

From the President's Desk



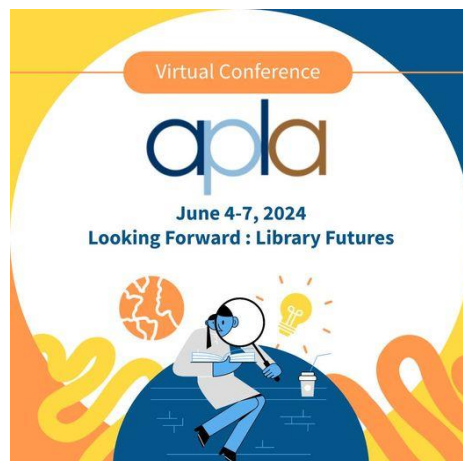
Winter 2024
Krystal Dionne



Firstly, I'd like to extend a huge welcome to **Emily Blackmore**, the newest member of APLA's Executive Team. Emily is the Children's and Youth Collections and Services Librarian at the Provincial Resource Library with Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries and has recently stepped into the role of President-Elect. We are thrilled to have her on board!!

I am also very happy to let you all know that our **2024 APLA Conference** will once again be held virtually from Tuesday, June 4th to Friday, June 7th 2024! The theme this year is: **Looking Forward: Library Futures**.

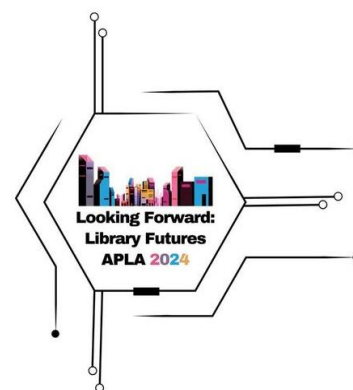
In the words of Neils Bohr, "Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future". Libraries have long served their communities as gateways to a wealth of resources and educational opportunities. As the world navigates the era of digital transformation, the emergence of artificial intelligence, COVID-19, and the ever-changing needs of communities, predicting where the future will lead becomes increasingly difficult. In our rapidly evolving world, libraries are continually adapting to meet the dynamic needs of their communities.



This year's conference theme encourages information professionals to ponder the evolving role of libraries in the 21st century. As libraries adapt to societal, technological, and educational changes, the APLA 2024 virtual conference aims to explore innovative strategies, emerging trends, and transformative ideas that will shape the future of libraries. We have recently sent out a call for proposals and I am really looking forward to reading the submissions that I know will be outstanding. To those interested in presenting at this year's virtual APLA conference, we have created a user-friendly online form. Find the form [👉 here](#). #APLA2024

Many thanks to the **NFLD Conference Committee** and the hard work that has already gone into and will continue to be put towards the planning process for this exciting event. I know that it takes a lot of time and energy to pull together the conference each year and am extremely grateful for this wonderful team of passionate volunteers:

- **Rachel Head**, Conference Chair & Literacy Services Librarian, Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries
- **Natasha Mercer**, Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries
- **Emily Blackmore**, Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries
- **Leah Griffiths**, Law Society Library Technician (NL)
- **Nicole Hackett**, Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries
- **Kathryn Rose**, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Erin Alcock**, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Wendy Rodgers**, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Kristine Power**, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Amanda Tiller-Hackett** - Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Susan Prior**, APLA VP NL
- **Krystal Dionne**, APLA President
- **Colin MacKay**, APLA Treasurer



I made it to Toronto in January to attend a day-long retreat organized by The Partnership to meet with other Canadian library association executive members. I learned about the amazing initiatives and advocacy work that other associations are doing across the country and we engaged in an informative and inspiring discussion about intellectual freedom. I wanted to share this new partnership which will benefit us all:

“The Centre for Free Expression (CFE) and the Canadian Federation of Library Associations-Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB) announce their partnership in a single, joint database of challenges to Canadian library materials, programs, displays, and room rentals. The Library Challenges Database is being hosted by the CFE and resides on its website.”

Awards Season is coming to a close, but you do have until **March 31st** so please consider nominating a colleague or applying for a scholarship in the near future. Find all the details [here](#). I hope that you enjoy the rest of the Bulletin, I truly appreciate all of the valuable contributions and the hard work that goes into creating this engaging and informative document, thank you all!

Warm Regards,

Krystal Dionne

APLA President 2023-2024