



APLA VP Nova Scotia Report May 2024 Agnieszka Hayes (she/her)

Initiatives

Over the last year, I have focused on discovering how APLA can best support school library staff. These efforts have resulted in meetings of the APLA Executive to discuss this topic, and efforts to solicit information from school library staff. School library staff play an integral role in K/P-12 education, yet their working conditions are not always ideal and conducive to them fulfilling their role. In order for APLA's support to be meaningful, it must both follow the wishes of school library staff, and address issues that matter to them. In an attempt to receive suggestions for supportive action, Cate Carlyle (Past President and former school librarian), Evelyn Trainer (Secretary and former school librarian), and I crafted a message to school library staff that requested their input regarding areas of their work, which they believe need change. This message was approved by the APLA Executive. On behalf of the APLA Executive, Krystal Dionne (President) sent the message to the APLA listserv, and Nathalie Richard (Communications Coordinator) posted it on the APLA social media channels. Nathalie also volunteered to compile all the responses as they came in. We received very few responses, and so I plan to continue work on this initiative next year, as I believe APLA could be a strong voice of support for school library staff and their invaluable work. I met with a retired school librarian, who offered me some suggestions for future work on this initiative, and so I plan on implementing these suggestions.

Liaising

I continued my work liaising with Nova Scotia GLAM colleagues.

Future

I have enjoyed working with my colleagues on the APLA Executive this year. I look forward to working with the Executive next year with both familiar and new faces on the team.

Respectfully submitted by Agnieszka Hayes