

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****March 15, 2018****SPL Librarian Wins International Award for Work on Indigenous Programs**

Longtime Saskatoon Public Library (SPL) librarian Jenny Ryan has been named one of *Library Journal's* 2018 Movers and Shakers for her extensive work incorporating Indigenous culture and perspectives into library programs.

Ryan, a winner in the Educator category, was one of only two Canadians chosen for this honour from the prestigious international journal. She has been with SPL for 12 years and is currently supervisor of the Mayfair Branch, although she has held many other positions during her time at SPL, including time spent as a children's librarian and young adult materials selector.

"Through all of it what was most important to me was to find ways to connect Saskatoon's various communities with library services," explained Ryan.

In facilitating these connections, engaging Indigenous communities has been a central focus for Ryan. She organized a major event at SPL to celebrate the creation of Equinox, a female Cree DC comic character. The event included performances by Indigenous drummers, dancers and a Skype Q&A with Equinox's creator, Jeff Lemire.

Ryan's connections with Indigenous communities have also led to her organizing programs around Indigenous storytelling, songwriting, and even stand-up comedy. Her work also aligns with SPL's strategic plan (2016 – 2021), which lists Honouring Indigenous Perspectives as one of four main organizational objectives.

"I've always been proud of my work and my creative approach to community engagement and it means so much to me to see it honoured in this way, and to know that the library community at large appreciates the importance of the work I've been doing," said Ryan. "It really is amazing to be part of this cohort of impressive librarians."

*LJ's* Movers & Shakers awards were established to highlight individuals whose work is transforming what it means to be a librarian. About 50 individuals around the world are recognized with this award annually.

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