OLA Scholarships, Bursaries, and Funds

The Ontario Library Association is pleased to operate a number of scholarship funds to encourage members to expand their horizons and improve their skills and knowledge.

OLA Scholarships

OLA Dr. Janette Baker Scholarship
This OLA scholarship fund has been made possible through a generous bequest of $50,000 by the late Dr. Janette Baker. Scholarships are available annually to support attendance at a recognized library and information program by individuals who have been working for a minimum of three years and who are employed outside of the education profession. Support this scholarship by donating to the fund.

OLA/OSLA Ken Haycock Super Conference Grant
Dr. Ken Haycock granted the Chancellor Group Conference Grant to the Canadian Library Association (CLA) in 1990 for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada as a way to honour the founding members of the Canadian Association of School Librarians. A travel grant of $500 was to provide support to newly qualified teacher-librarians (the "TL") to attend the annual conference of the CLA. The funds were transferred to OLA in 2016 after CLA's dissolution. OLA is now proud to provide the grant to support new TL's to attend the OLA Super Conference.

OLA Travel Fund
The OLA Board of Directors has established a modest travel fund to ensure members of the association have opportunities to participate in OLA programs despite geographical barriers. This fund covers travel costs that would normally exceed $500. Disbursements are not to exceed $1,400 and vary based on the annual budget situation of the association. Some exceptions apply and are at the discretion of the OLA Board for approval.
OLBA Bursaries
The Ontario Library Boards’ Association (OLBA) Bursary Draw assists board members in distant communities with travel expenses to the OLA Super Conference, and allows them to choose from hundreds of professional development events, including the OLBA Board Bootcamp.

Bursaries available:
2 X Northwest Region: $1,250 per person
2 X Northeast Region: $750 per person
1 X Any Library Board serving a population under 5000: $500

In addition to the bursary, each recipient will be registered for the full OLA Super Conference including a single ticket to the Public Library Award Gala. The bursary award is non-transferrable and is for the exclusive use of the recipient.

OPLA Scholarships
Joyce Kipps Memorial Scholarship
In partnership with Library Bound, two scholarships have been developed to help off-set costs for an OLA member to attend one of two signature events.

Scholarships available:
1 x RA in a Day: $200
1 x OLA Super Conference: $300

In addition to the scholarship, each recipient will be registered for the full event, and receive a one year free OLA membership. The scholarship award is non-transferrable and is for the exclusive use of the recipient.

Public Library Association (PLA), a division of the American Library Association, Conference Grant
Every 2 years, OPLA offers a PLA Conference Grant to a current OPLA member to financially assist their attendance conference in the United States. A grant of up to $3,000 is awarded by random draw to a qualified nominee.

Funds
OLA hosts several funds. Donations to all funds can be made online or by mail. Unless otherwise noted, a tax receipt is provided for donations.
Canadian Voices for School Libraries (CVSL)
Canadian Voices for School Libraries is a new organization dedicated to fostering the growth of the school library learning commons in Canada and to developing a national network of school library practitioners and supporters. A contribution from you and/or from your organization will help CVSL get off to a great start. **No tax receipt is issued for this fund.**

Forest of Reading® Festival Fund
The Festival Fund supports the expansion of the Festival of Trees into rural and at-risk communities, helps bring First Nation communities to the Toronto Festival, and may also help Canadian authors get to the Festival.

Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship Fund
In 2007, Dr. Ken Haycock generously donated to the former Canadian Library Association (CLA) to establish an award for promoting librarianship. With the dissolution of CLA in 2016, OLA accepted a transfer of the funds to continue presenting the award. A cash prize of $1,000 is awarded in addition to a plaque recognizing the recipient’s achievement.

Larry Moore Fund
The Larry Moore Fund, named after the former Executive Director of OLA, funds the Larry Moore Challenge, a tri-annual competition to encourage and foster leadership and innovation in librarianship.

Marjorie Fleming Mentoring Fund
Awarded to establish a mentoring project of enduring significance at OLA.

OCULA New Librarian Residency Award Fund
The intention of the residency program is to enhance recruitment of new librarians to academic librarianship and provide entry-level professional work experience in an academic or research library setting. This award pays for a one-year salary of a new librarian. OLA accepts donations to help fund this award. **No tax receipt is issued for this fund.**

Sarah Badgley Literacy Fund
The Rural Learning Association established the Sarah Badgley Fund in 2002. As of 2016, the Ontario Library Association administers the Fund. A grant of up to $500 per year is available to rural public libraries and to urban public libraries that serve rural clientele. The purpose of the grant is to support children’s literacy initiatives.