

# Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board

## Annual Report for 2019-20

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This annual report is also available in electronic format here: <https://publications.gov.sk.ca>.

# Letters of Transmittal



*The Honourable  
Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.  
Minister of Education*

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.  
Minister of Education



*James Hope Howard  
Chair, Multitype Library  
Board*

The Honourable Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.  
Minister of Education

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.H. Howard' with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Hope Howard  
Chair, Multitype Library Board

# Board Overview

The Minister of Education, responsible for libraries, appoints members of the Multitype Library Board as outlined in *The Libraries Co-operation Act*.

## 2019-20 Board Members

### *Information Providers*

**Marilyn Belhumeur**, Librarian, Gabriel Dumont Institute Library, Regina; representing Indigenous library services.

**Tim Hutchinson**, Head, University Archives & Special Collections, University of Saskatchewan Library, Saskatoon; representing the archive community.

**Dale Storie**, Associate University Librarian, Content Management and Discovery, University of Regina Library, Regina; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association (starting October 4, 2019).

**Colleen Murphy**, Associate University Librarian, Teaching, Learning, and Research, University of Regina Library, Regina; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association (until October 4, 2019).

### *Post-Secondary Education Library Sector*

**Rian Misfeldt**, Director, Library & Testing Services, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Library, Regina; serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

**William Sgrazzutti**, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, University of Regina Library, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

### *Public Library Sector*

**James Hope Howard**, Library Director, Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System, La Ronge; serving in the position of a library director from a public library or public library system. James Hope Howard was appointed Board Chair in January 2018.

**Sandra MacArthur**, Wheatland Regional Library, Osler; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees' Association.

### *School Library Sector*

**Charlotte Raine**, Curriculum Coordinator, Good Spirit School Division, Langenburg; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

**Giselle Wilson**, School Board Trustee, Prairie South School Division; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

### *Special Library Sector*

**Susan Baer**, Transition Lead, Health Sciences Library, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system (starting October 4, 2019).

**Melanie Hodges Neufeld**, Director of Legal Resources, Law Society of Saskatchewan Libraries, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system (until May 1, 2019).

**Nancy Young**, Librarian, Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

### *Ministry of Education, Provincial Library and Literacy Office*

**Alison Hopkins**, Provincial Librarian, Regina.

### *Board Secretariat*

**Teresa Wright Eastley**, Multitype Library Services Coordinator, Provincial Library and Literacy Office, Regina.

# Multitype Library Board Overview

## Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board (the board) was established by *The Libraries Co-operation Act, 1996*. Its mandate is to advise and make recommendations to the Minister of Education on the development of the multitype library system and to facilitate the co-operative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan. The board provides a forum for appointed representatives of library sectors and information providers in Saskatchewan to meet and discuss ways in which they can co-operate to enhance their capacity and services.

*The Libraries Co-operation Act* mandates the Provincial Library and Literacy Office (PLLO), Ministry of Education, to act as secretariat to the board and to support the multitype library system through such activities as research, planning, program support and the establishment of policies and procedures.

In a multitype library system, the jurisdictional boundaries and separate administrative structures of libraries and information providers remain intact, but co-operative initiatives and working relationships enable them to collectively acquire information products and develop services that they could not achieve independently.

## Partners

The partners in the multitype library system include:

- the public, Prekindergarten to Grade 12 (PreK-12) schools, post-secondary and special library sectors;
- the PLLO, which has traditionally played a coordination role in the Saskatchewan library community; and,
- other information providers, such as archives, museums and Indigenous libraries.

Each partner has a unique role, mandate and client group that it serves. Partners vary in size, structure, governance, facilities, resources, functions and related government ministry. Dialogue facilitated by the board can help the partners to understand the nature of their differences as well as their similarities to co-operate more effectively.

## Information Providers

Other information providers have a variety of roles, mandates and client groups depending on their organizations. Archivists, for example, bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to a partnership with libraries, which makes their contributions particularly valuable, especially in the area of digital initiatives.

## Post-secondary Education Libraries

The role and mandate of post-secondary education libraries are to provide information and services supporting the information needs of students, faculty, researchers and staff of educational institutions, and to educate clients in the use and evaluation of information resources.

## Public Libraries

The role and mandate of public libraries are to provide people of all ages with equitable access to informational, cultural, recreational and educational materials and services. The public library system provides library services in over 300 branch libraries across Saskatchewan through seven regional library systems, a federated library system in the north and three municipal libraries in the cities of Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon.

## PreK-12 School Libraries

The role of school libraries is to support the learning program of the school and to meet the individual needs and interests of staff and students. School libraries play an integral role in supporting curricula by providing appropriate resources and actively involving students in the location, evaluation and use of information, ideas and resources.

## Special Libraries

The role and mandate of special libraries are to provide specialized information services for staff, students or members of a parent organization. Special libraries in Saskatchewan include government, corporate and private libraries, with specialized collections and subject-knowledgeable staff.

# Progress in 2019-20

## Multitype Library Board Projects

### Library Toolshed

The Library Toolshed ([librarytoolshed.ca](http://librarytoolshed.ca)) is a joint initiative between Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan libraries. It provides a space for library staff to share, download and comment on library training, programming and promotion resources. All of the materials in the repository are shared using a Creative Commons license which allows library staff to re-purpose any of the content. Over 90 new resources were added in 2019-20.

### Indigenous Subject Headings Project

The Multitype Library Board is embarking upon a collaborative project to develop modernized subject headings related to Indigenous peoples for use in cataloguing in Saskatchewan libraries. The goal of the project is to develop a vocabulary that can replace the outdated subject headings that are in common use in many library catalogues with subject headings that are more inclusive and culturally appropriate within a Saskatchewan context. A working group was assembled in March 2020 and work will commence in 2020-21.

### Saskatchewan Electronic Resources Partnership

The Saskatchewan Electronic Resources Partnership (SERP) is the longest running program of the board. It is a province-wide program in which participating libraries pool funds to purchase access to electronic information resources (see Appendix A for a list of partners). Libraries participating in this group purchasing and cost sharing program are able to access online resources they could not otherwise afford to subscribe to on their own. SERP was renamed in November 2019 and used to be called the Multitype Database Licensing Program.

The SERP supports equitable access to electronic library resources for Saskatchewan residents, including those who live in small urban, rural and remote areas. Through the SERP, libraries are working to ensure that all citizens have access to reputable information, a necessity for education, work and leisure in a global, knowledge-based economy.

Participants of the program include 10 public library systems, all PreK-12 schools, most post-secondary institutions, and multiple special libraries. PLLO supports the administration and coordination of the program.

#### *SERP Planning and Development Committee*

At their May 2018 meeting, partners agreed to form a new committee composed of two representatives from each of three main library sectors and from the Ministry of Education. The Planning and Development Committee (the committee) was implemented to: create standards for participation; select and evaluate new products; and coordinate sector participation and funding. The committee manages the program on behalf of partners in order to ensure proper governance, accountability, relevance and financial sustainability in the long term. During 2019-20, the committee met to review product evaluation results and develop policy.

#### *SERP Collection Highlights*

The SERP includes the Core Collection, composed of databases that can be accessed by all partners, as well as the Supplemental Collection, which includes databases to which only a subsection of partners subscribe.

The SERP Core Collection had a few changes in 2019. *ProQuest 360* was removed from the Core Collection as of July 1, 2019. The Gale Group updated several database names and all of their URLs in July 2019. They also removed *General Reference Center Gold* from their product list. Partner contribution rates increased by 2 per cent but this did not cover the entire cost of the Core Collection.

The total cost of the Core collection was \$540,260.84 in 2019-20 and \$532,860 in partner revenue was collected. \$7,400.84 was covered by a program contingency fund. At a 2020 meeting, partners reaffirmed their support for the current Core Collection.

## *SERP Usage Highlights*

- Magazine, journal, eBook, and reference database searches in 2019 decreased from the previous year.
- The decreased number of searches had little impact on the number of full-text articles accessed by users.
- The number of full-text articles retrieved in 2019 was consistent with the previous year and usage decreased less than 1 per cent. The desire for Canadian resources, such as *Canadian Major Dailies*, *CBCA Complete* and *CPI.Q*, drive the steady full-text usage from year to year.
- Britannica Online continues to provide excellent value and costs \$0.19 per search and \$0.13 per full-text article accessed.
- PressReader also provides exceptional value to Saskatchewan residents and costs \$0.34 per newspaper and magazine issue read.

## **Saskatchewan Digital Alliance**

The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance (SDA) is a cross-sector, co-operative body that exists to promote and facilitate the development of digital collections in Saskatchewan. The SDA was established by the Multitype Library Board to develop a base of knowledge and support that enables the public to locate and utilize Saskatchewan knowledge and information created through co-operative Saskatchewan digitization initiatives. Work during the year included revision of the SDA Terms of Reference and creation of a best practice resource guide.

## **Webinar Series**

The annual series of webinars launched in 2015 to highlight the features and content of online information resources continues to be popular. This training is offered to provide database orientation for new users, practical usage and search techniques for educators and library staff, as well as refreshers for more experienced searchers.

PLLO staff and database vendor trainers presented five webinars on four topics in 2019-20. Webinars were recorded and made available to the library and teaching community.

Eighty participants registered for webinars that showcased:

- *NoveList Plus*
- *PressReader*
- *Gale Primary Sources*
- *eLibrary*

Archived recordings of database webinars have received over 5,000 page views.

Webinar recordings may be viewed on the:

- Library Toolshed repository <https://librarytoolshed.ca/>; and,
- Multitype Library Board website <https://mlb.libguides.com/SERP/training>.

# For More Information

Information on Multitype Library Board is available at <https://mlb.libguides.com/mlb/index>.

Contact the board's secretariat:

Provincial Library and Literacy Office  
409A Park St  
REGINA SK S4N 5B2

Tel: 306-787-2976  
Fax: 306-787-2029

## Appendix A - SERP Partners (Financial Contributors)

### Post-Secondary Education Libraries

- Briercrest College and Seminary, Archibald Library
- Gabriel Dumont Institute Library
- RCMP Learning Resource Centre
- Saskatchewan Polytechnic Library
- St. Peter's Abbey and College Library
- University of Regina, Dr. John Archer Library
- University of Saskatchewan, University Library

### Provincial Library and Literacy Office

#### Public Libraries

- Chinook Regional Library
- John M. Cuelenaere Public Library
- Lakeland Library Region
- Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
- Palliser Regional Library
- Parkland Regional Library
- Regina Public Library
- Southeast Regional Library
- Wapiti Regional Library
- Wheatland Regional Library

#### School Libraries

- All PreK-12 school divisions and First Nation schools in Saskatchewan through the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education

#### Special Libraries

- Law Society of Saskatchewan, Library
- Ministry of Health, Strategy and Innovation Branch
- Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
- Saskatchewan Legislative Library
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
- Saskatchewan Research Council, Information Services
- Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, Stewart Resources Centre
- SaskCentral