

years of involvement. Liz has supported the association in many volunteer roles, including as President of OSLA in 1996 and as the 2003 OLA President, and as an OLA employee for the past seven years.

Sincere thanks to the OCULA, OLITA, OLBA, OPLA, OSLA, and ABO-FRANCO Presidents and Vice-Presidents who brought passion, knowledge, and insights to the work of the OLA Board and contributed to its 2013 accomplishments. These dedicated people ensured strong communication and collaboration between the OLA Board and Division Councils as we developed the 2014–2017 OLA Strategic Plan and concluded the previous plan. At the same time, they supported the needs of each of the library sectors through their divisional leadership and countless volunteer hours.

It has been indeed an honour to work with such a collegial and competent Board Executive: Past-President Karen McGrath, Vice-President/President

Elect Anita Brooks Kirkland, and Treasurer Lita Barrie. Thanks also to 2011 President Tanis Fink for her ongoing support and enthusiasm.

My thanks would not be complete without thanking and recognizing Shelagh Paterson and the OLA Staff. It has been my great pleasure to work with you. Shelagh: you bring great passion and boundless enthusiasm to your role as the OLA Executive Director. Thank you for your great leadership and contribution to the success of OLA in 2013. To the OLA Staff: you are a fine group of creative, dedicated, and hardworking people. You make great things happen for OLA and its members.

It has been a privilege to be the 2013 President of the Ontario Library Association. This is an amazing organization!



## REPORT OF LITA BARRIE OLA TREASURER



In 2013, I completed my first year as OLA Treasurer. It has been a privilege for me to work with OLA in this capacity. We've faced some challenges in 2013; I want to thank the staff and Board for their ongoing dedication and commitment to serving the OLA membership and the Ontario library community. We ended 2013 with a deficit of \$294,000 in 2013, but our accumulated surplus continues to be very strong at \$790,000.

This year's deficit is significant, though only a small portion of \$20,000 is an operating deficit. A significant portion of the deficit is due to pre-planned investments, including the third and final year of a multi-year investment in our new integrated system, iMIS. \$117,000 of the deficit is due to a one-time write-off of accounts receivable during 2008-2011. This amount reflects a mix of duplication errors and receivables that could not be properly tracked with the old association management system. The challenges as a result of the old system further emphasize the much needed investment in OLA's iMIS system.

An added pressure to our 2013 revenues continued to be the impact of the shifts in digital publishing on the OLA Store. OLA staff have developed a comprehensive marketing strategy to reposition the OLA Store during 2014.

OLA's record of service, innovation, and membership growth aligned with our mission have all contributed to OLA's success. The OLA Board has committed to the ongoing development of revenue streams to support innovation and member initiatives. In 2014, we have created a new Board Committee that will be looking at OLA's revenue and fund development strategies to align the organization to maximize future opportunities. Moving forward, I encourage the Board to explore new initiatives that will help ensure OLA remains on a sustainable path for the future. I encourage all OLA members to find ways to get more involved in our association, not only is a tremendous personal opportunity, it is also critical to the future success of our organization and our profession.