



AGENDA: The Saskatoon Public Library Board Meeting

MEETING DATE: February 17, 2021

MEETING TIME: 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Video Conference

PREPARED BY: Carol Cooley, Director of Libraries & CEO

A. Call to Order

We are meeting on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis and that as a Library Board we affirm our relationship with First Nations Peoples and Métis Peoples of this land.

A.1 Approval of Agenda

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Agenda of February 17, 2021, be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda.

A.2 Previous Minutes

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board Minutes of January 20, 2021, be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

A.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

B. Deputations / Presentations / Public Meeting

In accordance with Saskatchewan's *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (LAFOIPP), The Saskatoon Public Library Board wishes to inform the public that all information including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation provided for or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record. This information may be posted on the Saskatoon Public Library's website and/or made available to the public upon request.

C. New Business

C.1 Disclosure of External Commitments & Oath of Confidentiality

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board receives this report for information, discussion and direction.

C.2 Alice Turner McFarland Award

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board appoint a member of the Board to the Alice Turner Award Committee.

D. Reports from the Board

D.1 Chairperson Update

D.2 SLTA Report

E. Report from Administration

E.1 Director of Libraries & CEO Report

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Reports from Administration be received as information.

F. In-Camera Session

Recommended (move, second)

THAT the meeting move in-camera for the purpose of addressing matters pertaining to Labour/Personnel under Sections 16(1)(c) of LAFOIPP and addressing matters pertaining to Economic/Financial-Land (Section 17(1)(d) and (e) of LAFOIPP.

Board moved in camera at:

Board moved into public session at:

H. Adjournment

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board does now adjourn at (time) p.m. to meet again Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. by video conference or at the call of the Chair.



MINUTES of the

SASKATOON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

The Saskatoon Public Library Board met on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, by video conference.

Present: Brett Bradshaw (Chair) Elise Truscott
 Hilary Gough Heather Kuttai
 Cheryl Starr John Thronberg
 Markel Chernenkoff Carol Cooley, Director of Libraries & CEO
 Jim Siemens Rachel Landriault (recorder)

Regrets:

Guests: Janna Sampson, Director, Strategy & Communications

B. Bradshaw, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by H. Gough, seconded by H. Kuttai, **THAT the Agenda of January 20, 2021, be approved as circulated, including any items removed from, or added to the Agenda.**

Carried.

Consent Agenda

Moved by J. Thronberg, seconded by M. Chernenkoff, **THAT the Consent Agenda of January 20, 2021, be adopted as circulated, less any items requested for separate review and discussion.**

Carried.

Previous Minutes

Moved by H. Gough, seconded by C. Starr, **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board Minutes of November 18, 2020, be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made.**

Carried.

Moved by J. Thronberg, seconded by E. Truscott, **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board Minutes of December 16, 2020, be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made.**

Carried.

No declaration of conflict of interest.

DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC MEETING

No deputations, presentations or public meeting.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1 Committee Appointments

B. Bradshaw stated that each year, the Board reviews committee assignments and adjusts its membership as required. She gave the new board member, H. Kuttai, background information regarding the committees and liaison roles.

H. Kuttai indicated that her skills and experience would be more suited for the Personnel & Nominations Committee.

H. Gough, E. Truscott, M. Chernenkoff and J. Thronberg are on the Governance Committee. The Board Vice-Chair, J. Thronberg, chairs the Committee.

C. Starr, J. Siemens, B. Bradshaw are on the Personnel & Nominations Committee. The Board Chair, B. Bradshaw, chairs the Committee.

J. Thronberg is the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association (SLTA) Liaison.

C. Starr is the Friends of the Library Liaison.

Moved by H. Gough, seconded by C. Starr **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board approves the appointments of H. Gough, E. Truscott, M. Chernenkoff, and J. Thronberg to the Governance Committee and the appointments of C. Starr, J. Siemens, H. Kuttai and B. Bradshaw to the Personnel & Nominations Committee. The Board also approves the appointment of J. Thronberg as the SLTA Liaison and C. Starr as the Friends of the Library Liaison.**

Carried.

J. Sampson joined the meeting.

C.2 Board Bylaw on Conflict of Interest

C. Cooley stated that the Governance Committee met to discuss changes to the Conflict of Interest Bylaw. Based on the conversation, she amended the document and sent it to C. Bogad, City of Saskatoon Solicitor, for review and comments. C. Bogad confirmed that the statutory section initially included in the revised Bylaw does not apply to the Library. Therefore, she removed it from the version presented today. Per her discussion with J. Thronberg, Chair of the Governance Committee, he agreed to have the revised version come directly to the Board for approval.

H. Gough referenced page 34 of the Board package, item 1, Policy Statement, where it states “members must avoid any conflict.” Assuming this meant “conflict of interest,” she suggested adding the words “of interest” is defined in the “Definitions” section of the document.

H. Gough referenced page 34 of the Board package, item 7, Policy Statement: “the standard to be applied to determine whether a conflict of interest exists.” It speaks to personal gain, financial or otherwise. She noted that it does not align with their definition of conflicts of interest. She asked if the perception of conflict of interest is intended to be stricter than the definition.

C. Cooley confirmed that the perception of conflict of interest is intended to be stricter.

Moved by J. Thronberg, seconded by M. Chernenkoff, **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board approves the revised Bylaw as discussed.**

Carried.

C.2 Public Engagement - NCL

C. Cooley informed the Board that members of the public are excited about joining the New Central Library Advisory Committees. The number of expressions of interest was much higher than expected. SPL randomly selected candidates for each Committee. She believes the engagement on this project will be like no other seen before in the city. SPL is putting a significant amount of effort into making sure it gets the information it needs from the community and ensuring they keep its promise of designing this Library with them.

J. Sampson stated that since the Board agenda package was posted, she had received two media requests already, and the announcement hasn't been made yet.

Consultations

J. Sampson informed the Board that they have approximately 175 people assigned to 13 Advisory Committees. Most of the committees have an equal representation from organizations and the community. Some organizations are SPL programming partners, Read Saskatoon, Chamber of Commerce, Polytechnic, UoS etc. Some of the more diverse groups are representatives for accessibility, mental health, physical disability, cognitive disability etc.

J. Sampson indicated that the application did not include many screening questions because SPL didn't want to create barriers to participate. SPL decided to keep it simple and ask open-ended questions such as why they wanted to be on a committee, which was not a required field to submit their application. However, she does not recall receiving any submissions that did not have a response to that question. Some of the submissions were very personal and heartfelt. For example:

- They had no place else to go when they were growing up.
- How much the library meant to them.
- Parents wrote about what it meant to them to have the library as a resource.

J. Sampson stated that they are launching a new engagement website (SPLconnect.ca) on Monday, January 25, 2021, dedicated to engaging the broader community, which they intend to use over the next 18 months. She shared her screen and presented the website to the Board. Each of the five concept stages below would have a page similar to the Thinking Big page. Historical information will remain on the pages so people can look back at what has happened.

- Thinking Big / Concept Design
- Digging Deeper / Schematic Design
- Digging Deeper / Schematic Design Check-In
- Finishing Touches / Design Development
- Public Art / Design Development

J. Sampson informed the Board that the website would include a restricted space for the Advisory Committees' exclusive use for information sharing and collaboration purposes. Each committee would meet four times over the 18-month. However, there could also be times when the design team might wish to consult with a particular committee through this channel as well.

B. Bradshaw stated that the site looks fantastic, it includes great ideas, is robust in terms of how they can reach residents.

H. Gough asked if there was a mechanism in place to review and approve questions and photos the public post on the webpage.

J. Sampson stated that SPL invested in an online community engagement tool from “Bang the Table.” It is a content moderation end-to-end platform designed for community engagement. It includes 24/7 moderation of comments performed by a person. A person does not have to register to submit questions or photos. However, for tracking and information gathering purposes, they must register to complete a survey.

B. Bradshaw asked if this platform could be used for other projects.

J. Sampson responded yes.

C. Cooley stated that it could support SPL’s community inspired service model and many other organizational aspects.

Moved by H. Kuttai, seconded by J. Thronberg, **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board receives this report for information.**

Carried.

D. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

D.1 Chairperson Updates

B. Bradshaw informed the Board that A. Waugh of Formline Architecture was on McLean’s 50 most influential people, “Canadians who are breaking ground, leading the debate and shaping how we think and live.” The article included a nice callout on SPL’s new central library project and how it is bridging the cultural gap through design.

The article can be found here: <https://www.macleans.ca/rankings/canadas-most-powerful-people-2021/>

D.2 SLTA Report

J. Thronberg stated that SLTA met last week. Their 2021 AGM will be virtual and held in conjunction with the Manitoba Library Association and Saskatchewan Library Association joint conference scheduled for the week of June 13th, 2021. The Board is invited to attend.

The SLTA is hoping to take on an advocacy role for libraries in general in the Province. They suggested using social media to engage young people.

H. Gough asked what they want to engage young people on.

J. Thronberg responded nothing specific, libraries in general and that they are more than just books.

J. Thronberg also announced that the Minister's brief would be in June via Zoom, and therefore, everyone could attend.

B. Bradshaw asked if they had posted the schedule.

J. Thronberg responded, no.

C. Cooley stated that the Saskatchewan Library Association would publish the schedule, but it is not available yet.

J. Thronberg stated they might sponsor a speaker.

E. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

E.1 Director of Libraries & CEO Updates

C. Cooley informed the Board that they had obtained the Union's agreement to renew the MOA so SPL can continue operating as is until the end of June 2021. At that time, they will revisit where the community stands with the pandemic and progress on vaccination. FMCL is getting approximately 500 people coming through every day, excluding online activities, people downloading and engaging with programs or SPL's work with the vulnerable sector.

B. Bradshaw asked if there was a drop in online programming.

C. Cooley said she didn't think there was. SPL recently introduced a laptop lending program for shelters. They can check-out up to 20 laptops for their clients.

Moved by C. Starr, seconded by J. Siemens, **THAT the Report from Administration be received as information.**

Carried.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by J. Thronberg, seconded by M. Chernenkoff, **THAT the meeting move in-camera for the purpose of addressing matters pertaining to Economic/Financial – Land as permitted under Sections 17(1)(d) and (e) of LAFOIPP and matters pertaining to Labour/Personnel under Sections 16(1)(c) of LAFOIPP.**

Carried.

Board moved in-camera at 5:36 p.m.

Board moved into public session at 6:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J. Thronberg, seconded by H. Kuttai, **THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board does now adjourn at 6:42 p.m. to meet again February 17, 2021, by video conference or at the call of the Chair.**
Carried.

DRAFT



REPORT TO: Saskatoon Public Library Board
MEETING February 17, 2021
DATE: Disclosure of External Commitments
and Oath of Confidentiality
SUBJECT:
PREPARED BY: C. Cooley

A. Recommendations

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board receives this report for information, discussion and direction.

B. Background

The Board Resolution on Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment clarifies the responsibilities of the Board, and individual Board members, in addressing potential and actual conflicts of interest, or conflicts of commitment, that may arise in the course of the Board's carrying out its duties. The Resolution states that no less than annually, an opportunity would be provided for Board members to update their declaration with any new information that is relevant.

Also, the Board Resolution on Member Rights and Responsibilities states that members of the Board are expected to maintain the confidentiality of information received by them in their capacity as Board members, and to sign the Oath of Confidentiality annually.

C. The Saskatoon Public Library Strategic Plan

Goal #4 – Preparing for the future

D. Budget Impact

E. Attached

1. Board Resolution on Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment
2. Disclosure of External Commitments Form
3. Board Resolution on Member Rights and Responsibility
4. Oath of Confidentiality Form

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Cooley, CEO

BOARD RESOLUTION**Title:** *Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment***Category:** *Board Culture and Performance***Date Approved:** September 21, 2016**Date Revised:** January 20, 2021**Purpose**

This resolution clarifies the responsibilities of the Board, and individual Board members, in addressing potential and actual conflicts of interest, or conflicts of commitment, that may arise in the course of the Board's carrying out its duties.

Principles

- As Board members of a public institution, the SPL Board is accountable to the citizens of Saskatoon for wise stewardship and the effective governance of the Library.
- Members of the public must be confident that measures are in place to prevent and address potential conflicts of interest.
- The SPL Bylaws require that "members should conduct themselves so as to avoid conflict of interest or the appearance of conflict of interest, and must identify and disclose any real or perceived conflict of interest whenever it arises."
- Members of the Board are subject to the *City of Saskatoon Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees* and sections 2-39 and 2-41 of *The Legislation Act*.
- Conflicts of interest and commitment will arise from time to time and are not in themselves problematic, as long as they are disclosed and appropriately addressed. Conflicts of interest depend on the situation, not on character.

Definitions

- Conflict of Interest:* A member is in a conflict of interest where the member, a closely connected person, or a Corporation in which the member or a closely connected person has a controlling interest, [or] has a pecuniary [financial] interest in a matter before the Civic Board, Commission, Authority or Committee¹.
- Conflict of Commitment:* A member is in a conflict of commitment when the member's role as a Board member is, or may be perceived to be, incompatible with another role related to the member's professional, employment or other obligations.
- Closely connected person:* A Board member's agent, business partner, immediate family (spouse or partner, parent or child) or employer.²

Policy Statement

1. Members must avoid any conflict of interest, or the appearance of or potential for conflict between their own personal interests and commitments, or the interests of any closely connected person, and the interests of the Library and its Board.
2. Members of the Board will sign a *Disclosure of External Commitments* when they join the Board. Whenever the need arises, but no less than annually, an opportunity will be provided for Board members to update their declaration with any new and relevant information.
3. At every meeting of the Board and its committees, the agenda will include an opportunity for members to declare a conflict of interest.
4. Any declaration, and any abstention from voting because of it, shall be recorded in the minutes along with the reason for the conflict, in accordance with the Bylaws.
5. Signing officers who have a conflict of interest in any matter will not exercise their signing authority on documents or transactions related to that matter.
6. Board members and closely connected persons must not accept or solicit gifts, hospitality or special favours associated with their official duties and responsibilities except where such benefits would be within the bounds of propriety, a normal expression of courtesy or within the normal standards of hospitality.³
7. The standard that will be applied to determine whether a conflict of interest exists is that of an independent observer who might reasonably question whether the member's decisions are determined by considerations of, or result in, personal gain, financial or otherwise, or benefit to closely connected persons.

¹ As defined in the City of Saskatoon *Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees*.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

Procedures

1. Any Board member who perceives that he or she may be in a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest or commitment shall disclose the conflict of interest before the discussion of the matter occurs. The Board member must abstain from attempting, in any way, whether before, during or after the meeting, to influence voting on the matter; and will abstain from voting on the matter.
2. As outlined in the *City of Saskatoon Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees:*

Members must avoid any conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict between their own personal interests or the interests of a closely connected person, and the interests of the Civic Board, Commission, Authority or Committee or The City of Saskatoon. Members must attempt to avoid not only actual conflict but the potential for conflict.

A member is in a conflict of interest where the member, a closely connected person, or a Corporation in which the member or a closely connected person has a controlling interest, has a pecuniary interest in a matter before the Civic Board, Commission, Authority or Committee.

3. When a Board member perceives that another member has a conflict of interest that has not been declared, the Board member may raise the matter with the member of interest to encourage the Board member to declare the conflict. During a meeting, a member may request a recess to facilitate such a discussion.
4. If the member of interest agrees that a conflict exists, the member will leave the meeting during the discussion of the matter; and will abstain from attempting, in any way, whether before, during or after the meeting, to influence voting on the matter; and will abstain from voting on the matter.
5. If the member of interest disagrees, the member will remain in the meeting and participate fully.
6. When a Board member perceives that another member has a conflict of interest that has not been declared, the Board member may file a complaint and access the *Investigation Process* outlined in Section 4 of the *Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees.*
7. An improper gift or benefit should be refused or returned to the person offering it as soon as possible. If there is no opportunity to refuse or return an inappropriate gift or benefit, or where the refusal or return may be perceived as offensive for cultural or other reasons, the gift or benefit must be disclosed and turned over to The City of Saskatoon to make a suitable disposition of the item.⁴

⁴Ibid.

Related Policies, Procedures and Statutes

- *City of Saskatoon Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees*
- *Disclosure of External Commitments form*
- *Examples of possible Conflict of Interest on the Saskatoon Public Library Board*
- *The Legislation Act*

Review Cycle

At a minimum every three years.



DISCLOSURE OF EXTERNAL COMMITMENTS

I, _____, hereby declare that in addition to my role as Board member of the Saskatoon Public Library, I have the following commitments:

1. *Entities (including the Saskatoon Public Library) by whom I or persons closely connected to me are employed or have contracts, or which are owned by my family, and/or which may have or seek a partnership or business relationships with SPL:*

2. *Other organizations/corporations of which I or persons closely connected to me are officers or directors or major shareholders, and which may have or seek a partnership or business relationship with SPL:*

3. *Connection(s) with elected officials and/or candidates seeking elected office:*

4. *Other affiliations or commitments that may give rise to a real or perceived conflict of interest:*

I hereby certify that the information provided above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Date

Signature

BOARD RESOLUTION**Title:** *Board Member Rights and Responsibilities***Category:** *Board Culture and Performance***Date Approved:** September 21, 2016**Date Revised:****Purpose**

This resolution provides guidance to the Board on the rights and responsibilities of Board members.

Principles

- The Board has final authority under *the Saskatchewan Libraries Act* for the management and control of the Saskatoon Public Library.
- Under the Bylaws, Board members are trustees of a valuable public resource, with responsibility for effective oversight and advocacy.
- Board members should conduct themselves in all of their Board-related activity with the highest ethical standards, and promote a culture of trust and respect among Board members.
- Board members are legally obliged to uphold the duties that come with participation on a Board, including fiduciary duty, the duty of loyalty, the duty of care, and Board solidarity.

Definitions

Fiduciary Duty: The requirement that Board members, when exercising their powers as Board members, act honestly and in good faith with a view to the organization's best interests.

Duty of loyalty: The requirement that Board members must not place their own interest in conflict with those of the organization.

Duty of Care: The requirement that Board members exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

Board Solidarity: The requirement that individuals who serve on a Board speak with one voice and must support the decisions of the Board in their public statements and actions.

Policy Statement

1. Board members of the Saskatoon Public Library accept the following responsibilities:

- To support the mission and aims of the Library, and adhere to the bylaws and resolutions of the Board;
- To fulfil their role as a Board member, without remuneration, as described in *The Public Libraries Act, 1996*;
- To understand that the Board's role is one of policy making and oversight, and not management;
- To regularly attend regular and special meetings of the Board as required by the Bylaws, to come fully prepared for all meetings, and to participate actively in the Board's deliberations;
- To commit the time needed to attend and participate in regular and special Board and committee meetings as required by the Bylaws, and to come fully prepared for all meetings;
- To attend and participate in Board training and development sessions, and to seek additional training and information if needed to enhance their effectiveness as a Board member and their understanding of trends and issues facing the library;
- To recruit, assess, strengthen and support the CEO;
- To act as advocates and champions for the Saskatoon Public Library, seeking to understand the educational, cultural, social, recreational and informational needs of the community, and the library's role in meeting those needs, and promoting where possible legislation that promotes and extends library service;
- To be open-minded and respectful of the opinions of others, and to respect and support all decisions made by the Board as a decision of the whole;
- To bring diligence, creativity, decisiveness, tolerance and an appreciation for diversity to their role;
- To adhere to the City of Saskatoon's Code of Conduct for members of civic Boards;
- To conduct themselves so as to avoid a conflict of interest or commitment, or the appearance of such conflicts, as required by the bylaws; and
- To maintain the confidentiality of information received by them in their capacity as Board members, and to sign the Oath of Confidentiality at the January Board meeting.

2. Service as a Board member also carries with it the following rights:

- To participate in the discussions and decisions of the Board, subject to any conflict of interest;
- To request a recorded vote, a vote by a show of hands, or a vote by secret ballot;

- To abstain from any vote;
 - To be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the carrying out of duties as a Board member; and
 - To use library equipment (i.e., photocopiers, telephone, FAX and/or courier services), free of charge, in the course of performing Board-related activities or committee work.
3. Service as a Board member does not carry the following rights or privileges:
- a) To influence hiring or promotion decisions, or to provide individual direction to staff or to be involved in staff performance issues except as explicitly set forth in policy;
 - b) To provide direction to the CEO, or to take individual action regarding the performance of the CEO, except through the Board chair;
 - c) To speak on behalf of the Board without authorization from the Board;
 - d) To raise operational issues at the Board table; or to suggest, by their words or actions outside the Board room that they are at odds with the Board on which they serve or that they do not support the collective decision of the Board.

Related Policies and Procedures

- City of Saskatoon Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards
- Oath of Confidentiality
- Board Resolution on Reimbursement of Board Member Expenses
- Board Resolution on Protocols for Board Communication
- Board Resolution on Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment

Review Cycle

At a minimum every three years.



OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

All members of The Saskatoon Public Library Board are subject to the provisions of the *City of Saskatoon Code of Conduct for Members of Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees*. Section 22 of the Code of Conduct states:

Members are bound to maintain the confidentiality of information received by them as such in their capacity as members of such Civic Board, Commission, Authority or Committee. Information which is confidential, proprietary to the Civic Board, Commission, Authority or Committee or the City of Saskatoon or non-public must not be divulged to anyone other than persons who are authorized to receive the information.

As a member of the Saskatoon Public Library Board, I agree to abide by the requirement for confidentiality.

Date

Name (Print)

Signature



REPORT TO: Saskatoon Public Library Board
MEETING DATE: February 17, 2021
SUBJECT: Alice Turner McFarland Award Committee
PREPARED BY: C. Cooley

A. Recommendations

THAT the Saskatoon Public Library Board receives this report for information;

And that the Saskatoon Public Library Board appoint a member of the Board to the Alice Turner Award Committee.

B. Background

Each year SPL calls for applicants for the Alice Turner McFarland Award, the terms of which are outlined in the attached Award Overview.

A Committee consisting of one Board Member, the CEO, a Manager and a member of the Union meet to review applications and make recommendations to the Board.

C. The Saskatoon Public Library Strategic Plan

Goal 4: Preparing for the Future

Objective: Our workforce programs & strategies support excellence & diversity.

D. Budget Impact

Award amount varies based on the number of applications and nature of educational pursuit.

E. Attached

1. Alice Turner McFarland – Award Overview

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Cooley

Award Overview

In June of 1989, the Saskatoon Public Library (SPL) Board established the Alice Turner McFarland Award in honour of its retiring Chief Librarian.

This annual award is intended to support the professional development of permanent SPL employees enrolled in a library science master's program or a library technician diploma program. Applicants must have met the Award Committee's stipulated requirements.

The award will be administered by the Alice Turner McFarland Award Committee composed of: the Director of Libraries & CEO; a Board representative to be appointed by the Board Chair; a member of the library's management team to be appointed by the Library Director & CEO; and a CUPE Local 2669 union executive member or designate to be appointed by the union.

For the aforementioned award, the Award Committee will consider as candidates permanent employees, permanent casual employees, and permanent page employees who:

- a. have been employed a minimum of one year or completion of 1,885 hours in the case of a page or casual employee;
- b. have provided proof of registration to a master's program in library science from an accredited university, or to a library technician diploma program;
- c. have applied in writing to the Director of Libraries & CEO by May 1 of the awarding year (application forms are available on the intranet); and
- d. have agreed to return to SPL for at least one year following completion of the aforementioned program.

Should you drop out of the program, or leave less than one year after completion of your program, any funds received from this award must be repaid to SPL's Board within one year.

The recipient(s) of the award will be chosen and identified by the Alice Turner McFarland Award Committee each year. The decision of the Award Committee will be final.

For further information, contact the Executive Assistant 306.975.7528.

The Trustee

January 2021 Update

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Libraries during this time of lockdown and COVID have illustrated the importance of community and a shared public good.

The provincial public library system was created to “ensure equitable access to basic library services for all residents of Saskatchewan” (History of Public Library Development in Saskatchewan).

Basic library services have blossomed to include: computer usage, internet access, on-line libraries, legal information, service programming, and 3-D printing, to name a few of the services now available. Libraries as a source of equity of opportunity for our members cannot be overstated.

Our task is immense, our budgets limited, but with supportive leadership from our regional boards, and their directors we have done much with little.

Resources have always been limited and the SLTA must remain a strong representative voice for all libraries in this province. The Brief to the Minister continues to be that advocate voice of regions for sufficient funding and other resource needs. We are striving to make this Brief a dialogue with the Ministry that extends the conversation throughout the year.

The SLTA advocates for libraries throughout Saskatchewan and is creating an advocacy plan to start late spring 2021. The plan will target towns, cities, and rural municipalities as to the services supplied by their libraries.

Governance training for trustees will also be a priority with on-line zoom sessions being planned for spring and summer 2021. We are currently coordinating facilitators and content.

Communication, purpose, and a commitment to the public good of libraries is a shared responsibility and the SLTA welcomes working with regional libraries in this endeavour.

Steven Allen (Wheatland)
President

SLA CONFERENCE 2021

Manitoba Library Association (MLA) and Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) have partnered to plan and host a virtual conference in June 2021. For more information please visit: <https://saskla.ca/2021-conference-update>.

YOUR SLTA STRIVES TO:

- Promote and foster the development of libraries and library services in Saskatchewan.
- Provide for exchange of ideas and experiences among library board members through conferences and publications.
- Assist members by understanding their responsibilities as library trustees.
- Cooperate with associations of library trustees outside the province.
- Seek improvements and foster necessary changes in the legislation affecting Saskatchewan libraries.
- Work in close cooperation with the Saskatchewan Library Association.

SIDE THIS ISSUE

SLA LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

February 24, 2021 from 12-1pm

Speaker: Kaetlyn Phillips, University of Regina

Data Literacy in Everyday Media – This presentation will look at how to assist patrons with identifying good and misleading data in everyday mass media.

March 24, 2021 from 12-1pm

Speaker: Abby Wolfe, Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan

The ABC's of Dementia Friendly Libraries – Exploring how libraries can become more inclusive, supportive and accessible for people affected by dementia.

April 28, 2021 from 12-1pm

Speakers: Helen Power and Chau Ha, University of Saskatchewan & Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Creating a Library Community of Practice – Discussion on determining scope, facilitation & assessment, based on literature review & presenters experiences.

Each session will be 45-50 minutes, with time for a Q&A and/or facilitated discussion. For further information and registration please email Leslie Charlton: slaadmin@sasktel.net.

YOUR 2020/2021 SLTA BOARD

Chinook Region

Patrick Simpson, Tompkins

Email: r.simpson@sasktel.net

Lakeland Region

Dennis Taylor, Hafford

Email: dennis.taylor@littleloon.ca

Tel: (306)549-2165

PNLS

Vice-President Darlene Morin,
Pelican Narrows

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Parkland Region

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Saskatoon Public Library

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Wheatland Region

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