle (VP Nova Scotia & Continuing Education IG Coordinator) provided a virtual association display for the SIMSA Dalhousie School of Information Management.

APLA Conference - Cross-Pollinate, Cultivate, Change! Brassier des idées. S'épanouir. Changer.

The call for proposals is out! Please think about contributing or joining us and celebrating at the APLA conference for 2021. Please mark your calendars for Tuesday June 8th to Friday June 11th, 2021. Our Conference Planning Team is led by Conference Co-ordinator Maggie Nielson.

Thank you for your membership and support of APLA,

Ann Smith
APLA President 2020 – 2021
president@apla.ca