



ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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:: ontario library association
2015 ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT OF JANE HILTON

2015 PRESIDENT, ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



It was another eventful year for OLA. The accomplishments achieved and progress made on reaching our goals was thanks to the collaboration and commitment of volunteers, who dedicate their time and talent to make the association so successful.

Advocacy

Advocacy was a priority again this year, both in terms of demonstrating value of libraries and in securing funding. Several policy issues were addressed ensuring library perspectives were heard. Specifically, the OLA responded to the following:

- Proposed School Library cuts
- Community Hubs consultation
- Municipal Legislation review
- Culture Strategy consultation
- Fair e-Book Pricing campaign

A second Library Day at Queen's Park resulted in 25 visits to MPPs and their staff. They were provided with compelling evidence on libraries as essential contributors to the economy, education, culture and quality of life. Behind the scenes there was considerable planning and logistical support to ensure a seamless execution for this advocacy work.

Super Conference

The theme of the 2016 Super Conference was Library Lab: The Idea Incubator. As a card carrying Medical Laboratory Technologist (MLT), the team had my enthusiastic support for applying the lab concept in a novel and unique way. The new

conference structure proved to be successful as over 4,000 delegates attended the almost 270 sessions. The energy at the conference was infectious (pun intended) and many would agree that it was the "best conference ever!" Congratulations to our Super Conference co-chairs, Richard Reid and Peggy Lunn, and all planners, volunteers and staff.

Milestones

The annual report is a reflection of several achievements over the past year and I was fortunate to have worked with a committed board that embarked on a journey of change. My sincere thanks to the 2015 presidents and vice-presidents of the OLA divisions who brought their passion, knowledge and perspectives to each board meeting. These individuals were responsible for providing leadership to their respective sectors and, as members of the OLA Board, ensured the vision and direction of the association was effective in meeting the needs of its members.

While there were many initiatives, the most notable include:

- Participation in the Canadian Federation of Library Associations model taking into consideration the survey responses from OLA members
- Completion of the Governance Review report by the Governance Review Committee with the following priority recommendations developed and implemented:
 - Committee Terms of Reference Template and Committee Evaluation tool
 - Executive Director evaluation template.
 - Board self-assessment
 - Ten governance policies
- Approval of the French translation plan/guidelines

- Development of a revenue generation plan and a "New Initiatives" planning form
- Establishment of Indigenous Library Task Group
- Moved the OLA fiscal year to an August year-end after a thorough review of the implications
- Improved the visual appeal and functionality of the OLA website
- Provided sponsorship, funding and support for:
 - ACCESS Conference
 - Our Digital World
 - Corporate and charitable status wind down of Knowledge Ontario

As President, I delivered the keynote speech at a Niagara Regional Public Library Board Development session and, later in the year, presented to first year Durham College Library and Information Technician students. In addition, it was a great honour and a privilege to serve as a member of the Advisory Group for the province's first Culture Strategy.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of the Executive Director, Shelagh Paterson and the OLA staff. They bring events to life and the sound of 8,000 excited children celebrating 81 authors at the Festival of Trees will not soon be forgotten. I was somewhat more prepared for, but in no less impressed by, the Durham Region Festival of Trees event.

As the first public library board member in 35 years to serve as President, I'm especially proud to have participated in the leadership of OLA. We are strong in numbers and in diversity with a common conviction that libraries can, and do, make a difference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Hilton".

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.

OLA BY THE NUMBERS

HOW DID OLA STACK UP
AT THE END OF 2015?

4,975
MEMBERS

The Ontario Library Association (OLA) consists of six divisions: L'Association des bibliothèques de l'Ontario-Franco (ABO-FRANCO), Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA), Ontario Library and Information Technology Association (OLITA), Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA), Ontario Public Library Association (OPLA), and Ontario School Library Association (OSLA).



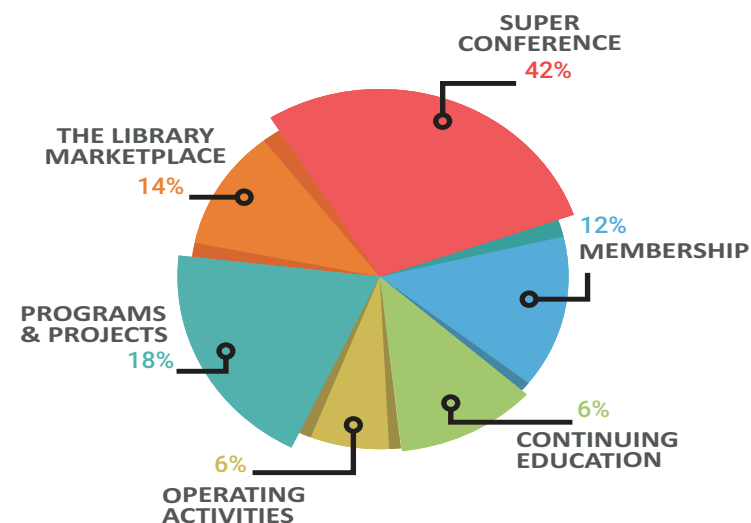
The LIBRARY MARKETPLACE

In 2015, The Library Marketplace (formerly the OLASore) had approximately 3,200 titles available in print. The most sought after items were: *Leading Learning*, library socks, the Pete the Cat poster, and *Marvelous Minilessons for Teaching Beginning Writing, K-3*.

24K
items sold



2015 OLA Revenues



FOREST OF READING®

registrants



3,157

registered sites
in 2014



4,184

registered sites
in 2015

FESTIVAL OF TREES™

ticket sales



Each circle represents approximately 200 Festival attendees.

THUNDER BAY
623 tickets sold

TORONTO
6,988 tickets sold

LONDON
1,708 tickets sold

FRENCH
1,261 tickets sold

LIBRARY LAB: THE IDEA INCUBATOR

BIBLIO-LABO : L'INCUBATEUR À IDÉES

Over 270 sessions were
attended by 4,500 delegates
from around the country.

OLA SUPER CONFERENCE

FOREST OF READING®

271K program participants

118 nominated titles
in the program

1.6M books sold by the official
Forest of Reading wholesaler

219 K registered voters

5101 TWITTER FOLLOWERS
as of December 31, 2015

1811 FACEBOOK FANS
as of December 31, 2015

1369 WEBINAR (SITE) REGISTRANTS
for 69 Education Institute
webinars, with 87 presenters

63K WEBSITE VISITS
exclusively to the OLA homepage

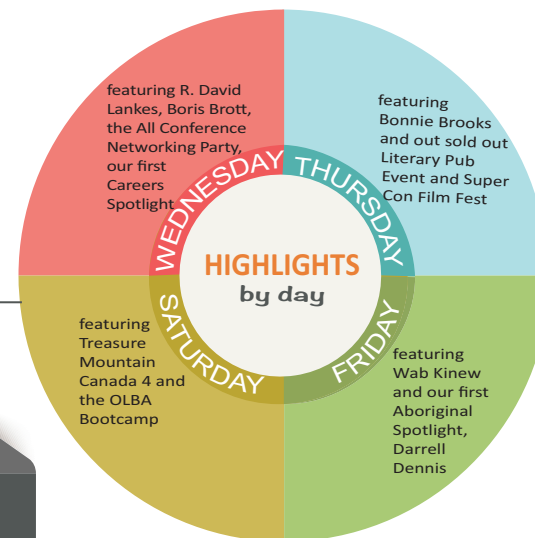
300+ STUDENT VOLUNTEERS
who volunteered
over 910 hours collectively

MEMBER BENEFITS

GoodLife Fitness and Perkopolis added
as new member benefits



Other OLA Signature
Events include the
Annual Institute on
the Library as Place
(163 registrants) and
the Copyright
Symposium (48
registrants)



QUICK FACTS



TOP TECH TRENDS IN LIBRARIES

Embracing
Community-Led
Libraries

Copyright and
Accessibility:
Intrinsically
Connected

The Coach
Approach -
Asking the Right
Question

BEST
COLLECTIONS
EVER!

MOST watched
WEBINARS





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



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.

REPORT OF SHELAGH PATERSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



“Collaboration and collegiality” is how I would describe the OLA experience in 2015. We welcomed the opportunity to work more closely with a number of library associations and organization on projects and issues important to our sector. Here are just a few:

- **Libraries 2025:** a futures symposium for the public library sector and developed by a steering committee including the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL), the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC), Southern Ontario Library Services (SOLS), and Ontario Library Services–North (OLS-N).
- **Treasure Mountain Canada:** OLA jumped at the opportunity to host this school library research symposium in conjunction with our Super Conference. TMC intends to move to a different host province every two years.
- **The Library Marketplace (formerly The OLASore):** we consulted broadly with the Canadian library community and rebranded. This included developing special sales offerings for and with The Partnership members—Canada’s network of provincial and territorial associations (because everyone should buy a pair of library socks!).
- The formation of the new **OLA Indigenous Libraries Task Group**, who have the goal

of working collaboratively and strategically with other organizations to strengthen library services for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit communities.

- A important ‘to-do’ project that had been on our list for a number of years finally met its match! Jane Hilton, 2015 president OLA was the perfect leader for OLA’s governance review. Thanks to Jane and the award winning **OLA Governance Committee** (now disbanded as their task was accomplished), OLA has a foundational set of policies and position descriptions that are key to a strong association.

And finally, at a special members meeting of CLA at the 2016 OLA Super Conference we began to say farewell to the **Canadian Library Association**, a venerable institution created by the Canadian library sector 70 years ago.

Freda F. Waldon, First President of CLA (1946) and president OLA (1941–1942), commented at the time: “I grew up thinking myself as a Canadian citizen and not very much more. It was only when I came into the library profession that I became very conscious of local loyalties—first through my own library and then through the Ontario Library Association. I hope that those local interests have not weakened my interest in the Canadian scene, and I am very glad I can now think nationally in the library field as

well in other fields. I do feel that this is a challenge to us and an historic occasion.”

We are at another historical moment in the Canadian library landscape where collectively we decided that CLA had gone as far as it could for the Canadian library sector and this challenged us to imagine what sort of entity could serve us well into the future. Just as OLA was a founding supporter of CLA in 1946, our members in 2016 have endorsed support for belonging to the new **Canadian Federation of Library Associations- Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB)** to ensure that in addition to our voice at the provincial table, we now have a direct opportunity to shape national and international policy and a government engagement strategy.

I can’t think of a better phrase than the 2017 Super Conference theme chosen by Todd Kyle, 2016 OLA president of “All In.” to capture this increasing sense of collaboration and strategic alliances in our library world. My thanks and appreciation to the 2015 OLA Board for guiding and supporting our strategies over the past year and to the hard-working staff team who are always up for any challenge.



Representatives from The Partnership (2015)

OLA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, 2015

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS (GENERAL FUND)

	Audited 2015	Audited 2014
GENERAL OPERATIONS AND ADVOCACY		
REVENUES (\$)		
Membership	314,544	341,366
Conference	1,136,067	1,144,947
Continuing Education	159,301	166,890
The Library Marketplace	317,709	393,835
Contract Administration (YI)	93,164	137,519
Programs and Projects	375,052	440,618
Government Grants	40,800	39,175
Contributions	1,322	5,314
Investment Income	7,259	10,017
Other Income	102,484	64,349
	\$2,547,702	\$2,744,030

EXPENSES (\$)		
Salaries and Benefits	861,346	888,669
OLA Conference	571,276	605,266
Continuing Education	67,381	81,638
The Library Marketplace	247,626	288,254
Programs and Projects	367,729	284,939
Provision for Doubtful Accounts (recovery)	(18,317)	86,514
Honoraria and Awards	6,182	17,958
Catering	15,180	22,116
Purchased Services and Materials	61,172	63,801
Travel, Lodging and Meals	58,816	57,211
Occupancy Costs	119,697	128,796
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	27,897	38,470

EXPENSES continued in next column...

	Audited 2015	Audited 2014
EXPENSES (\$) continued from previous column...		
Supplies, Printing Delivery, etc.	13,168	20,309
Telephone	9,186	9,791
Professional Fees	33,199	75,475
Depreciation	42,714	52,999
Bank Charges, Credit Card Fees, and Foreign Exchange	33,795	50,362
	\$2,518,047	\$2,772,568
Deficiency of revenues over expenses for the year	\$29,655	(\$28,538)
Net assets - general fund - at beginning of year	\$761,344	\$789,882
Net assets - general fund - at end of year	\$790,999	\$761,344

The Statement of Operations & Changes in Net Assets (General Fund) and the Statement of Financial Position are drawn from the audited comparative figures for the year, which ended December 31, 2015.

Complete audited statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, as prepared by the accounting firm of Clarke Henning LLP, and approved by the Board of Directors on May 31, 2016, are available on the OLA website at www.accessola.com.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Audited 2015	Audited 2014
ASSETS (\$)		
Current assets		
Cash	1,665,033	853,242
Short-term investments	75,771	101,846
Accounts receivable	69,682	549,253
Inventory	87,224	91,993
Prepaid expenses - conference	16,250	38,275
- other	19,994	11,721
	\$1,933,954	\$1,646,330
Long-term assets		
Investments	296,127	395,763
Loan receivable	15,500	50,000
Capital assets	167,705	210,420
	\$479,332	\$656,182
TOTAL	\$2,413,286	\$2,302,513
LIABILITIES (\$)		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	801,378	660,815
Deferred revenue	691,561	752,373
	\$1,492,939	\$1,413,188
NET ASSETS (\$)		
Restricted fund	790,999	761,344
General fund	129,348	127,981
	\$920,347	889,325
TOTAL	\$2,413,286	\$2,302,513

REPORT OF LESA BALCH OLA TREASURER



In 2015, I completed my first year as Treasurer for the Ontario Library Association. It has been a privilege for me to work with OLA in this capacity. 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 2015 with a surplus of \$29,655, allowing our accumulated surplus to increase slightly. Expenses were slightly lower than expected across the association and its divisions. Congratulations to Stephanie Pimentel, OLA's Operations Manager for her judicious financial management in her first full

fiscal year at OLA.

A Revenue Development Task Force was created in 2015 to investigate revenue and fund development opportunities. Representatives from the OLA Board, along with the former OLA Treasurer, worked with OLA staff to investigate strategies for revenue development and guidelines for how projects are funded by the association. As a result, the OLAStore was rebranded as The Library Marketplace and a new plan was created for the store's future. A "New Initiatives" application was developed to help requesters define proposals within the parameters of OLA's strategic plan and help the Board of Directors better assess requests for support and funding. A sponsorship package was developed, and a request for proposal was issued for a fund development plan. Moving forward into 2016, the Revenue Development Task Force will monitor the implementation of these initiatives and work with the successful vendor to develop a fund development plan.

As you first heard at the OLA Super Conference, the OLA Board of Directors is recommending a change to our fiscal year from January to December to a cycle that runs from September to August, beginning in September 2017. This allows the fiscal year to more closely align with OLA's major activities.

It is exciting to be a part of such a dynamic organization, and I look forward to 2016.

CONGRATS TO OUR 2015 AWARD WINNERS!

**OLA LARRY MOORE
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:**
Joyce Cunningham, Fort Frances, ON
(posthumous)

OLA TECHNICAL SERVICES AWARD:
Lisa Radha Weaver, Toronto DSB

**OLA LES FOWLIE INTELLECTUAL
FREEDOM AWARD:**
Dorothy Macnaughton

**OLA MEDIA AND
COMMUNICATIONS AWARD:**
100.9 Canoe FM, Haliburton, ON

**OLA PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR
EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT:**
OLA Governance Review Committee

**JOYCE CUNNINGHAM AWARD
(PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
OF THE YEAR):** Windsor Public
Library Board

**ABO-FRANCO LE PRIX MICHELINE
PERSAUD:** Joanne Plante, Conseil Des Écoles
Catholiques Du Centre-Est

**OCULA AWARD FOR SPECIAL
ACHIEVEMENT:** Colin Clarke, Canadian Centre for
Epigraphic Documents

**OCULA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD:** Karen McGrath, Niagara College

**OLBA W.J. ROBERTSON MEDALLION
(PUBLIC LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR):**
Rebecca Jones, Brampton Library

OLITA PROJECT AWARD:
Kitchener Public Library

**OPLA ADVOCACY IN ACTION: EXCELLENCE IN
CHILDREN'S OR TEEN SERVICES AWARD:**
Daria Sharanewych, Mississauga Library
System (retired)

**OPLA CHILDREN'S OR YOUTH
LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD:**
Andrea Wesson, Vaughan PL

**OPLA LEADERSHIP IN ADULT
READERS' ADVISORY:**
Bessie Sullivan, Haliburton County PL

**OPLA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD:** Rod Sawyer, Ministry of Tourism,
Culture and Sport

**OPLA JAMES BAIN MEDALLION
(PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER
OF THE YEAR):** Gary Price, Cambridge
Public Library Board / Idea Exchange

**OSLA ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
YEAR AWARD:** Lynn Wisniewski, Halton DSB

OSLA AWARD FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT:
Treasure Mountain Canada

**OSLA TEACHER LIBRARIAN
OF THE YEAR:** Dawn Telfer, Thames
Valley DSB

**OLA LIBRARY BUILDING (LIBRARY
ARCHITECTURAL & DESIGN
TRANSFORMATION) AWARD WINNERS:**
Kitchener Public Library – Central Branch
Ottawa Public Library – Beaverbrook Branch
Carleton University – MacOdrum Library
Toronto Public Library – Mount Dennis Branch

THANKS TO OUR 2015 FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Events have been financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation.

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OLA BOARD AND COUNCILLORS, 2015

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Vice President

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Newmarket Public Library

Past President

Anita Brooks Kirkland

Independent Consultant,
Libraries & Learning

Treasurer

Lesa Balch

Kitchener Public Library

In addition to the board executive, the OLA Board of Directors is comprised of the President & Vice President of each division.

ABO-FRANCO

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Conseil des écoles catholiques
du Centre-Est

Vice-Présidente

Donna McLeod

Bibliothèque publique de Toronto

Présidente Sortante

Julie Desmarais

Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa

Le Secrétaire-trésorier

Patrick Labelle

Université d'Ottawa

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Karine Fournier

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Collège universitaire Glendon

OCULA

President

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Seneca College

Vice President

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Past President

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Coach

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Fiona Inglis

Mohawk College Library

Sharon Munro

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Jack Young

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(Mid-Central Region)

Andrew Porteus

Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library
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Mariam Hamou

London Public Library Board
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Univeristy of Ottawa

Past President

May Yan

Ryerson University

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CBC Libraries & Archives

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Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS)

Susanna Galbraith

McMaster University

Jeffrey Toste

Toronto Public Library

Jan Dawson

Ontario College Library Services (OCLS)

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Past President

Lisa Moran

Toronto Public Library

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Fort Frances Public Library
(Northwestern Region)

Roxanne Rissanen

Sault Ste. Marie Public Library
(Northeastern Region)

Amber McNair

Huntsville Public Library
(East-Central Region)

Monika Conduit

East Gwillimbury Public Library
(Mid-Central Region)

Kathleen Shannon

Hamilton Public Library
(West-Central Region)

Sydney Lane

Oxford County Library
(Southwestern Region)

Elizabeth Sutter

Toronto Public Library (Toronto)

Kickstart to Participation**Sarah McDonald**

Oxford County Library

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Anna Szumilas

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(Toronto Region)

OLA STAFF 2015

Back Row (L-R): Brian Pudden, Suzanne Wice, Meredith Tutching, Mary-Rose O'Connor, Shelagh Paterson, Michelle Arbuckle, Lauren Hummel, and Stephanie Pimentel. Front Row (L-R): Michael Rogowski, Annesha Hutchinson, Beckie MacDonald and Rachelle DesRochers.

*Taken at the 2016 Festival of Trees
on the Tall Ship Kajama.*

