

Saskatchewan
Library Association



2025
ANNUAL REPORT
2026



SLA
SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

SASK LOTTERIES

Supported by a
Sask Culture
Program

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Communications & Research Coordinator

Yasmin Dar



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SLA is located on Treaty 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 territory and traditional homelands of the Métis — an important part of our past, and a crucial part of our future.

Saskatchewan Library Association

2025/26 Annual Report

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ROLES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Saskatchewan Library Association achieves its mission by fulfilling the following roles:

- Encouraging communication and fellowship among members, library staff, and others;
- Fostering continuing education for library staff;
- Identifying and responding to issues and situations that affect library staff and libraries;
- Supporting the principles, standards, and practices that are essential to the provision of excellent library service;
- Promoting cooperation among libraries;
- Promoting the awareness of libraries as integral parts of their communities;
- Partnering with other cultural organizations in promoting the cultural development of the province; and,
- Partnering with other library associations to achieve common objectives.

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS AND PRINCIPLES

The Saskatchewan Library Association is a province-wide, volunteer, non-profit organization designed to further the development of library service in the province. The Saskatchewan Library Association is a general rather than an exclusively professional organization that includes as members: individuals, institutions, and organizations who share a common interest in library service.

1. Library staff recognize the diversity of viewpoints in society; they encourage the free exchange of ideas and knowledge and as such they must operate in an environment of intellectual freedom.
2. Library staff nurture an informed democracy and a compassionate pluralism.
3. Library staff are committed to literacy and lifelong learning.
4. Library staff possess both general and specific knowledge and are skilled in its application in an information environment.

5. Library staff are key to accessing library resources and information and to fostering new experiences and discoveries.

6. Libraries are better supported by the unified efforts of an umbrella organization which can bring together key constituents — members, government funding agencies, other organizations, and library users.

7. Libraries of all kinds are fundamental to the cultural, educational, recreational, economic, and political wellbeing of the people of Saskatchewan.

8. Libraries are valuable assets to the community by adding to and reflecting the quality of life in the community.

VISION

To build an engaged library and information community that is an active force in Saskatchewan's social, economic and cultural development.

MISSION

To be the voice of and support for Saskatchewan's library communities

GOVERNANCE

SLA is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors and guided by input of the membership.

The organization has several standing and ad hoc committees, as well as representatives on provincial and national organizations. Four positions on the board are elected each year to provide continuity and stability.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT JAMES HOPE HOWARD

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) Board of Directors, it is my pleasure and my privilege to introduce and present to you the 2025–2026 Annual Report.

Saskatchewan Library Association staff and board members contributed diligently to the vibrancy of our organization throughout this past year, with quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors and a steady schedule of biweekly and monthly subcommittee meetings. In reading the reports of our many and varied subcommittees enclosed within this Annual Report, you will find that the excellent work and the valued contributions of our dedicated SLA employees and volunteers have continued our progress towards the goals laid out in our Saskatchewan Library Association 2023–2027 Strategic Plan, which are to:

- 1. Promote the value of libraries;**
- 2. Foster and champion equity, diversity and inclusion;**
- 3. Support capacity and efficacy within the library and information management sector;**



- 4. Build and leverage partnerships; and,**
- 5. Strive for operational excellence.**

The full 2023–2027 Strategic Plan is available via the SLA website, saskla.ca, for your reference and convenience.

Saskatchewan libraries and the Saskatchewan Library Association strengthened, supported and showcased the rich culture and community across Saskatchewan throughout the 2025–2026 year with engaging, enriching and fun programming, including but not limited to the spring One Book One Province program, the May Saskatchewan Libraries Conference, and summer programming partnerships with the Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association, the Saskatchewan Roughrider Foundation and the TD Summer Reading Club.

Alongside the above contributions and visibility at the provincial level, the SLA

continued to serve an active and supportive role in national librarianship as well, including our continued collaboration and cooperation with The Partnership, Canada's national network of provincial and territorial library associations, and with the Canadian Federation of Library Associations / Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB).

The fantastic work and the ongoing successes of the Saskatchewan Library Association would not be possible without the generous contributions of our funding agencies, SaskCulture and SaskLotteries, and we extend our deepest gratitude to the SaskCulture Board of Directors, to SaskCulture Outreach Consultant Paul Gingras, and to his hardworking team for their continued support.

This excellent library association that we share and that we have all built together stands strong and vibrant on the contributions, dedication and commitment of our valued members, partners, supporters and stakeholders all across the province of Saskatchewan. I wish to extend my warmest thanks at this time to all of the volunteers on our Board of Directors and our subcommittees, to our Individual and Institutional Members who contribute to and participate in SLA programs and events, and to all of the volunteers, presenters, exhibitors and sponsors who together make our annual Saskatchewan Libraries Conference such a success and a triumph each year.

On behalf of the Board and membership of the

SLA, I also wish to extend particular thanks to SLA Executive Director Tina Kleisinger, Program Coordinator Milena Džordeski, outgoing Communications & Research Coordinator Yasmin Dar, and incoming Communications & Research Coordinator Marielle Escover for all their fantastic work. (All the best to Yasmin in her next chapter!) The strength and talents of our wonderful team have contributed greatly to the success of the SLA throughout this past year, and we as a province are truly fortunate to boast this caliber of organizational excellence.

“This excellent library association that we share and built together stands strong and vibrant”

I have been proud, honoured and fortunate to have served as the President of the Association through 2025–2026 as it has strengthened and championed all of our libraries across all of our sectors, and I hope that you will join me in looking forward with great excitement to another successful coming year for the Saskatchewan Library Association across 2026–2027.

Yours sincerely,



James Hope Howard



TREASURER'S REPORT MICHELE FEDYK



It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for the Saskatchewan Library Association for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. This has been a productive and meaningful year for the Association.

Thank you to Saskatchewan Lotteries and SaskCulture for their continued financial support. Annual funding enables the Association to provide leadership, services, and support to all types of libraries across Saskatchewan. Through this work, we contribute to enriching the lives of residents throughout the province. Libraries remain essential to the educational, cultural, recreational, socio economic, and well-being of our communities.

I also wish to acknowledge and thank our library, cultural, and community partners and sponsors. Your partnership, program support and commitment allow for us to enhance Saskatchewan communities and promote the value of libraries as part of the culture of the province.

The Association continues to maintain a strong financial position, with adequate resources in both general operations and reserves to meet current obligations and future commitments.

“Libraries remain essential to the educational, cultural, recreational, socio economic, and well-being of our communities.”

The annual audit for the year ended January 31, 2026, was conducted by RDS Chartered Professional Accountant Prof. Corp., and the audited financial statements accompany this report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT **TINA KLEISINGER**

I am pleased to highlight the achievements reflected in the 2025 Annual Report for the Saskatchewan Library Association. The year brought continued growth, meaningful engagement, and success across our programs and partnerships, reflecting the strength, resilience, and collaborative spirit of Saskatchewan's library community.

“The year brought continued growth, meaningful engagement, and success across our programs and partnerships”

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Library Association, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to Sask Lotteries for their continued support. Your financial assistance enables the organization to advance Saskatchewan's library and information community and, through libraries, serve



diverse audiences of all ages, socio-economic backgrounds, and cultures across the province. My many thanks to SaskCulture Consultant; Paul Gingras for his valued support and service to the organization.

Efforts to maintain strong member value remains at the core of SLA's work. In 2025, SLA supported a wide range of opportunities for engagement, networking, and professional development. Initiatives such as the Peer-to-Peer Mentorship and Forums and the career & student awards complemented the Continuing Education Grants, webinars, the Provincial Libraries Conference, and numerous library program grant funding opportunities. Together, these initiatives strengthened the sector's professional capacity and served to promote excellence across Saskatchewan's library community.

SLA is grateful to all of the Saskatchewan libraries and members, we serve—this

organization exists because of you and for you! SLA also acknowledges the many community partnerships that help extend its reach and amplify the benefits delivered to Saskatchewan's information and library community. Conference and programming partners continue to play an essential role in this shared success. The Association proudly celebrates its partners at the conclusion of this report, recognizing their invaluable support and the pivotal role they play in advancing and enriching Saskatchewan's library and information community.

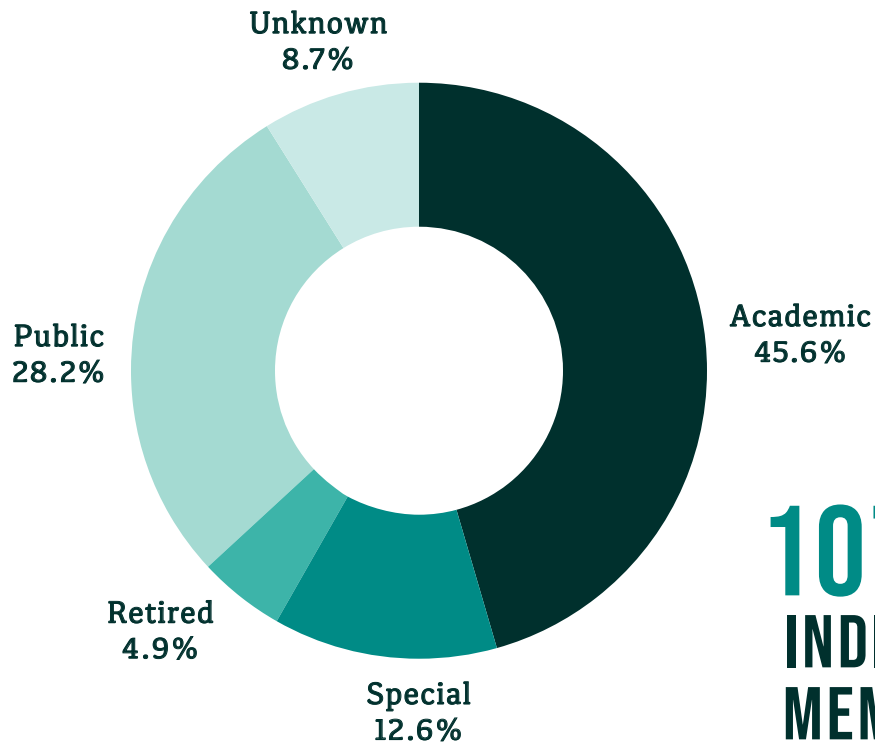
The Association's values continue to align with the mandates of several external cultural and educational organizations throughout Saskatchewan. I am grateful to the many representatives who serve on external boards and working groups and who have highlighted these collaborations within this report. Their leadership ensures strong alignment between SLA's priorities and the broader goals of lifelong learning, diversity, inclusivity, and equity across the province.

Finally, I offer heartfelt thanks to the many dedicated SLA volunteers. Each year, our committees come together with enthusiasm and commitment to serve and enrich Saskatchewan's library and cultural communities. Your expertise, time, and passion allow SLA to operate with significant influence and impact across the province.

On behalf of the SLA team, thank you for supporting our commitment to Saskatchewan's libraries and the communities they so meaningfully serve.

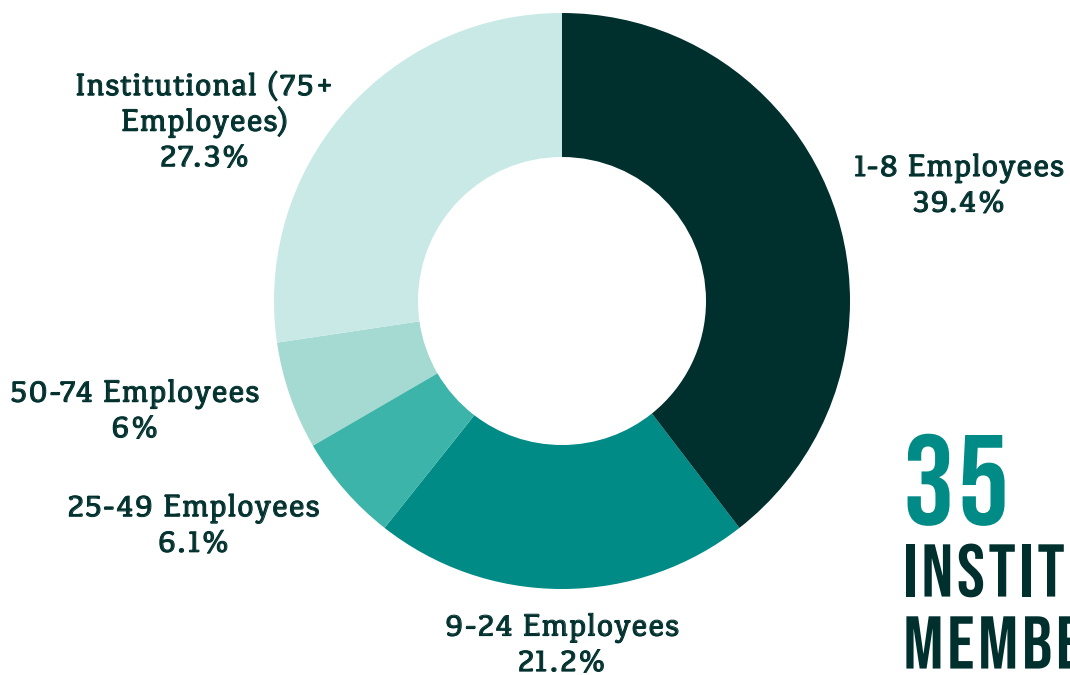


Individual Members By Library Type



107
INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERS

Institutional Members By Size



35
INSTITUTIONAL
MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP REPORT YASMIN DAR

SLA Communications &
Research Coordinator

As membership levels throughout the 2025-2026 fiscal year remain steady, this past year has been a time of stability and an opportunity for reflection as we lay the groundwork for future growth.

Following last year's rise in membership levels, the Communications and Engagement Committee has furthered their efforts in seeking new ways to build a stronger, more connected community of members while re-imagining access-points for new membership engagement. Over the past year, our membership levels have remained firm providing a strong foundation for the future growth of both individual and institutional membership.

With a focus this year on increasing organisational visibility, promoting new member resources, and developing more accessible pathways for member support and feedback, we have implemented several initiatives that align with these objectives. Some new additions this year are expanded



membership benefits, new member surveys, comparative research, material and resource updates, and multi-platform membership campaigns. Additionally, the SLA has increased their community engagement work through the ongoing development and execution of several in-person activities.

“This year has been an opportunity for reflection as we lay the groundwork for future growth.”

It has been a pleasure to serve the library community during my time with SLA. I would like to thank the all of the SLA committee members, board members, staff members, partners, and the diverse body of individual members for their invaluable support, guidance, and tireless effort in building our vibrant community!

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MORGAN KELLY

Chair

Thank you to current committee members: Desirae Munro (Wheatland Regional Library), Elaina Lawn (Campion College), Emily Dubé (Alex Robertson Public Library), Eric Bews (Prince Albert Public Library), Jennifer Doede (Regina Public Library), Shela Hirani (University of Regina), Scott Murray (SILS), James Hope Howard (SLA President), Yasmin Dar (SLA) and Tina Kleisinger (SLA).

Thank you to outgoing members Chau Ha (Saskatchewan Polytechnic), Oksana Moshynska (Saskatoon Public Library) for your time and effort with the committee.

We were pleased to welcome 6 brand new members to the committee to begin the 2025-26 year and are appreciative of the ideas and experiences our new members bring to our meetings.

For Freedom to Read Week (February 22-28), we once again hosted the Bail Out the Banned Book contest on social media, encouraging



people to engage with banned and challenged books. We had just over 170 entries, with steady engagement throughout the week. In addition to this social media campaign, portions of the 2024 SLA Advocacy Toolkit were championed during Saskatchewan Library Week (October 12-18), with a focus on patron advocacy for libraries.

“The Advocacy Committee continues to grow and work towards initiatives that will help further library advocacy throughout Saskatchewan.”

Our largest development was the request for and an inquiry into an Intellectual Freedom

Subcommittee. Discussions regarding the subcommittee were held with Advocacy, the SLA board, and at the 2025 AGM at the SLA Conference in Saskatoon. The subcommittee is now moving forward and will be further developed in 2026.

The Advocacy Committee continues to grow and work towards initiatives that will help further library advocacy throughout Saskatchewan. Thank you again to all of the committee members for your valuable insights and dedication to the group.



PRISON LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE MARIKA HUNTER

Chair

Thank you to committee members and volunteers: Gina Brandner, Maria Cruz, Charley Hall, Alan Kilpatrick, Ruby Lindsay, James Richards, Hannah Sackville, Jo Shepherd, Kaetlyn Phillips, Carolann Streett, Angela Youngman and Yasmin Dar. Thank you also to our partners in the correctional facilities and Turning the Tide Bookstore in Saskatoon.

“We are extremely pleased to have made significant progress on establishing a functioning physical library at Regina Correctional Centre.”

Over the past year, the Prison Library Sub-Committee continued providing reading materials to incarcerated individuals at Regina Correctional Centre (RCC), White Birch



As the Sub-Committee continues advocating for incarcerated individuals' right to access library services in Saskatchewan, it is important to note the rising levels of Indigenous overrepresentation in provincial custody. Indigenous people are incarcerated at rate 19.4 times higher than non-Indigenous people, which concerns us deeply and informs our work.

Remand Centre, and Paul Dojack Youth Centre (PDYC). This was possible through a steady supply of donated books from community members across the province and \$4,000 of new materials. We were able to work directly with educators at PDYC to fill a high volume of requests from their students, including puzzles, comics, novels, and bookmarks.

We are extremely pleased to have made significant progress on establishing a functioning physical library at Regina Correctional Centre. With support from correctional staff, we were able to arrange multiple on-site visits to sort, shelve, categorize, catalogue, and otherwise create a library system and space. After finalizing this initial set-up, the PLSC will continue working with prison staff and inmates to expand and improve the collection and eventually introduce other services. Apparently, this will be the first library at Regina Correctional Centre in over twenty years.



CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE CARA BRADLEY

Chair

Thank you to committee members: Cara Bradley (Chair), Yuri Forbes-Petrovitch, James Hope Howard, Oksana Moshynska, Kaetlyn Phillips, Robert Thomas, and Christina Winter.

The Continuing Education Committee is mandated to:

- **Develop and promote continuing education opportunities for members.**
- **Promote and adjudicate applications for Continuing Education (CE) Grants and consider and recommend new continuing education initiatives to the Board.**
- **Ensure that related policies and guidelines remain current and relevant.**
- **Appoint a sub-committee to adjudicate award applications.**



During the 2025–2026 reporting period, the Committee awarded three Conference Attendance Continuing Education Grants through the February 2025 competition and two Organization Continuing Education Grants in November 2025. The Committee increased its efforts to raise awareness of CE funding opportunities among members and is preparing to review Spring 2026 applications following the February 15 deadline.

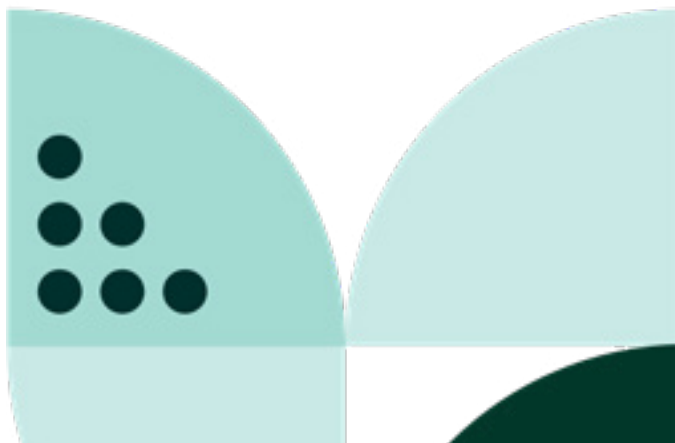
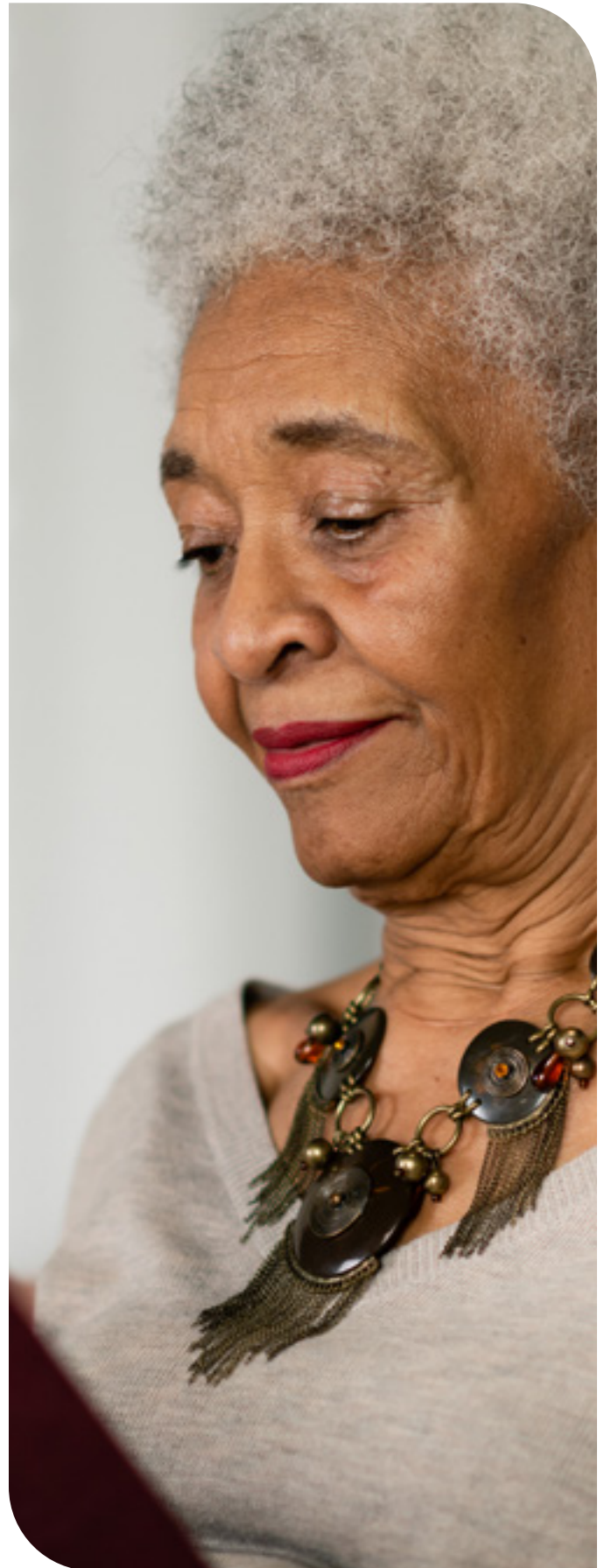
In this fiscal year, the Committee delivered the following webinars:

- ***Tokenism and Appropriation vs. Cultural Appreciation***, presented by Zane Arnott and Malvina Rapko from the Saskatchewan Intercultural Association.
- ***Strategies for Anti-Racism in the Workplace & Community***, presented by Zane Arnott and Malvina Rapko from the Saskatchewan Intercultural Association.

- ***Strong Foundations to Reading***, presented by Nazneen Akhter Ahmed and Becca Abbott from Foundations Learning & Skills Saskatchewan.
- ***Copyright Update 2025***, presented by Christina Winter (University of Regina) and Kate Langrell (University of Saskatchewan).
- ***Modernizing Library Reading Programs for Adults***, presented by Devon Stoltz from the University of Toronto.
- ***AI, Bias and Libraries: Expanded Edition***, presented by Veronica Ramshaw from the University of Regina.

At the time of writing, the Committee is actively pursuing additional continuing education opportunities for members.

The Committee extends its sincere appreciation to all CE session presenters for generously sharing their time and expertise in support of members of the Saskatchewan Library Association. We also wish to acknowledge and thank Milena Džordeski, Yasmin Dar, and Tina Kleisinger in the SLA office for their knowledgeable and dedicated support of the Committee's work.





AWARDS SUB-COMMITTEE ROBERT THOMAS

Chair

SLA is pleased to give out several awards each year to reward individuals and organizations who are furthering libraries and literacy in Saskatchewan, and to encourage students pursuing a career in library services.

In 2025, the sub-committee adjudicated 10 applications for the Maureen Woods Education Bursary, Indigenous Student MLIS Education Bursary, and Mary Donaldson Award of Merit. The worthy award recipients are proudly published in the report.

I wish to extend my thanks to the Committee and look forward to continuing our important work together.

Barbara Nelke, Cara Bradley, JoAnn Murphy, Kimberley Hintz, Milena Džordeski.



COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DANIELLE RAYMOND

Chair

Thank you to committee members Brad Doerksen, Cara Bradley, Christina Winter, Jason Redshaw, Lisa Worobec, Sam McPherson, James Hope Howard and Yasmin Dar.

The committee has focused on multiple projects supporting communications and engagement of SLA members and the library community at large this year.

Membership Benefits Promotion and Review

The committee undertook an informal comparative review of the current membership benefits to ensure their value to members. We have supported making the most of opportunities to clarify existing benefits and



enhance how they are communicated to existing and potential members.

“We encourage all individual members to explore these spaces, contribute to ongoing conversations, and continue to strengthen these valuable peer-to-peer resources.”

Communications Support

As needed throughout the year, the committee provided support to the Communications & Research Coordinator on various projects and initiatives. This included offering

feedback, sharing ideas, and assisting in the development of outreach materials.

Peer-to-Peer Resources

Building on last year's work, the committee continued efforts to foster participation in the SLA member forums. We introduced new discussion topics and promoted the forums through SLA's social media. SLA's Mentorship Program was well received and will be offered biennially to allow for larger cohorts. We invite all individual members to explore these spaces, contribute to ongoing conversations, and continue to strengthen these valuable peer-to-peer resources.

Sincere thanks to the committee members who have previously served and those who have recently joined us!



PROGRAMMING REPORT MILENA DŽORDESKI

SLA Program Coordinator

Thank you to all the Program Committee members for their time and dedicated work to SLA Programming: Tawn Marshall, Emily (Wong) Dubé, Morgan Kelly, Katherine Wagner, and James Hope Howard.

Many program highlights took place in 2025, throughout our vast province:

In January 2025, SLA awarded eleven libraries with grants to help them provide suitable programming for families in their communities, reflecting the 2025 Family Literacy Day theme “Learn to be Green, Together.”

2025 National Indigenous Peoples Day

Grants were awarded to six libraries across the province to commemorate the national holiday on June 21 in celebration of Indigenous People, their cultures, languages, and traditions. SLA gratefully acknowledged funding support for these grants by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Government Relations, Indigenous and



Northern Relations, First Nation and Métis Relations Unit.

Summer Children’s Storytelling & Performer Tours

Thanks to SaskTel’s generous sponsorship of \$5,000, SLA provided twenty-two grants of up to \$300 to support diverse in-person programming in libraries across the province over the months of July and August. Their summer activities included a book promotion with an author reading, a reading contest, ceramics class for kids, crafts from around the world, a scavenger hunt featuring storybook covers and literary characters, and an introduction to Métis culture with a local author. Libraries welcomed Therapy Animals, Magic Shows, and the returning “Mr. Eric’s Saskatchewan Summer of Fun Tour.”

Culture Days

Culture Days took place from September 19 to October 12, 2025, raising the awareness,

accessibility, participation, and engagement of Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. SLA provided eight grants to libraries to celebrate their communities' rich culture with engaging and meaningful activities.

“Many program highlights took place in 2025, throughout our vast province”

Book Spine Poetry Contest

Every fall, SLA's popular Book Spine Poetry Contest draws participants in four different age categories from all over the province. Last year, we received 280 entries, a slight uptick from last year; of those, 78 were submitted by adults, 111 by teens (most entries received!), 82 by children ages 9-11, and 9 by children ages 5-8. The poems were adjudicated, and three winners in each category received McNally Robinson Booksellers' e-gift cards as prizes, bypassing Canada Post strike.

Saskatchewan Library Week

Saskatchewan Library Week was proclaimed by the Minister of Education and celebrated during October 12-18, with the theme of "Libraries Open Doors,". SLA gave thirteen grants of up to \$250 to libraries who engaged their patrons in diverse programs.

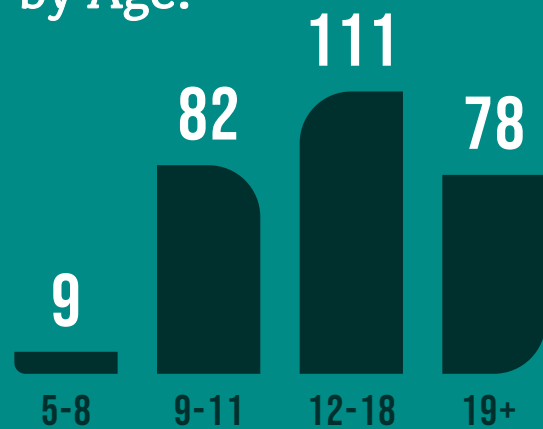
22 SUMMER PROGRAMMING GRANTS

13 SASK LIBRARY WEEK GRANTS

11 FAMILY LITERACY DAY GRANTS

280 BOOK SPINE POETRY SUBMISSIONS

2025 Book Spine Poetry Contest Submissions by Age:



REGIONAL PARK PASS LENDING PROGRAM

The Regional Park Pass Lending Program is a partnership program between the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA), and the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA).

In 2025, the program ran successfully for its the fourth year!!

Throughout the summer of 2025, 861 regional park passes were made available on loan to Saskatchewan library card holders.

The program aims to enhance knowledge of and visitation to 307 library branches in Saskatchewan and nearly 100 regional parks! The program provides equitable access to Saskatchewan's beautiful nature.



PASS DISTRIBUTION

Library	# of Branches	# of Passes
Chinook Regional Library	31	66
Lakeland Regional Library	32	62
Palliser Regional Library	20	42
Parkland Regional Library	55	50
Southeast Regional Library	46	125
Wapiti Regional Library	44	66
Wheatland Regional Library	45	80
Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System (PNLS)	12	50
Prince Albert Public Library	2	15
Saskatoon Public Library	9	145
Regina Public Library	9	145
University of Regina Library	1	10
University of Saskatchewan Library	1	5
Total	307	861

ONE BOOK ONE PROVINCE REPORT COLLEEN MURPHY

Chair

One Book, One Province, Saskatchewan (OBOP) aims to increase literacy and to create a reading culture by providing opportunities for residents to become more socially engaged in their community through a shared story. OBOP encourages Saskatchewan's social, economic and cultural development while supporting libraries and collaboration.

This year's selection was dee Hobsbawn-Smith's, *Bread & Water*, a multi-award-winning "collection of farm to table essays that tackles floods, the plight of refugees, aging gracefully, cooking methods passed down through the years and more." Wishing to create a kitchen party at each venue and believing food a community-building spirit, dee baked 1000 cookies and brought them to each event.

Minister Hindley proclaimed "One Book One Province" month.



Her Honour the Honourable Bernadette McIntyre, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Honourary Patron for OBOP graciously hosted the launch event at Government House on March 27, 2025.

Tour locations included:

April 2 - Saskatoon - Saskatoon Public Library and the University of Saskatchewan Libraries

April 7 - The atrium, Momentum Café (C.J. Katz and Sam Macaig), Innovation Place, U of R

April 9 - Turning the Tide Bookstore, Saskatoon

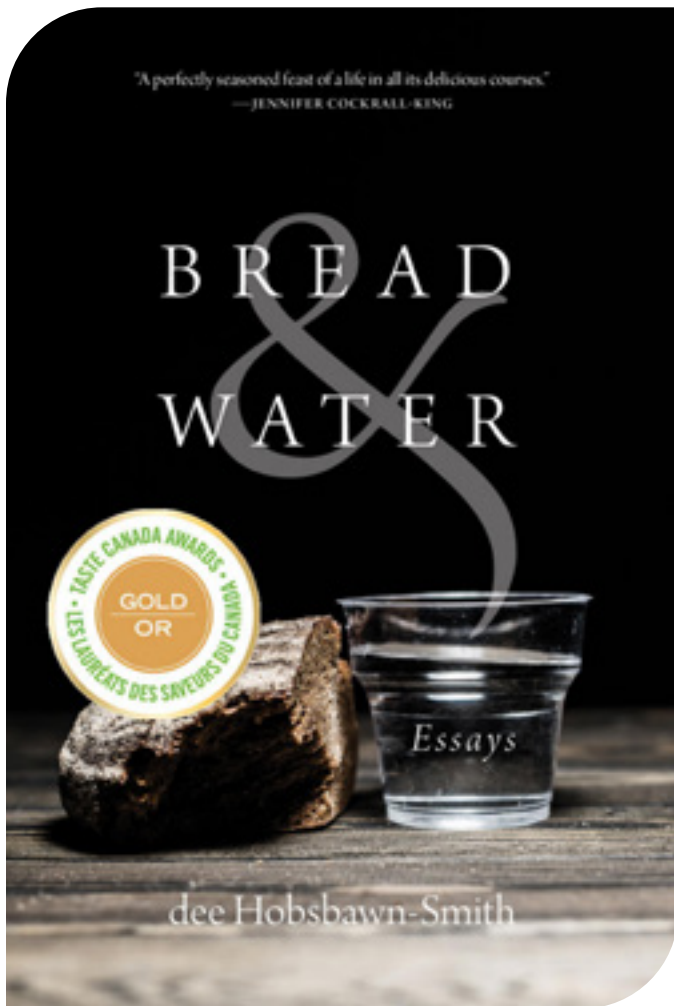
April 10 - Humboldt Library

April 12 - Regina Public Library

April 16 - La Ronge Library

April 24 - Rosetown Centennial Library

April 29 - North Battleford Library



The Regina Public Library Film Theatre once again ran a monthlong film festival to tie in with the themes raised in the book. The weekly screenings included the following five titles: *Babette's Feast* (Denmark), *Big Night* (USA), *Tortilla Soup* (USA), *Julie & Julia* (USA), and *Parallel Mothers* (Spain, France & USA).

Thank you to the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild for their generous sponsorship and the many library workers across the province who contributed to the success of the program. Thank you to 2024-25 OBOP committee members: Mary Chipanshi, Paula Daigle, Joe Geary, Morgan Kelly, Ann Liang, Christina Winter, James Hope Howard and Milena Džordeski.



dee Hobsbawn Smith Photo: Liane Faulder

SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARIES CONFERENCE REPORT RYAN MONKS

Chair

The 2025 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference successfully brought together a diverse group of library professionals under the theme *Grow with Your Library*.

The event opened with the pre-conference workshop, *Building Bridges: Neurodiversity in the Library Space*, sponsored by the Multitype Library Board. The session emphasized designing libraries as supportive environments for neurodiverse patrons and staff. Participants explored low-sensory room innovations and practical strategies for fostering belonging, reinforcing the importance of inclusive library spaces.

The 2025 Mary Donaldson Lecture was delivered by Ry Moran. Drawing on his experience advancing reconciliation initiatives



including events planned by the Saskatoon Library—along with robust exhibitor engagement connected attendees with new ideas, products, and practices to strengthen their work.

Many thanks to the major conference sponsors: Regina Public Library, Library Bound, Saskatoon Public Library, CVS Midwest Tape, Ledcor Group, University of Saskatchewan Library, United Library Services, as well as the many other sponsors and exhibitors whose support is critical to the conference.

Thank you to the SLA Staff, Conference Planning Committee and Conference Program Committee, whose dedication to the success of the conference cannot be overstated.

at the University of Victoria, Mr. Moran focused on advancing reconciliation within library spaces and underscored the role of truth-telling practices in shaping meaningful institutional change.

Conference sessions addressed critical issues shaping the future of librarianship, including inclusion and accessibility, intellectual freedom, and diversity and representation. These conversations prompted attendees to reflect on the ethical responsibilities of today's libraries, particularly as they navigate community values and evolving social expectations.

The conference also showcased libraries as key community connectors through sessions on literacy, lifelong learning, and community partnerships, illustrating the essential role libraries play in supporting education and development across Saskatchewan. Opportunities for learning and networking—



SLA AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Maureen Woods Education Bursary

The Maureen Woods Education Bursary was established in 2002 to promote the continued growth of professional librarianship in Saskatchewan. This bursary is open to all students enrolled in or accepted to an American Library Association (ALA) accredited graduate degree program in library and information science or equivalent. The bursary is awarded in the name of Maureen Woods, who was a Saskatchewan leader in library services.

Alicia Toscano was the chosen recipient of the 2025 bursary. Alicia has been working in the Regina library community since 2007 and is currently taking some time away to pursue her Master of Library & Information Science graduate degree from Western University (London, Ontario). Alicia would like to recognize the tremendous support of the Saskatchewan Library Association in providing her with this bursary as she progresses through this 12-month program. When not attending classes, Alicia is the Client Services Assistant at the Saskatchewan Legislative Library. Alicia is grateful for her husband Logan, daughters Evelyn and Rosie, and for her dogs Luna and Bubby.



Alicia Toscano

Indigenous Student MLIS Education Bursary

The Indigenous Student MLIS Education Bursary was established in 2023 to support a person of Canadian Indigenous ancestry in the pursuit of a graduate degree program in library and information science. This bursary is open to any person of Canadian Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) who is enrolled in or accepted to an American Library Association (ALA) accredited graduate degree program in library and information science or equivalent.

Sadie Anderson was chosen as the 2025 recipient of the Indigenous Student MLIS Education Bursary. Sadie (She/Her) is a registered member of the Peepeekisis Cree Nation in treaty four territory, while she lives and works in treaty six. She has a BA in Anthropology from the University of Regina and is currently taking her MLIS online



Sadie Anderson



Dana Derks

part-time through the University of Alberta. She is currently working as the Indigenous Archivist (term) at the University of Saskatchewan and is committed to Indigenous data sovereignty. When she’s not working or studying, she is an avid knitter with several published patterns.

Mary Donaldson Award of Merit

The Mary Donaldson Award of Merit was established in 1977 to recognize library technicians and the essential services they provide in Saskatchewan libraries. The bursary is given annually to a student who is enrolled in or graduating from a library and information technology program offered in Saskatchewan.

Dana Derks was chosen as the 2025 recipient of the Mary Donaldson Award of Merit.

Dana Derks is the school librarian at BSC2000 in Biggar, SK. She is halfway through her Library Information and Technology Program at Mohawk College in Ontario and is expected to complete her program at the end of summer 2027.

As a proud mother of three daughters, ranging in age from 20 to 15, Dana inherited her love of reading from her grandmother, who introduced her to Lucy Maud Montgomery and the world of Anne of Green Gables. When she isn’t studying, Dana enjoys coaching cross-country skiing, practicing embroidery, discovering new authors, and spending time with friends and family.



CFLA PRAIRIE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT ANN LIANG

SLA Representative

Since joining the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) as the Prairie Representative in November 2024, I am pleased to share that it has now been one full year of service on the national board. Over the past year, I have continued to engage in national discussions that are shaping the future of libraries in Canada and advancing the collective voice of our sector.

This year the CFLA has been marked by growth, renewed advocacy efforts, and new structural changes that we hope will better support our members across the country. This year we have forged some new strategic partnerships with the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Elections Canada in support of multiple national literacy initiatives to reinforce the essential role that libraries play in civic engagement and informed citizenship. A significant focus of the board this year has been advocacy related to potential changes to Canada Post's discounted services for libraries. Canada Post historically provided library mailing rates supported rural and remote



areas, interlibrary loans and Literature for the Blind services. CFLA has coordinated advocacy responses to legislative changes that could impact these essential services to reinforce our commitment to access, equity and inclusion across Canada.

One of the biggest CFLA changes occurred this fall with the transition to a task force model from our former committee's model. We hope this new model will increase opportunities to explore policy issues of importance to members in a more focused and actionable way for emerging topics.

Having completed my first year as the Prairie Representative for SLA, I remain committed to ensuring Saskatchewan's voice is represented in national library conversations.



Saskatchewan Indigenous Storytelling Month (SIS) continued to be a central focus of the committee’s work. February 2025 was once again officially recognized by the Government of Saskatchewan as Indigenous Storytelling Month. The 2025 launch was hosted by Broadview Public Library and featured invited storytellers and Elders. During the month, more than 100 storytelling events took place in 85 communities across the province, reaching approximately 10,300 participants. The program featured 55 storytellers and Elders, with events hosted in libraries, schools, and community spaces. Events were delivered both in person and online, supporting participation across urban, rural, and remote communities.

Along with program delivery, the committee also worked on internal matters. The committee continued to discuss member recruitment, with a focus on increasing Indigenous representation. Strategic planning conversations picked up again, including looking at outside support and funding to help guide future work. The committee also discussed financial and administrative matters related to its ongoing work.

LSSAP continues to welcome interest from those looking to learn more or get involved. General inquiries can be directed to lssapcomm@gmail.com

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR SASKATCHEWAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES COMMITTEE (LSSAP) REPORT LISA ULRIKSEN

SLA Representative

In 2025, Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples (LSSAP) continued to support Indigenous storytelling and cultural programming through libraries and community partners across Saskatchewan. LSSAP is a volunteer-run committee made up of people from public, academic, school, and special libraries, as well as literacy and cultural organizations.

MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD (MLB) REPORT AMY RANKIN

SLA Representative

Meetings and Reports

The Multitype Library board (MLB) held a virtual meeting in February 2025. They also had two in-person meetings in June and December 2025.

The MLB Annual Report (2024-25) is available online at Saskatchewan Publications and on the MLB website.

All formal communiqués, minutes and other documents of the Board are available on the Saskatchewan libraries website.

Highlights

Science Online

MLB supported the licensing Science Online, a STEM resource that facilitates research and discovery, for all SERP partners for three years. This license expires July 31, 2026.

Saskatchewan Indigenous Subject Headings (SKISH)

In March 2025, the SKISH project, led by the MLB, hosted two Community Review

Meetings - one online and one in-person at the māmawêyatitân centre in Regina - to seek further feedback from members of the Saskatchewan Indigenous community regarding the subject headings. This feedback was then reviewed by the Technical Advisory Group over the following months to make updates to the current SKISH subject headings.

In September 2025, the SKISH project released its first update to the subject headings based on feedback from the March meetings. This update included new terms, changes to existing terms, and a new format presenting the subject headings in text-based format alongside the existing spreadsheet. This



was followed up in November by two more Community Review Meetings - one online and one in-person at the First Nations University of Canada - to seek further feedback from members of the Saskatchewan Indigenous community. This feedback will be incorporated into a future update of the SKISH subject headings.

Annual Community Meeting

MLB partnered with SLA to deliver their annual Community Meeting, a pre-conference session, titled Building Bridges: Neurodiversity in the Library Space at the 2025 SLA's Conference. The pre-conference session featured two presentations. Neurodiversity-Friendly Library Spaces was presented by Christine van der Merwe. The presentation covered a wide range of topics, such as creating sensory sensitive spaces, supporting neurodiverse employees, workplace adaptations and building an inclusive culture. Quiet by Design: The Path to a Low-Sensory Study Space was presented by University of Saskatchewan staff members Chelsea Kruger, Alison Jantz, and Rea Carlson. They discussed the creation of a low-sensory room at the Murray Library and gave a tour of the space.

Saskatchewan Digital Alliance

The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance was officially dissolved at the MLB's June 2025 meeting.

SERP

In June 2025, SERP partners met in-person to discuss goals and activities for a strategic plan which will guide the work of the Planning

and Development Committee over the coming years. The partners also adopted program vision and mission statements:

Vision: Empowering Saskatchewan libraries, creating lasting value and transformative impact.

Mission: SERP supports equity of access to online library resources for Saskatchewan residents.

2026-2026 Board Members, Alison Hopkins, Amy Rankin, Brett Waytuck, Carol Radford-Grant, Greg Salmers, Kimberley Hintz, Melissa Lander, Michelle Giese



SASKATCHEWAN BOOK AWARDS GWEN FISHER

SLA Representative

The Saskatchewan Book Awards began operations in 1993 when the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild, Saskatchewan Publishers Group (now SaskBooks), and the Saskatchewan Library Association joined forces to establish a provincial writing and publishing awards program.

The Saskatchewan Book Awards has a strong reputation across Canada's writing and publishing communities. It provides a supportive environment for Saskatchewan's authors and publishers, as well as a venue to showcase our province's literary talent.

The SBA's 32nd Annual Gala and Award Ceremony, held at TUC Place in Saskatoon on Friday, May 9, 2025, drew an intimate crowd of guests including authors, publishers, sponsors and community supporters who attended the event. The event, hosted by MC, Katrina German, founder of Ethical Digital, celebrated winners in 13 award categories. In attendance were Their Honours, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Honourable Bernadette McIntyre, award sponsor representatives and members and supporters of Saskatchewan's vibrant literary community.

Elder Joseph Naytowhow opened the evening with a prayer.

Jarol Boan was an award winner for her book, *The Medicine Chest*, which won the First Book Award sponsored by the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Government of Saskatchewan. Dave Margoshes won the Fiction Award for his book *A Simple Carpenter*. Felicia Gay's book *The Art of Faye Heavysield* won the Indigenous People's Writing Award. Guy Vanderhaeghe's book *Because Somebody Asked Me To* won the Non-Fiction Award and Book of the Year For a full list of winners, go to www.bookawards.sk.ca

“It provides a supportive environment for Saskatchewan's authors and publishers, as well as a venue to showcase our province's literary talent.”

In 2026, the SBA and SLA are again planning to hold SBA's 33rd SBA Annual Gala and Award Ceremony in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Libraries Conference at the Double Tree by Hilton in Regina on Friday, May 1, 2026.



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA SENATE REPORT KATE-LEE NOLIN SLA Representative

Key work:

The University of Regina Senate's general area is the academic welfare of the institution which has a variety of duties and powers. Most of the broader issues of academic policy within the University are reserved for its approval. In another role, it acts as the ultimate court in academic affairs.

The following are highlights from the meetings:

Key messages:

- As of October 1, overall enrolment in the University for Fall 2025 is down 3.7 percent (16,642 students compared to 17,288 last year). As a result, the University faces a challenging but not insurmountable financial situation due to declining international enrolments.
- The University's next institutional strategic plan is expected to encompass a ten-year horizon rather than the usual five and is guided by the question of 'what we want the University to be', rather than simply 'what we want it to do'. The process began with an online survey and a series of drop-in consultations.
- The University of Regina Students' Union (URSU) is not operating for the 2025-2026 academic year.
- Enhancing the student experience at the University through facility upgrades remains a priority.



- Construction on the revitalized Ad-Hum “Pit” was completed as a 50th anniversary project.
- Progress continues on the new food services model including Starbucks and the Ultimate Catering offerings that began operations last year. Trifon’s Pizza has opened and the Riddell Centre food court seating area has been renovated with two new local food vendors opening soon.

University Library:

- One of the significant events celebrated in 2025 is the (re)-gifting by Brad McNaughton of the University’s leather crest that proudly hung in Darke Hall in the early years of Regina College. The crest has had journeys known and unknown that took it far afield before coming home to the University Archives.
- Eight library staff received long service awards ranging from 15 to 40 years of service.
- The Dr. John Archer Library & Archives once again co-presented the collaborative author event with the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) “One Book One Province.” In this engaging armchair conversation, Sam Maciag from the CBC sat down with author dee Hobsbawn-Smith to discuss her book *Bread and Water: Essays*. The conversation explored how dee’s culinary experiences have shaped her journey as a writer, influencing her storytelling, perspective, and creative expression.
- The Dr. John Archer Library & Archives announced a new authentication system for access to electronic resources: OpenAthens! Users can now enjoy the same level of access



as before, but with several additional benefits including better access to electronic materials directly from publisher and journal website and greater privacy and security than previous authentication methods.

- In 2025, 2 new paintings by Regina artist and U of R Visual Arts Professor David Garneau were installed on the library’s main floor. The piece on the north side of the Computer Commons is *Bison Skull* (after Vermeer) and the one hanging above the Regina Room is *Plains Epistemology*. Both are acrylic on canvas.
- A copy of the 2024-2025 Archer Library Annual Report can be found online.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN SENATE REPORT AMANDA LEPAGE

SLA Representative

Background

The University of Saskatchewan Senate is the bridge between the university and key stakeholders in the province. This governance body is comprised of 118 appointed and elected members including representatives from professional groups, societies, and organizations contributing to the social, economic, and cultural welfare of the province.

April 26, 2025, Meeting Review

One of the key highlights of the spring meeting was the Senate's confirmation of a new Senate Chancellor, Scott Banda. Banda brings commitment, innovation, and decades of service to the University community and Saskatchewan. Outgoing chancellor Grit McCreath was thanked for her work and commitment to the University Senate.

October 25, 2025, Meeting Review

Honorary degree recipients for 2025 included Juno award winning singer/songwriter Jim Cuddy, university leader Dr. Vera Pezer, and Saskatoon community champions Olivia



and Greg Yuel. The report also noted USask received strong international university rankings in the disciplines of engineering, education studies, law, and physical sciences. The Senate welcomed news that the search for the 12th University President was successfully completed. After a global search process and extensive consultation, Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio will be appointed to the role effective January 1, 2026. Information on the search and appointment can be found at: <https://governance.usask.ca/presidential-search/index.php>

Senate Education Sessions

Education sessions were presented to the University Senate at the spring meeting, including information on Flexible Learning Initiatives and Entrepreneurship at the University.

Flexible Learning Initiatives seek to increase access to University courses for students,



strengthen connections across Saskatchewan, and meet emerging demands for dynamic flexibility in today's learning environment.

The University is exploring and implementing a wide variety of flexible solutions for learners at all stages of education by mode (in person, hybrid, online), location (on-and off-campus, in partnership with other learning institutions), teaching methods, and pathways (degrees, micro-credentials, casual admission). These initiatives support Saskatchewan and the broader community in becoming successful, engaged lifelong learners.

The Edwards School of Business provided a presentation on inspiring, igniting and enabling entrepreneurship at the University. Entrepreneurship drives job creation, economic resilience, and wealth generation – all essential for Saskatchewan to grow in its contribution to global markets. Existing projects and programs were reviewed, and presentation of Edwards' proposal to create

a new centre for entrepreneurship was discussed. The initiative is currently in its consultation stage.

Upcoming Senate Meetings

The University Of Saskatchewan Senate will meet again on April 25, 2026, and October 17, 2026.





THE WILLOW AWARDS - SASKATCHEWAN YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD (SYRCA) **RIANE LAPAIRE**

SLA Representative

The Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Awards (SYRCA) – The Willow Awards helps promote reading and celebrates Canadian literature. Saskatchewan children and youth vote yearly on recipients from finalists in three age-based award categories.

The #WinWithWillows author contest was once again a success in 2026, with four funded author visits chosen by a random draw for a chance for readers to win a virtual visit with authors Hayley Lowe, Joanne Levy, Trina Rathgeber, or Jessica Renwick.

Together with the community of Outlook, SK, The Willow Awards board will host the SaskEnergy Willow Awards gala at Outlook High School on May 28th and will be live streamed across the province. Tune into this fantastic event to celebrate literacy, the Willow Award winners, and for a chance to win free books with a new gala contest!

The Willow Awards is always looking for more participants and encourages those new to the

awards to browse the new “Getting Started” section in the main website menu. If you are passionate about promoting Canadian-authored and published books in Saskatchewan classrooms and libraries, and are interested in participating on the Willow Awards board, please contact us by visiting WillowAwards.ca

For more information about the benefits of The Willow Awards, to subscribe to Willow updates, to follow along on the voting excitement, or to live-stream the Gala, visit WillowAwards.ca.

The Willow Awards board values their connection with the Saskatchewan Library Association and is thankful for their continued partnership.

2025/2026 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended January 31, 2026







Independent Auditor’s Report

To the Members of Saskatchewan Library Association:

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Saskatchewan Library Association (the Entity), which comprise the statement of financial position as at January 31, 2026 and the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at January 31, 2026 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity’s financial reporting process.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

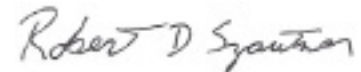
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT *(continued)*

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements (whether due to fraud or error), design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going-concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements (including the disclosures), and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

March 13, 2026
Regina, Saskatchewan



Robert D. Szautner
Chartered Professional Accountant

Saskatchewan Library Association Statement of Financial Position January 31, 2026

	General Fund	Restricted Funds	2026	2025
ASSETS				
CURRENT				
Cash	\$ 187,634	\$ -	\$ 187,634	\$ 136,484
Inventory	1,405	-	1,405	1,405
Accounts receivable	1,949	-	1,949	701
Prepaid expenses	402	-	402	5,253
Short-term investments (Note 3)	137,610	-	137,610	136,975
	<u>329,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>329,000</u>	<u>280,818</u>
RESTRICTED CASH	<u>-</u>	<u>45,483</u>	<u>45,483</u>	<u>60,083</u>
	<u>\$ 329,000</u>	<u>\$ 45,483</u>	<u>\$ 374,483</u>	<u>\$ 340,901</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
CURRENT				
Accounts payable	\$ 29,340	\$ -	\$ 29,340	\$ 21,941
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	27,150	-	27,150	9,060
	<u>56,490</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,490</u>	<u>31,001</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>272,510</u>	<u>45,483</u>	<u>317,993</u>	<u>309,900</u>
	<u>\$ 329,000</u>	<u>\$ 45,483</u>	<u>\$ 374,483</u>	<u>\$ 340,901</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Director



Director

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Saskatchewan Library Association
Statement of Operations
Year Ended January 31, 2026

	General Fund	Restricted Funds	2026	2025
REVENUES:				
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation	\$ 201,000	\$ -	\$ 201,000	\$ 201,000
Self-generated (<i>Schedule 1</i>)	133,252	-	133,252	129,619
Restricted Funds (<i>Schedule 7</i>)	-	600	600	510
	<u>334,252</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>334,852</u>	<u>331,129</u>
EXPENSES:				
Administration (<i>Schedule 2</i>)	191,300	-	191,300	189,330
Corporate Business (<i>Schedule 3</i>)	10,238	-	10,238	15,033
Programs and Services (<i>Schedule 4</i>)	99,633	-	99,633	99,581
Public Relations and Communications (<i>Schedule 5</i>)	2,760	-	2,760	2,144
Travel and Meetings (<i>Schedule 6</i>)	7,628	-	7,628	13,795
Restricted Funds (<i>Schedule 7</i>)	-	15,200	15,200	12,896
	<u>311,559</u>	<u>15,200</u>	<u>326,759</u>	<u>332,779</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES)	<u>\$ 22,693</u>	<u>\$ (14,600)</u>	<u>\$ 8,093</u>	<u>\$ (1,650)</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Saskatchewan Library Association Statement of Changes in Net Assets Year Ended January 31, 2026

	General Fund	Restricted Funds	2026	2025
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 249,817	\$ 60,083	\$ 309,900	\$ 311,550
Excess of revenues (expenses)	22,693	(14,600)	8,093	(1,650)
Transfers <i>(Note 5)</i>	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 272,510	\$ 45,483	\$ 317,993	\$ 309,900

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Saskatchewan Library Association
Statement of Cash Flow
Year Ended January 31, 2026

	2026	2025
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues (expenses)	\$ 8,093	\$ (1,650)
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(1,248)	(701)
Accounts payable	7,399	1,459
Deferred revenue	18,090	(2,111)
Inventory	-	153
Prepaid expenses	4,851	3,438
	37,185	588
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(137,610)	(35,181)
Proceeds on disposal of investments	136,975	66,172
	(635)	30,991
INCREASE IN CASH FLOW	36,550	31,579
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	196,567	164,988
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 233,117	\$ 196,567
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 187,634	\$ 136,484
Restricted cash	45,483	60,083
	\$ 233,117	\$ 196,567

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended January 31, 2026

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Saskatchewan Library Association (the "Association") is incorporated under The Non-profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan. It promotes through information exchanges, education and advocacy, a province-wide support of libraries and library services to the citizens of Saskatchewan based on co-operation, accessibility and resource sharing. The Association applied for and received registered charity status in 2003.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASPNO).

Fund Accounting

A portion of the monies received by the Association may only be used for specific purposes and accordingly are accounted for in separate funds. Temporary transfers of monies between these funds are recorded as interfund receivables/payables. Permanent transfers are recorded as transfers in the net asset accounts.

The General Fund accounts for the day-to-day operations of the Association.

The following Restricted Funds do not maintain individual bank accounts, but the accounting records capture the activities and fund balances separately:

Mary Donaldson Award Fund – Initially established as a Trust, with SLA as the Settler on the Deed, to advance the cultural and informational contributions of libraries in Canada, to prepare and disseminate work on library services in the form of an annual lecture and present a Mary Donaldson Award of Merit scholarship. The Trustees transferred the Trust monies to SLA and dissolved the Trust with the approval of the Charities Directorate. The fund continues to support the Mary Donaldson Award of Merit scholarship for a library technician student. The lecture will continue under the auspices of the annual Conference Committee.

Frances Morrison Trust – The Frances Morrison Award is an award of merit for a selected recipient for outstanding service to libraries given in the name of one of Saskatchewan's exceptional librarians, Frances Morrison.

Maureen Woods Education Bursary – The Maureen Woods Education Bursary was established to promote the continued growth of professional librarianship in the Province of Saskatchewan. An annual bursary is awarded to an MLIS student each year.

Continuing Education Grant Fund – The Continuing Education Grant Fund is used to give grants to members to attend workshops, to organize and host workshops, and to attend the SLA conference as first-time attendees.

Indigenous MLIS Bursary Fund – The Indigenous MLIS Bursary Fund is used to support persons of Canadian Indigenous ancestry who are pursuing ALA accredited Master of Library and Information Science graduate programs or equivalents.

(continues)

SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended January 31, 2026

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

The Association's policy is to present bank balances and term deposits with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition under cash and cash equivalents.

Financial instruments policy

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred. Capital purchases are expensed at the time of purchase.

Financial assets including cash, accounts receivable, long-term and restricted investments are reported at amortized cost.

Financial liabilities including accounts payable and accrued liabilities are measured at amortized cost.

Revenue recognition

Saskatchewan Library Association follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the General Fund in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. All other restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriated restricted fund.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the General Fund in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Grant revenues are allocated to the period the granting agency identifies. Grants relating to a future period are deferred.

Membership revenue is reported as revenue when received.

Programming and exhibition fees are reported in the period the related event takes place or the service is rendered.

Sponsorships relate to specific events and are reported as revenues when the event takes place.

Local businesses contribute services to assist the Association in carrying out its activities. The Association records contributed goods and services received during the year as revenue with an offsetting expenditure. The contributed services are \$NIL (2025 - \$NIL) which are reported at their retail value as provided by the supplier.

Capital assets

Capital assets purchased, such as leasehold improvements, furniture and office equipment are expensed in the year of purchase.

SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended January 31, 2026

3. INVESTMENTS

	Maturity date	Interest rate	2026	2025
RBC GIC #023	Apr 02/26	3.10%	\$ 100,000	\$ -
RBC GIC #024	Jan 21/27	2.97%	35,000	-
RBC GIC #022	Dec 04/25	3.25%	-	35,000
RBC GIC #008	Feb 12/25	1.85%	-	100,000
Accrued interest			2,610	1,975
Total short-term investments			\$ 137,610	\$ 136,975

4. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue includes the following:

	2026	2025
Grand Chapter of the Sask Order of the Eastern Star	\$ 9,060	\$ 9,060
Conference revenues	18,090	-
	\$ 27,150	\$ 9,060

5. INTERFUND TRANSFERS

The Board allocated current year conference excess of revenues (expenses) to each of the following restricted funds: \$NIL (2025 - \$NIL) to Mary Donaldson Award Fund, \$NIL (2025 - \$NIL) to the Continuing Education Grant Fund, \$NIL (2025 - \$NIL) to the Maureen Woods Education Bursary, and \$NIL (2025 - \$16,000) to the Indigenous MLIS Bursary.

SASKATCHEWAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended January 31, 2026

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and management and the board are responsible to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Association's risk exposure and concentration as of January 31, 2026.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. Receivables relate to event sponsorships, government rebates and interest accruals and represent no significant risk of collection.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Association has sufficient resources and equity at the yearend to manage its affairs for a reasonable period, so this risk is considered to be low.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. Interest rate risk is considered to be low since the Association has no debt or credit facilities nor does it rely on the interest income to support operations. The restricted funds offer support to their respective programs in relation to equity and investment earnings so some decisions may be affected by unusually low interest/investment revenues.

Saskatchewan Library Association

Self-Generated

(Schedule 1)

Year Ended January 31, 2026

	2026	2025
<u>External</u>		
Corporate sponsorships	\$ 53,039	\$ 43,397
Donations	944	1,061
	<u>53,983</u>	<u>44,458</u>
<u>Internal</u>		
Conference revenue	58,365	61,940
Interest income	3,623	3,648
Membership fees	13,990	14,545
Other income	1,043	2,486
Programs and services	2,248	2,542
	<u>79,269</u>	<u>85,161</u>
	<u>\$ 133,252</u>	<u>\$ 129,619</u>

Administration

(Schedule 2)

Year Ended January 31, 2026

	2026	2025
Office operations	\$ 21,951	\$ 28,097
Personnel	169,349	161,233
	<u>\$ 191,300</u>	<u>\$ 189,330</u>

Corporate Business

(Schedule 3)

Year Ended January 31, 2026

	2026	2025
Bank charges and interest	\$ 3,074	\$ 2,620
Insurance	981	964
Memberships	456	3,090
Professional fees	5,727	8,359
	<u>\$ 10,238</u>	<u>\$ 15,033</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Saskatchewan Library Association
Programs and Services
Year Ended January 31, 2026

(Schedule 4)

	2026	2025
Conference	\$ 76,013	\$ 53,958
Freedom to Read and Culture Days	1,166	3,493
One Book One Province project	5,516	6,382
Saskatchewan Library Week	3,450	4,189
Summer Reading Club	4,288	3,926
Other program expenses	3,138	1,700
The Northern Tour	-	6,538
Family Literacy Day	1,467	1,247
Prison Library Committee	4,595	6,077
Indigenous Reads Program	-	12,071
	\$ 99,633	\$ 99,581

Public Relations and Communications
Year Ended January 31, 2026

(Schedule 5)

	2026	2025
Advertising and promotion	\$ -	\$ 223
Membership expenses	-	1,144
Newsletter	760	777
Other promotional activities	-	-
Website contract	2,000	-
	\$ 2,760	\$ 2,144

Travel and Meetings
Year Ended January 31, 2026

(Schedule 6)

	2026	2025
Annual general meeting	\$ 2,029	\$ 2,460
Board	2,293	7,296
Professional development and leadership training	1,381	2,982
Staff	1,925	1,057
	\$ 7,628	\$ 13,795

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Saskatchewan Library Association
Schedule of Restricted Funds
Year Ended January 31, 2026

(Schedule 7)

		Mary Donaldson Award Fund	Francis Morrison Trust	Maureen Woods Education Bursary	Continuing Education Grant Fund	Indigenous MLIS Bursary	2026	2025
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	8,097	\$ 4,523	\$ 26,322	\$ 6,564	\$ 14,577	\$ 60,083	\$ 56,469
REVENUES								
Donations		-	-	-	-	-	-	400
Sponsorships/Fundraising		-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Interest Earned		-	-	600	-	-	600	60
		-	-	600	-	-	600	510
EXPENSES								
Bursary award		1,200	-	5,000	2,000	5,000	13,200	11,318
Grants		-	-	-	2,000	-	2,000	1,567
Other		-	-	-	-	-	-	11
		1,200	-	5,000	4,000	5,000	15,200	12,896
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES)		(1,200)	-	(4,400)	(4,000)	(5,000)	(14,600)	(12,386)
Interfund transfers (Note 5)		-	-	-	-	-	-	16,000
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$	6,897	\$ 4,523	\$ 21,922	\$ 2,564	\$ 9,577	\$ 45,483	\$ 60,083

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDER, DONORS & SPONSORS!

SLA gratefully acknowledges the generous funding received through Sask Lotteries and the support of Sask Culture allows for the organization to continue to provide service and support to all types of libraries in Saskatchewan, and through libraries, the ability to develop and enrich the lives of all Saskatchewan residents.



Donors:

- Bryan Foran
- Helen Molloy
- Marilyn Jenkins
- Elaina Lawn
- Kelsey Froh
- Rhonda Hildebrand Gascho

Sponsors:





CONTACT US

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