

### PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

The SLTA held meetings January 15, and April 14, 2021. The AGM has been set for Tuesday, June 29, 2021.

A meeting with the SLA (Saskatchewan Library Association) was held by ZOOM in February. The SLA director and President, as well as the SLTA executive director and myself were present. Library advocacy and how to make our briefs to the Minister more impactful were the main topics of discussion.

The SLTA is focusing on three main mandates:

#### **Trustee Training**

An informational package for new trustees called "In a Nutshell", was sent to member library regions to help acclimatize new members to their board roles. The PLLO was also approached about the possibility of a workshop on these materials.

#### **Advocacy**

The SLTA will focus on advocacy as opposed to advertising in its promotion of libraries. Using materials and stories that highlight public library success collected from regions, the SLTA will prepare brief documents sharing the value libraries bring to their communities.

#### **Ministers Brief**

The shared creation of the Brief to the Minister by library regions and the SLTA has created a solid document which we be sharing in a dialogue with the Minister of Education. It is hoped that this brief will once again allow a dialogue that will create discussions that last well beyond the day of the brief. This year we will also be sharing the written Brief with other government Ministries that are impacted by public libraries. The Minister of Parks, Culture, and Sports; Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Seniors and Rural and Remote Health.

I would like to thank our executive director Nancy Kennedy and the SLTA board for all their support over the year.

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-2>.

### 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

## SLTA AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the SLTA will be held via Zoom. To join please use the following link:

**Topic: SLTA AGM Time: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 07:00 PM Saskatchewan**

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573261029?  
pwd=MUFWajh1Zk9Tb1Z0ZXJQRmxQWWZwZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573261029?pwd=MUFWajh1Zk9Tb1Z0ZXJQRmxQWWZwZz09)

Meeting ID: 825 7326 1029

Passcode: 090624

One tap mobile: 1-647-374-4685 Canada

*Meeting materials will be posted on our website prior to —[www.slta.ca](http://www.slta.ca).*

## YOUR 2020/2021 SLTA BOARD

### Chinook Region

Patrick Simpson, Tompkins  
Email: [r.simpson@sasktel.net](mailto:r.simpson@sasktel.net)

### Lakeland Region

Dennis Taylor, Hafford  
Email: [dennis.taylor@littleloon.ca](mailto:dennis.taylor@littleloon.ca)  
Tel: (306)549-2165

### PNLS

Vice-President Darlene Morin,  
Pelican Narrows  
Email: [morindar@sasktel.net](mailto:morindar@sasktel.net)

### Parkland Region

Sharon Armstrong, Wynyard  
Email: [town.office.wynyard@sasktel.net](mailto:town.office.wynyard@sasktel.net)  
Tel: (306)554-3391

### Saskatoon Public Library

Treasurer John Thronberg, Saskatoon  
Email: [j.thronberg@saskatoonlibrary.ca](mailto:j.thronberg@saskatoonlibrary.ca)

### Wapiti Region

Cheryl Bauer Hyde, Christopher Lake  
[cbauerhyde@gmail.com](mailto:cbauerhyde@gmail.com)

### Wheatland Region

President Steven Allen, Luseland  
Email: [sallen@sasktel.net](mailto:sallen@sasktel.net)  
Tel: (306)372-4647

SASKATCHEWAN  
LIBRARIES MATTER



## SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR SLTA BOARD MEMBERS—

### SANDRA MACARTHUR

I am a 'prairie girl' at heart, having been raised in the town which is once again my home. Over the years I have lived in all three western provinces but have always returned to Saskatchewan. I have two children (both married and living in Calgary) and three grandchildren aged 14, 11 and 4. During the pandemic I have become proficient at reading on-line to my 4 year-old grandson, a good thing the love of reading (instilled by my mother) is one of my favourite hobbies. Other lifetime interests include canoeing, camping, hiking, gardening, and camping. My husband is originally from Denmark, which means traveling, when we can get back to it, is also right up there among my favourite past-times and Europe one of my favourite travel destinations.

The love of reading plus my career of 30-years in Local Government Administration have resulted in a long-term involvement in the Library systems. This began when I moved to Herbert, SK in 1989. There I supported and volunteered with the Library during the 12 years I lived in the community. Periodically I would serve as a trustee representing the town on the Local Board (when there were no members of council available to fill that position).

A brief story from another province to put some spice into my Bio... In 2001 I had the opportunity to make a career move to Northern Alberta. During my interview for that position, when asked if I had questions for the panel, I said, "Where is the library?" When told there was no library, I responded with, "I will be more than pleased to assist in changing that situation if I am employed here." I was hired, met several community members that thought this was an excellent idea and, together, with support from the municipal district, the nearest regional library system and book donations from residents and friends back in Saskatchewan, we were able to make that dream a reality.

I returned to my hometown in 2004 and have served as a member of Osler local library board, on and off, since then. For several years, I was the town's representative to the Wheatland Regional Library (WRL) board. During that time, I was elected to the WRL executive and appointed to the SLTA executive by WRL. Currently I am serving on the Multitype Library Board representing the SLTA (appointed by the Minister). Sadly, my final term will soon be coming to an end.

Over the years I have learned so much and met so many amazing people! If any of our readers have an opportunity to participate in libraries in any way, I strongly encourage you to do so!!!



**SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR SLTA BOARD MEMBERS—**

**STEVEN ALLEN**

Public libraries were the source of much of my imagination as I grew up. I remember the first book I ever signed out in grade three, the Emerald City by Frank Baum. I developed a reverence for books and libraries that has never left me since. One of my favourite places to visit is still the public library.

Books were integral to my career as a science teacher and administrator and I developed a habit to read for pleasure, and information. I taught for 31 years in Luseland, Saskatchewan and was Saskatchewan Teachers Federation President for two years prior to my retirement. I had a keen interest in pedagogical research and strongly promoted science fairs as a way of developing the skill and processes of science in students.

My wife Arlette was a teacher as well and both of my children have moved into the profession, one teaching in Saskatoon, and the other in Calgary.

Upon retirement I became involved with the Luseland public library on its board, and within a short time became chair. A couple of years later I became involved with the Wheatland Library Board and have been involved in many committees, including personnel, governance, and on the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association. I have always had a strong interest in democratic governance and the factors that make it strong.

In addition to reading, I am an avid gardener and am on a lifelong pursuit to learn the cello. I have served on the SLTA for about four years and in the capacity of President for the last year.

