Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board

Annual Report for 2021-22

Saskatchewan

Contents

This annual report is also available in electronic format here: publications.saskatchewan.ca.

Letters of Transmittal

The Honourable
Dustin Duncan
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, 2022.

Dustin Duncan
Minister of Education

James Hope Howard
Chair, Multitype Library Board

The Honourable Dustin Duncan
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, 2022.

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, 1996.*

2021-22 Board Members

Information Providers

Tara Million, Saskatoon; representing Indigenous library services.

Jeremy Mohr, Manager, Reference and Outreach Services, Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan, Regina; 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.

Post-Secondary Education Library Sector

Abigail Durkee, Library Director, Briercrest College and Seminary, Caronport; serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

Ann Liang, Assistant Librarian, Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon; 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 NuyeɁáh 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

Kathryn Bell, Teacher-Librarian**,** Weyburn Comprehensive School, Weyburn; 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, Coronach; 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, Manager, Library Services & Knowledge Management, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system (until February 17, 2022).

Alan Kilpatrick, Co-Director, Law Society of Saskatchewan, Legal Resources, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system (starting February 17, 2022).

(Vacant) 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/Executive Director, Regina.

Board Secretariat

Teresa Wright Eastley, Multitype Library Services Coordinator, Regina.

Multitype Library Board Overview

Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board (the board) was established by *The Libraries Co-operation Act, 1996* (the Act). 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 cooperative 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 cooperate to enhance their capacity and services.

The 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, while cooperative 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 providers of Indigenous library services.

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 understand the nature of their differences, as well as their similarities, to cooperate 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 is 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 is 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 is 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 2021-22

Multitype Library Board Projects

4 Seasons of Reconciliation Professional Development

The board sponsored multitype library sector access to the professional development module of the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation, an online resource that responds to and honours the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action*. 4 Seasons of Reconciliation is a self-paced, three-hour, multi-media course that provides introductory, foundational knowledge on truth and reconciliation. This is intended for Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners.

The board offered this professional development opportunity to Saskatchewan library, trustee and archive staff. At the end of 2021-22, there were over 190 registrations from library, archive, gallery and literacy staff and trustees. Course participants represent the diverse multitype system. There was no charge for approved learners as this cost was covered by the PLLO.

Community Meeting

The board periodically hosts a meeting of members of the Saskatchewan library and information provider sector communities. These meetings provide an opportunity to inform the multitype community of the work of the board, provide information on topics relevant to Saskatchewan libraries and share best practices. The 2021 Community Meeting was held virtually on April 21, 2021, to highlight equity, diversity and inclusion in libraries and information institutions. With the theme of "Reaching Out to Diverse Populations: The Diverse Stories of Saskatchewan", the meeting had the goal of providing better understanding of the challenges and experiences of welcoming people into Saskatchewan library spaces. Participants shared their appreciation for engaging sessions.

Indigenous Subject Headings Project

Under the leadership of the Multitype Library Board, work began on a collaborative project to develop modernized subject headings related to Indigenous peoples that are more inclusive and culturally appropriate within a Saskatchewan context. The goal of this project is to work with Indigenous people and groups in Saskatchewan to determine what terms are preferred and then translate them into subject headings that can be used by all libraries in Saskatchewan, including public, post-secondary, school and special libraries.

An outreach working group was formed during 2021-22 to guide engagements with Indigenous communities. A technical working group has met to examine how feedback from community engagements will be used to update subject headings and support the implementation of changes in the diverse libraries throughout the province. The PLLO provides facilitation and secretariat support for both groups and ensures coordination between groups as well as with government processes.

Library Toolshed

The Library Toolshed (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 repurpose any of the content. Some new resources highlight community engagement, inclusion and library programming.

Saskatchewan Digital Alliance

The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance (SDA) is a cross-sector, cooperative 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 through cooperative Saskatchewan digitization initiatives.

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. Libraries participating in this group-purchasing and cost-sharing program can access online resources they could not otherwise afford to subscribe to on their own. The SERP supports equitable access to electronic library resources for Saskatchewan residents, including those who live in urban, rural and remote areas. Through the SERP, libraries are working to ensure that all citizens have access to reputable information, which is 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. The PLLO supports the administration and coordination of the program.

SERP Planning and Development Committee
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 to ensure proper governance, accountability, relevance and financial sustainability in the long term. It is composed of two representatives from each of the three main library sectors and from the Ministry of Education.

During 2021-22, the committee developed a five-year collection plan based on research and focus group findings. The collection plan is a roadmap for the program that outlines collection and communication enhancements the committee intends to undertake.

SERP Collection
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. Electronic resource usage declined for many sectors in spring 2020, but this changed in 2021 when the school and special library sector usage rebounded.

Webinar Series

An annual series of webinars was launched in 2015 to highlight the features and content of online information resources. The series 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.

The PLLO presented six webinars during 2021-22. The webinars were recorded and made available to the library and teaching communities. More than 270 participants registered for the webinars that showcased:

- Library services and resources available to Saskatchewan teachers (Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and PLLO)

- PressReader

- NoveList Plus

- CBCA Complete

- High School Edition

- Library Science Collection and Service

Webinar recordings may be viewed here:

- Library Toolshed repository https://librarytoolshed.ca; and,

- Multitype Library Board website https://mlb.libguides.com/SERP/training.

For More Information

Information on the Multitype Library Board is available here: https://mlb.libguides.com/mlb/index.

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