

ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE L'ONTARIO-FRANCO

JOANNE PLANTE, PRÉSIDENTE



ABO-FRANCO

2015 ABO-Franco Membership: 198

ADHÉSION

Bonne nouvelle, le nombre d'adhésion a légèrement augmenté. De 187 membres en décembre 2014, nous sommes passés à 198.

SUPER CONFÉRENCE

Véronique Dupuis a relevé le défi d'organiser la partie francophone de la Super Conférence. Lors de la Super Conférence, quatre (4) ateliers ont été offerts en français. Malheureusement, aucune conférence n'a été traduite dû au manque de subvention. Des solutions ont été apportées lors de la dernière réunion du conseil afin de palier à cette situation.

TRADUCTION

Afin de rejoindre le plus de bibliothécaires francophones, nous avons élaboré des lignes directrices. Celles-ci ont été présentées à OLA et serviront dorénavant de balises pour s'assurer que certains documents soient traduits. Un budget de 5000\$ a d'ailleurs été octroyé pour réaliser ces traductions.

Notons aussi que la page couverture du programme de la Superconférence a été traduite en français pour la toute première fois et qu'OLA

a reproduit celle-ci sur le sac des conférenciers.

PROMOTION ET COLLABORATION

Nous avons eu la chance d'être invités à deux reprises, soit au printemps et à l'automne, par l'association des étudiants en sciences de l'information de l'Université d'Ottawa pour présenter l'ABO-FRANCO. L'accueil a vraiment été très chaleureux et l'expérience fort intéressante.

Nous avons également offert une rencontre avec l'Association des bibliothèques de la capitale nationale.

Comme la liste de distribution n'existe plus, nous avons commencé à intégrer des textes en français à la lettre d'information (newsletter) afin de rejoindre le plus de membres possibles.

L'ABO GAZOUILLE

ABO-FRANCO a maintenant son fil Twitter : @ABO_FRANCO. On y compte 189 abonnements, 87 abonnés, 168 gazouillis. Passez le mot!

FORÊT DE LA LECTURE

Plusieurs bénévoles ont mis la main à la tâche afin de lire et sélectionner les finalistes des clubs de lecture Peuplier, Tamarac et Tamarac Express. Bravo et merci!

RECONNAISSANCE DES MEMBRES

Nous avons voulu reconnaître le travail de développement et de promotion des services en français en Ontario en remettant le Prix Micheline-Persaud à Joanne Plante, Bibliothécaire en chef au CECCE.

RÉUNIONS DU CONSEIL

Le conseil s'est réuni 4 fois durant l'année dont une fois en personne à l'Université d'Ottawa.



ONTARIO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

SHANNA PEARSON, PRESIDENT

OCULA

2015 OCULA Membership: 598

It has been a privilege to work with and lead the 2015 OCULA Council, and I am pleased to highlight some of council's accomplishments for 2015.

A priority this year was to explore new ways of delivering our professional development activities to better meet our member's needs. The **OCULA Spring Conference** highlighted how academic library professionals help their communities "Cross Thresholds" into unfamiliar areas such as open access scholarship and new literacies, and featured Dr. Karen Louise Smith, Mitacs Elevate postdoctoral research fellow with Mozilla and the University of Toronto. The **OCULA Spring Dinner** looked at examples of "Pop-Up Events in Academic Libraries" that support student success and well-being. The 32 events submitted by our members were shared with those unable to attend the dinner, and instead of having a keynote speaker, attendees participated in hands-on maker activities which they could replicate at their own institutions. The **OCULA Fall Conference** focused on "Advocacy in Academic Libraries", and was OCULA's first attempt to host a virtual conference in partnership with OLITA to facilitate participation from OCULA members from across the province. Speakers Myron Groover, Angela Henshilwood and Alain Lamothe spoke about a range of advocacy initiatives and strategies of interest to the academic community.

We were pleased to award the 2015 **New Librarian Residency Award** to OCAD University, who hired Chris Landry to be the Scholarly Communications Librarian. Chris has already worked on many exciting projects including organizing faculty events for Open Access Week, developing scholarly communication and outreach strategies, and drafting policies and increasing faculty submissions to OCAD's open access institutional repository.

InsideOCULA continues to be well received and we are delighted that all OLA members are now able to enjoy our publication via the *Open Shelf* platform. With council's approval in November, *InsideOCULA* will reduce its publication schedule to 5 issues a year to ensure that we continue to provide the best content for our membership.

The 2015 **OCULA Lifetime Achievement Award** went to Karen McGrath, Director of Library and Bookstore Services at Niagara College. We recognized Karen for her exemplary contributions to OCULA, OLA and broader library organizations. Karen is a true leader and strong advocate for issues that affect the academic community. She dedicates much of her time to mentoring new library professionals and is passionate about fostering relationships not only between academic libraries but with the surrounding communities that they serve.

The 2015 **OCULA Special Achievement Award** went to Colin Clarke, Founder/Director of the Canadian Centre for Epigraphic Documents, for his work on the Syriac Inscriptions Project. Colin was recognized for his efforts to conserve endangered world heritage collections in India through the use of solar-archival units, and to digitally archive and make available these epigraphic materials to all.

In winter 2015, OLA and OCULA jointly applied for and hosted a practicum student, Katey Stickle, from the University of Toronto's iSchool. For OCULA, Katey compiled reports about past OCULA events, projects and awards, attended a council meeting, and wrote an article for *InsideOCULA*. It was great to support one of OLA's strategic priorities of **Building One's Career Path and Potential**, and we hope to continue with this initiative in years to come.

Advocacy is at the forefront of everything we do, and for the second year in a row, OCULA members participated in OLA's Library Day at Queen's Park which is an opportunity to speak with MPPs about the positive impact libraries have on Ontarians and their communities. The day presented an opportunity for OCULA delegates to educate MPPs about the role academic libraries play in supporting lifelong learning and literacy.



ONTARIO LIBRARY BOARDS' ASSOCIATION LYNN HUMFRESS-TRUTE, PRESIDENT

OLBA

2015 OLBA Membership: 1,229

I began my position as OLBA President in January 2015 under some duress as not many municipalities had yet appointed their library board members following the municipal elections. As a result, there were quite a few vacancies within the Regional Representatives on OLBA Council, but thanks to a concerted recruitment drive by the few who had been elected and remained on OLBA Council, we were able to recruit and appoint several new members, and so we began our work for the year with a full complement.

Leadership by Design

The biggest challenge OLBA faced in 2015 was the ongoing revamp of *Leadership by Design*. To date, it had been delivered for about six years as a static, online library of resources available under various modules. OLBA Council was aware of the need to update the design and delivery method of *Leadership by Design*, so thanks to funding provided by the Government of Ontario, the services of a consultant were sought to redesign the program.

Partnerships with the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries and Southern Ontario Library Services (SOLS) were formed to further develop the program. In May, the first online module was delivered through the LearnHQ portal, which is administered by SOLS. It was opened for general use in June. The new design is quite simple: every module has been designed to develop boards'

leadership skills as they progress through their four-year appointment.

Proposed Revision to By-Law 5

As one of six divisions in OLA, OLBA is governed by an overarching By-Law #1, but By-Law 5 is specific to OLBA. The present By-Law stipulates that to be on OLBA Council, you must be a member of a public library board. However, the terms of office (3 years on OLBA; 4 years on PL Boards) do not always align, so in the past, OLBA was forced to ask Council Members who were not re-appointed by their municipalities to resign from council. OLBA worked on the rewrite of By-Law #5 so that Regional Reps may be allowed to complete their current term of office on OLBA Council. This change would allow OLBA to retain the expertise of seasoned PL Board members on council.

Joyce Cunningham Award for Public Library Board of the Year

In response to suggestions made by our membership, OLBA agreed to develop a form of recognition of Public Library Boards as a whole unit. The new award is given to a Public Library Board (or two Public Library Boards that participated in a collaborative effort) that demonstrated a high level of collaboration and innovation to produce outstanding results. Upon learning of the death of a former OLBA colleague, Joyce Cunningham, OLBA named the award to honour her memory.

InsideOLBA

Co-editors Don Lynch and Kerry Badgley have produced amazing and informative newsletters during the year and they are to be applauded for their fine work. OLBA trusts the membership appreciates the articles in *InsideOLBA*, and finds them to be useful tools in their governance role.

Membership

In the past two years, OLBA Council undertook considerable efforts to increase membership numbers. In 2015, advertising and marketing efforts swelled membership to 1,195 in July, and on December 31 we closed the year with a record-breaking number of 1,229! This figure represents 160 member boards from a possible 260 (ministry provided stats) so while there is a way to go yet, these rising numbers are encouraging.

Conclusion

The areas mentioned above are just a few of the tasks undertaken this year. For a group of people who meet four times annually, the quantity and quality of projects that are fulfilled never ceases to amaze me. My friends and colleagues on OLBA Council who have supported me throughout the year are an incredibly talented, conscientious and dedicated group of individuals, who have made my term of office simply, 'easy-peasy!' It has been my privilege and honour to be OLBA President during 2015.



ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

DAN SCOTT, PRESIDENT

OLITA

2015 OLITA Membership: 1,848

In 2015, more than half of OLITA Council was new, and we seized the opportunity to re-evaluate our practices, reach out to our membership through a survey in March, and explore our *raison d'être*. While our divisional membership has declined from a high of 2,010 members in December 2014 to 1,848 in December 2015, we are confident that we are serving our members. In November, we launched the **OLITA Call to Action** form to enable members to easily and anonymously bring an issue to our attention.

Over the years, OLITA has supported efforts to build technical competencies across a broad range of communities. This year we made progress on a number of fronts.

In May, **Digital Odyssey's** theme of *Open Data, Open Heritage* brought together panelists and facilitators from outside our traditional core library audience to engage attendees in workshops exploring effective ways to capture, use, and transform open data and heritage. Keynote speaker Aure Moser inspired the audience through her origin story: a mapmaking librarian driven to improve the world through open source, open data, and open maps. Our cultural heritage workshops by OurDigitalWorld and the Multicultural Historical Society of Ontario gave attendees pragmatic advice grounded in experience on creating open collections and

preserving oral histories, and our open data panel connected community advocates with librarians. Mita Williams led a hands-on workshop on creating open maps using three different freely available technologies. The feedback we received was universally positive.

OLITA continued to revitalize the **Technology Lending Library** with the addition of new kits aimed at younger Makers, such as the Makey Makey and Squishy Circuits, as well as some more esoteric items including the Intel Edison and Grove kits, and a BKON "physical web" Bluetooth beacon. Our efforts went beyond simply making items available for loan upon request and began outreach efforts, bringing a mobile "tech petting zoo" of library items to Digital Odyssey, the First Nations Fall Gathering, Child and Youth Expo, and Super Conference to encourage attendees to get hands-on and play with the technology.

Council continued OLITA's tradition of working toward addressing imbalances in demographics of technology communities this year. This past summer, we quickly rallied to support a girl who was excluded from taking part in a robotics program at her public library due to her gender. That policy decision was reversed, but the incident led us to draft a position statement on **Inclusiveness in Public Library Programming** that supports and encourages future library

programming to welcome all individuals.

This year's recipient of the **OLITA Project Award**, based on the criteria of problem solving, innovation, impact, timeliness, and contribution to the library community, was Kitchener Public Library for their "Borrow the Internet" initiative—an experiment based on data showing that almost a quarter of people living in the Waterloo region lacked access to the Internet, and offering wifi hotspots as a means of addressing that inequity. The program proved to be very popular with residents, and challenged common conceptions of the role libraries play in a community.

Huge thanks to Stephanie Orfano and Ana Vrana, the planners of the technology track for **Super Conference** this year. We are delighted to have been able to run a Hackfest for the second year in a row, and to be able to cap off a solid, diverse set of technology sessions with an entertaining and inspiring spotlight session by Avery Swartz.

I close with my sincere thanks to the fantastic council, planners, and staff who made OLITA's accomplishments in 2015 possible. You solidified our organization, propelled me forward in my role as OLITA President, and have laid the groundwork for many great years to come.



ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

SANDI BURGESS, PRESIDENT

OPLA

2015 OPLA Membership: 1,342

Your 2015 OPLA Council led a number of successful initiatives to support public libraries across the province related to advocacy, providing opportunities for professional development, and promoting libraries as inclusive destinations.

We had many new faces around the council table in 2015 and all were up to the challenge. Serving on council is a rewarding experience. It is a chance to network with colleagues from across the province and gain new insight into the successes and challenges we face. Your councillors are dedicated individuals with a desire to support and recognize the excellent work of our members. This often requires extra hours beyond our regular working days and it has been my privilege to work with all of them. We also wouldn't be able to bring you the opportunities that we do without the work of our committees, Super Conference planners, and publication editors. Thank you so much for a great year.

OPLA contributed to two key advocacy initiatives in 2015. The **Fair eBook Prices for Libraries** campaign spearheaded by Toronto and Ottawa Public Libraries provided an excellent opportunity to communicate with media to support this campaign and raise public awareness of the issue. Also, working with the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) at **Library Day at Queen's Park**, council leadership had the opportunity to take the

message straight to MPPs about the importance of funding electronic resources for both public and school libraries, requesting the various ministries that impact our work to come together to fund a joint solution.

OPLA also contributed to the promotion of libraries by providing input to OLA staff for **Ontario Public Library Week**. A successful social media/Twitter contest with 899 entries encouraged Ontarians to celebrate libraries using #oplw. The winners each received an eReader, plus one for their local library.

One of our special projects this year involved coordinating discount opportunities for libraries seeking to support the arrival of refugees from Syria through the purchase of Arabic-language books, picture dictionaries, and signage to welcome visitors to libraries in 27 different languages. We also met with representatives from Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO) to discuss new ways to connect library users with free legal information and referrals for further assistance.

The Child and Youth Services Committee completed work on the **benchmarking report** for Children's Collections and Services in partnership with Counting Opinions. The results were released in early 2016. The **Child and Youth Services EXPO** was sold out in 2015 and featured a guerilla storytime, authors Marsha Skrypuch and Linda

Bailey, and lots of opportunities to network and share ideas for children and youth programming.

Over the past few years, the Readers' Advisory Committee developed a set of core competencies to identify important skills for **Readers' Advisory services**. In 2015, the committee completed work on the fourth competency—Reader Development. The theme for **RA in a Day** was Romance. The committee connected with Harlequin Books to offer a panel discussion with Dana Hopkins and Karen Reid. The committee also provided feedback to the new Loan Stars program by BookNet Canada and issued a list of Best Bets Read-Alikes .

The second annual **Community-Led Think Tank** was held at Huron University (at Western) in May. Over 50 people attended with keynotes delivered by Michael Ciccone of CELA and John Pateman of Thunder Bay Public Library. An online Ontario-specific version of a community-led toolkit is being planned and work is progressing.

Finally, the biennial **PLA Travel Grant** was awarded to cover costs up to \$3,000 for an OPLA member to travel to the 2016 PLA Conference in Denver. Since this conference is held every two years, watch for your chance to apply for the grant in 2017. Congratulations to all OPLA award winners in 2015. More information about our division's activities can be found online.



ONTARIO SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

JEANNE CONTE, PRESIDENT

OSLA

2015 OSLA Membership: 1,238

Over the past year, the Ontario School Library Association (OSLA) has been busy with a number of ongoing and new initiatives. As we build capacity within our division, collaboration and advocacy continue to be important threads that connect our work to the broader library sectors and beyond. As president of OSLA, I was privy to the important work that the OLA Board of Directors undertakes on behalf of all the divisions. I also experienced first-hand the time commitment of OSLA Council, voting and nonvoting members (Diana, your voice counts ☺), all dedicated school library advocates. The membership thanks you for all your hard work!

As previously reported, in an effort to reach new members, OLA agreed to a trial period of offering free OLA membership to teachers taking their Librarianship Part One Additional Qualification courses. We are pleased to report that this initiative has resulted in a 10% success rate for the year.

The collaboration between the Ministry of Education, OSLA and **The Association of Library Consultants and Coordinators of Ontario (TALCO)** was interrupted by job action. This initiative to create an inquiry-based learning resource to support the *Getting Started with Student Inquiry Ministry* monograph. With this resource, we hope to establish a direct link between school library programs and the inquiry learning processes, thereby highlighting how learning is

amplified when it happens in a rich print and digital collaborative learning environment that is inherent in the library learning commons.

OSLA Council has also continued to pursue communication with **People for Education (PFP)** to explore links between school library program and PFP's research around their Measuring What Matters initiative. David Cameron, the lead researcher for PFP, was the keynote speaker for **Treasure Mountain Canada 4 (TMC)**, a symposium that was part of the 2016 Super Conference. OLA and OSLA have worked with Carol Koechlin to find a home for TMC when the CLA Conference was cancelled. We thank Carol for leading the charge in this endeavour. Carol and David Loertscher have also been instrumental in initiating the Year of the Learning Commons.

Other outreach efforts undertaken include **TV Ontario (TVO)** that is now highlighting the work of teacher-librarians across Ontario on their Teach Ontario platform www.teachontario.ca. This site is also hosting two book talks that have a high degree of relevance to issues that pertain to current teaching practices in the library learning commons. Last Fall, the vice president of OSLA, executive director of OLA and I also met with the executive director of the Ontario Principal's Council to discuss the possibility of establishing a line of communication to Ontario school principals who, as

we know, play a key role in school library advocacy. OSLA continues to have representation on the Subject/Division Association, OTF Curriculum forum and the Student Success Round Table. Once again, due to job action, meetings were cancelled so there is nothing to report on this front. In the Spring of 2015, the OSLA President and Vice President had the opportunity to have a booth at the **Faculties of Education Curriculum Forum** held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Important connections were established, one of which resulted in a presentation to teacher candidates enrolled in the faculty of education program at Brock University. The teacher candidates were surprised to see how connecting to a teacher librarian could benefit them in their practicums and were also intrigued by the potential that librarianship might have for their career choices.

For the second year, OLA organized **Library Day at Queen's Park**. Representation from all divisional councils resulted in another successful event. OSLA is following up with liaisons that were established with MPPs and Policy Advisors on that day.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work of departing council members, Heather Yearwood and Anna Szumilas as well as the work of past president, Deb Kitchener who also served on council prior to her presidency. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as the OSLA President this year.