OLBA W.J. Robertson Medallion
Public Librarian of the Year

The W.J. Robertson Medallion is presented by the Ontario Library Boards' Association to a public librarian who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the advancement of public library service in Ontario.

William John Robertson was a founding member of the Ontario Library Association. The thirty three "originals" that established the first constitution at the first Annual meeting of the Association in April, 1901, were a very distinguished and active group and W.J. Robertson was among the most prominent.

Robertson became the fourth President of the Association in 1905 - the first trustee to be elected into the position. Robertson was twice chair of the St. Catharines Free Library Board.

This provincial award recognizes and honours significant contributions to the library profession. The President of the Ontario Library Boards Association presents the medallion at the annual Public Library Awards dinner held in conjunction with the Ontario Library Association’s annual Super Conference.

Past Recipients
2017  Karen DeLuca, Arnprior Public Library
2016  Rebecca Jones, Brampton Public Library
2015  Not awarded
2014  Lester Webb, Kingston Frontenac Public Library
2013  Ian Ross, Whitby Public Library
2012  Margaret Rule, Middlesex County Public Library
2011  Margaret Sedgwick of Fort Frances Public Library
2010  Adele Kostiak, Brampton Public Library
2009  Wilhelm Eisenbichler, Sault Ste. Marie Public Library
2008  Sharron Smith, Kitchener Public Library
2007  Brian Bell, AlouetteCanada and the Oakville Public Library
2006  Paul Takala, Hamilton Public Library
2005  Geoffrey P. Nie, Ajax Public Library
2004  Barbara Taylor, St Marys Public Library
2003  Rosemary Bonanno, Vaughan Public Libraries
2002  Margaret Scratch, Southern Ontario Library Service
2001  Barbara Clubb, Ottawa Public Library/Bibliothèque d'Ottawa
2000  Ken Setterington, Toronto Public Library
1999  Alexander A. (Sandy) Cameron, Pickering Public Library
1998  Mary Podolyak, Wainfleet Public Library
1997  Doris Brown, Atikokan Public Library
1996  Gerda Molson, Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library
1995  Not awarded
1994  Not awarded
1993  Jane Horrocks, Richmond Hill Public Library
1992  Fred Israel, Windsor Public Library
1991  Justin Sainte, King Township Public Library
1990  Laurine Tremain, Parry Sound Public Library
1989  Stan Skrzeszewski, Southern Ontario Library Service
1988  Moti Tahiliani, Lindsay Public Library
1987  Ronald Baker, CEO, Ontario Library Consortium
1986  Elizabeth Cummings, Lincoln Public Library
1985  William Partridge, Huron County Public Library
1984  Jean Orpwood, Director, North York Public Library
1983  Dorothy Templin, CORLS
1982  Anne Nyland, Cornwall Public Library
1981  Alan Pepper, Northwestern RLS, Thunder Bay
1980  Eleanor Donnelly, London Public Library
1979  Ilene Male, Oakville Public Library
1978  Louise Schryver, Chatham Public Library
1977  Harry Campbell, Toronto Public Library
1976  Patricia Hart, Richmond Hill Public Library
1975  Karen Smith, Sir Frederick Banting Secondary School, London Board of Education
1974  James Brown, Waterloo Public Library
1973  Gladys Western, Grimsby Public Library
1972  E. Stanley Beacock, Midwestern Regional Library System
1971  June Munro, St. Catharines Public Library
1970  Sadie Jordan, Toronto Public Library
1969  Dan Sudar, Lakehead University
1968  R. Brian Land, School of Library Science, University of Toronto