

From the President's Desk



Summer 2023 Krystal Dionne

Transitioning into the role of President after the Conference has been interesting... and exciting! I have been involved with APLA for 3 years now and have been amazed by the leadership, the comradery, and the commitment of members past and present. It can feel a bit intimidating to step into this role, but it also feels like an incredible privilege, and I can feel the support from every member of the current Executive and beyond and for that I am so grateful. This association benefits us all and it would not be possible without the dedicated volunteers who continue to organize events, share learning resources, discuss current affairs, and support each other. These individuals and all of our members guarantee the continued success and impact of APLA. Thank you!!

I'd like to extend a special shout-out to our fearless Conference Chair, **Colin Mackay**, and the amazing team who put so much effort into organizing our most well attended conference yet, bravo! The conference theme "**Community, Connecting, Caring**" was fully realized with a wide array of pertinent and interesting presentations. **Julie Wright**, host of CBC Morning in Saint John, NB started us off with her touching memories of the impact libraries have had on her throughout her life and **Thandiwe McCarthy**, Co-founder of the New Brunswick Black Artists Alliance, organizer for the NB Emancipation celebration Event, Advocate, and writer wowed me with his passion for social justice. It was an incredible and seamless virtual event, and I know that myself and many others went away with valuable information and inspiration to carry into our work and lives.

We are still looking for a team to begin the process of planning our next Conference, slated to happen in NFLD in June of 2024. If you have any interest in being a part of or leading this team, please reach out.

Our current Executive and Committee team is pretty special and I'm really looking forward to working and continuing to work with you all. Thank you for your time and energy in keeping this long running association in tip top shape! Please reach out to any of them with questions or if you would like to be involved in a committee:

- **Cate Carlyle**, Past President
- **Margaret Vail**, Treasurer
- **Colin Mackay**, Treasurer-Elect
- **Evelyn Trainer**, Secretary
- **Jason Lee**, VP Membership
- **Vincent Grovestine**, Technology Coordinator
- **Agnieszka Hayes**, VP Nova Scotia
- **Marc Harper**, VP New Brunswick
- **Susan Prior**, 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 Marcoux**, Advocacy Chair
- **Evelyn Trainer**, Memorial Award Chair
- **Martin Chandler**, Continuing Education Interest Group Convener
- **Agnieszka Hayes**, Information Literacy Interest Group Convener
- **Alexandra Tome**, Library Staff and Technicians Interest Group Convener
- **Katelyn Brown**, APLA Intellectual Freedom Interest Group
- **Catherine Gracey**, Games @ the Library Committee Convener

Currently the VP President-Elect position is vacant. We would love to hear from you if you have any interest in being a part of this wonderful association and will happily share details about what the position entails.

Stay tuned to hear about Games @ the Library, coming up in October. The Convener position has been unfilled for the past 2 years so we are thrilled to have **Catherine Gracey** on deck to bring it back for 2023, thank you!

I hope you are all having an excellent summer so far. I know that I've been enjoying some beautiful weather while exploring Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island with hopes of a trip over to New Brunswick to see family in the near future. Enjoy the rest of the Bulletin, a lot of folks contribute to its continued success, and it couldn't be pulled together without the skilled hands of our co-editors **Kathryn Rose & Kate McClintock**, so thank you all.

Warm Regards,

Krystal Dionne

APLA President 2023-2024