

From the President's Desk



Summer 2022
Cate Carlyle

As I write my first President's note for the APLA Bulletin, the privilege is not lost on me. It is an honour to serve the membership in this position and to contribute in some small way to this long-standing association which encompasses all of the Atlantic provinces and counts so many wonderful professionals in its membership! Quite a few years ago, when our beloved colleague **Lou Duggan** asked if I would be interested in contributing a piece to the APLA Bulletin, I had no idea how APLA would enrich my professional life and that my involvement would continue long term. It is our members—from students to new grads to professionals in all types of information centers, from retirees to lifelong members—who make this association great, who volunteer again and again to fill roles, to organize conferences, meetings, and professional development sessions, and who ensure that APLA continues to benefit us all. For that I thank each and every one of you.

To understate the obvious, these past few years have been difficult for everyone. But APLA members have continued to step up for our collective benefit. A shining example of this was our conference in June organized by APLA President-Elect **Krystal Dionne**. Many thanks to Krystal and her team of organizers, to the presenters, attendees, sponsors and vendors. While "**Bridging the Gap: Inclusion & Diversity in Libraries**" was a virtual conference once again, those in attendance were engaged and involved. **Joann Hamilton-Barry** received the APLA Merit Award, and **Ryan Dowd**, keynote speaker and author of "The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness", wowed us with his immersive virtual talk on understanding and serving clients with various challenges. Closing keynote speaker **Julie Pellissier-Lush**, an actress and PEI poet laureate, did not disappoint as she poignantly shared her knowledge of the seven sacred teachings as they were passed down to her. It is my hope that the **2023 APLA Conference**, hosted in New Brunswick, will be a reunion of sorts and that we are able to gather in person once again after so long apart. Fingers crossed!

Finally, my goals during my term as President are to increase membership and membership engagement, to advocate for our profession, our association, and the greater Partnership, and to continue to focus on diversity and inclusion. We will be initiating a membership drive soon, so stay

tuned for exciting details to come for both new and current members! In the meantime, please join me in welcoming (and thanking) the following new and returning members who have taken on executive and committee positions and who will be serving you for the next two years. Please reach out to them with any questions, concerns and suggestions, or if you would like to join any of the committees or interest groups and contribute your expertise:

- **Krystal Dionne**, VP President-Elect
- **Marc Harper**, Past President
- **Margaret Vail**, Treasurer
- **Evelyn Trainer**, Secretary
- **Jason Lee**, VP Membership
- **Vincent Grovestine**, Technology Coordinator
- **Agnieszka Hayes**, VP Nova Scotia
- **Chantale Saulnier**, VP New Brunswick
- **Susan Cleyle**, VP Newfoundland and Labrador
- **Emily MacIsaac**, VP Prince Edward Island
- **Nathalie Richard**, Communications Coordinator
- **Kathryn Rose**, APLA Bulletin Co-Editor
- **Kate McClintock**, APLA Bulletin Co-Editor
- **Nicole Rosenow-Redhead**, Advocacy Chair
- **Evelyn Trainer**, Memorial Award Chair
- **Martin Chandler**, Continuing Education Interest Group Convener
- **Agnieszka Hayes**, Information Literacy Interest Group Convener
- **David McDonald**, Government Information Interest Group Convener
- **Alexandra Tome**, Library Staff and Technicians Interest Group Convener

The Games @ the Library Committee Convener position remains vacant. Please contact an Executive member if you would like to take on this role and ensure that the program can run this year

As you soak up the last few weeks of summer and prep for the back-to-school rush, please enjoy this latest Summer issue of the APLA Bulletin. Many thanks to the team who puts it together and to the APLA members who contribute pieces to the publication. We see you, and we appreciate you.

All my best,

Cate

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APLA President 2022-2023