

ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE L'ONTARIO-FRANCO

DONNA-MARIE MACLEOD, PRÉSIDENTE

ABO-FRANCO

2016 ABO-Franco Membership: 245



D'abord j'aimerais remercier tous les membres du Conseil 2016 de la division, et remercier Véronique Dupuis pour la planification des ateliers francophones de la Super Conférence.

J'aimerais aussi reconnaître le travail des bénévoles qui passent chaque année plusieurs heures à lire des livres jeunesse dans le cadre du comité de la Forêt de la lecture pour les prix Tamarac, Tamarac Express et Peuplier. Vous les bénévoles, par votre travail, vous alimentez l'imaginaire des milliers d'enfants de l'Ontario (et d'ailleurs au monde francophone entier). Ne sous-estimez jamais l'importance de votre travail.

Cette année en reconnaissance cette œuvre importante et soutenue nous avons accordé le prix Micheline-Persaud — destiné à honorer une personne, un groupe ou une institution qui s'est distingué dans le développement et la promotion des services de bibliothèque en français en Ontario — aux co-présidentes du Comité de

sélection de la Forêt de la lecture : Eugénia Doval, Diane Quessy, Christine Labelle, et Évy Gambin.

Dans le but de promouvoir les services en français, nous participons aux événements tels que « Library Day at Queen's Park » et « Ontario Public Library Week ». Nous liaisons aussi avec de groupes tels que LANCRE, le Salon des associations, et l'association des étudiants en sciences de l'information de l'Université d'Ottawa. Encore cette année, nous avons poursuivi notre participation au Collectif de la Communauté du Savoir dont le mandat est de faciliter la mise en œuvre de projets communautaires qui offrent des occasions d'acquisition et de partage du savoir.

Nous continuons à alimenter notre fil Twitter : @ABO_FRANCO. Je vous invite à nous y joindre.

Enfin, nous poursuivons la traduction du site Web de la division, et des documents essentiels de la OLA afin d'accueillir nos membres francophones

et francophiles. Cette année, lors de la Super Conférence, nous avons offerts 4 ateliers en français.

Je vous encourage fortement de vous impliquer avec nous : il s'agit d'une très bonne façon de rencontrer d'autres bibliothécaires francophones ou francophiles de partout en Ontario, et de travailler avec un groupe de personnes passionné des bibliothèques.

Finalement, je vous rappelle qu'il y a toujours de la place dans la revue Open Shelf pour publier des textes en français. Donnez-nous de vos nouvelles, décrivez-nous vos programmes et services, écrivez un article en français sur un sujet qui vous intéresse ou donnez un petit compte-rendu de vos livres préférés...

Mais, surtout, parlons notre langue entre nous, et partout ! Merci de m'avoir fait confiance en 2016.



ONTARIO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DENISE SMITH, PRESIDENT

OCULA

2016 OCULA Membership: 713

I am proud to have had the opportunity to lead OCULA Council in 2016. We had another successful year and I am pleased to highlight our achievements.

The **OCULA Spring Conference** tackled how academic libraries can “Create Space,” physically, digitally, and mentally. Keynote speaker Jutta Treviranus (OCAD University) delivered a fascinating session on the benefits of designing inclusive spaces.

The **OCULA Spring Dinner** encouraged attendees to think about Open Access with open minds. A Pinterest board allowed libraries to share how they celebrate and advocate for Open Access Week. Nelly Cancilla and Bobby Glushko from University of Toronto’s Scholarly Communications Office discussed their Open Robarts initiative, an alternative reality game used to celebrate and promote Open Access Week.

The **OCULA Fall Event**, offered online and in collaboration with **OLITA**, focused on the potential of libraries to transform higher education. Dr. Alec Couros (University of Regina) and Louise McGillis (Memorial University) joined us online to share how libraries are perceived by educators and

why we’re still waiting to see academic libraries transform.

In response to the OLA Board’s recommendation for OCULA to fund the **New Librarian Residency Award**, the New Librarian Residency Award Fundraising Committee launched its fundraising campaign at the OCULA Annual General Meeting on Feb. 2, 2017. In a demonstration of their support for this initiative, the OLA Board will match every contribution made to the award up to a maximum of \$10,000. Learn more at: <http://nlra.accessola.com>.

After experimenting with various production schedules, **InsideOCULA** committed to delivering five issues per year to OCULA members, starting in 2016. Each of these issues featured a plethora of valuable and engaging content. We also bid farewell to Elizabeth Yates, *InsideOCULA*’s dedicated and passionate Editor-in-Chief.

The **OCULA Award for Special Achievement** was presented to two remarkable projects: Student2Scholar (Western University, University of Toronto Libraries, Queen’s University) and La Casita Azul (York).

The **OCULA Award for Lifetime Achievement** went to Anne Dondertman, former Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections at the University of Toronto Libraries, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to OLA, OCULA, and the broader library community. Anne’s distinguished career in academic librarianship spanned nearly three decades. Her specialty in rare books has made her a highly respected member of the international rare book and manuscript community, and an inspirational role model and mentor for the profession.

In Autumn 2016 OLA and OCULA jointly applied for and hosted practicum student, Nikolina Lekarevic, who worked with *InsideOCULA* and OLA to migrate past editions of *InsideOCULA* to the Open Shelf platform and created a standardized tagging system for the magazine’s content.

I would like to thank 2016 OCULA Council, OCULA Super Conference planners Jennifer Peters and Courtney Lundrigan, and all our volunteer members-at-large for their exceptional contributions to all OCULA initiatives and activities. It was a pleasure to serve OCULA as the 2016 President.



ONTARIO LIBRARY BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

PIERRE MERCIER

OLBA

2016 OLBA Membership: 1,244

To quote our website, "The Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) is a division of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) that represents public library board members (trustees) on issues relating to their areas of responsibility. The work of the OLBA is primarily to build a professional development (training) program that is responsive to common issues of common concern. It provides information materials and training forums for advancing board development."

Leadership By Design

The past year has seen many developments, of which the foremost was the roll-out of the new online, interactive version of Leadership By Design (LBD). The program was achieved through a generous grant from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport to OLA and the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL). LBD is our marquee product along with the complimentary products (*One Place to Look* and *Cut to the Chase*) in our professional development program.

Changes to Bylaw 5

Last year saw the adoption of a change to OLA Bylaw 5, the bylaw that concerns itself with OLBA governance. The change permitted OLBA Councillors to complete their term even if they are not reappointed to their local boards by municipal council following municipal elections. This year OLBA is proposing to the OLA Board a further

modification to Bylaw 5. This proposal would see the current Toronto Region incorporated into the Mid-Central Region, rounding out the boundaries of council representation.

Bursaries and Awards

The past year also saw changes to the criteria for awarding the five OLBA Super Conference Travel Bursaries. One of the bursaries, originally limited to applicants from the Ottawa Valley Near North region (as defined by Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS)), can now be applied for by any Board serving 5,000 or fewer residents anywhere in Ontario. Also in the past, bursaries were only awarded to individual applicants; a bursary may now be awarded to a Board which would then designate a recipient from among themselves. There are also two bursaries each for Northeastern and Northwestern Ontario to help defray the costs of attending the Super Conference.

OLBA presents two annual awards: the James Bain Medallion to the Public Library Board Member of the Year, and the Joyce Cunningham Award to a public library or library that has demonstrated a high level of collaboration and innovation to produce outstanding results. In only its second year, the Cunningham Award has been a great success. The winner of the Bain Medallion this past year was Don Lynch from the Six Nations Public Library, and past president of OLBA. The winner of

the Cunningham Award was the West Gray Public Library Board.

Inside OLBA and Super Conference

Our always eagerly-anticipated newsletter has a new editor, Mariam Hamou, who also happens to be our 2017 OLBA Vice President, working with co-editor Kerry Badgley. Thanks to them, we will continue to enjoy topical and informative news on Library Board issues and activities. A big thank you is extended to former editor Don Lynch for his years of exemplary service, and OLBA 2016 Super Conference Planners Frances Ryan and Andrew Porteus.

The Future

The coming year will be an exciting one under our new President Kerry Badgley, who is also the 2017 OLA Vice President. No doubt one of his priorities will be the development of a new OLBA Strategic Plan to coincide with and compliment the OLA Strategic Plan. There will be ongoing efforts to increase our already healthy membership. In addition, you will see continued efforts from OLBA to augment and enhance the way it represents public library board members (trustees).

Conclusion

It's been a personal honour and pleasure to work with the OLBA Council the last few years. Together, we've faced a number of challenges



ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

SARAH SIMPKIN, PRESIDENT

OLITA

2016 OLITA Membership: 1,506

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with OLITA Council in 2016. Our mix of new and returning council members allowed us to build on a number of initiatives from previous years, as well as introduce new ways to connect with our membership.

As public concern over digital surveillance has grown, **Digital Odyssey's** theme of "Privacy in Public: Implications for Libraries" offered a topical look at the latest privacy issues and surveillance-thwarting tools. Keynote speaker **Laura Tribe** of OpenMedia delivered a captivating presentation on the ways governments, corporations and criminals make use of our personal information, while workshop leader **Alison Macrina** of the Library Freedom Project offered actionable techniques for creating stronger passwords, browsing the web anonymously, and using VPNs, among many other topics. I would like to thank all six speakers, as well as Hamilton Public Library for hosting us in their beautiful Central Library space.

OLITA's **Technology Lending Library** continued to grow in 2016. Many items were out on the road this year, travelling to Super Conference, the

OCULA Spring Conference, RA in a Day, the Child and Youth Expo, Digital Odyssey, and more. Makey Makey and Squishy Circuits kits remain popular, and our recently-added LittleBits electronics kits were in high demand. Retired items were also put to good use; council members were delighted to receive a report and photos from an elementary class that took on the challenge of disassembling one of our decommissioned Sony Readers. OLA members can look forward to more additions to the lending library in 2017.

Council spent a lot of time this year working on ways to better reach our membership. In April, we launched the **OLITA Social Media Roundabout**. Over the course of several weeks, councillors encouraged members to engage with us over various social media platforms including Slack, Twitter, LinkedIn and IRC (Internet Relay Chat). Council member Sarah Macintyre launched a regular column in *Open Shelf* titled **The Library IT Crowd**, which profiles library technologists in many types of roles and workplaces. Our blog, **InsideOLITA**, continued to be the go-to place for information on OLITA events, Lending Library item profiles, and articles on special topics.

The **OLITA Project Award**, which recognizes teams demonstrating problem solving, innovation, impact, timeliness, and contribution to the library community, was awarded to Ottawa Public Library for their BiblioBike / BiblioVélo project. Built in partnership with the Ottawa Tool Library, this DIY mini-library can be cycled to community events and spaces to extend the reach of library services in the city. Recognizing the good work that happens throughout the province, OLITA also began setting funds aside to sponsor technology events.

The technology track at **Super Conference** wouldn't be possible without the tireless efforts of our planners Ana Vrana and Graham Lavender. We were delighted to feature librarian and blogger **Jessamyn West** as our spotlight speaker, an expanded hands-on tech space at the Expo, the **Super Conference Hackfest** at Mozilla Toronto, as well as the return of the **Tech Talks** lightning talks series.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the OLITA Council members for their enthusiasm, creativity and commitment this past year.



ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ALEXANDRA YARROW, PRESIDENT

OPLA

2016 OPLA Membership: 1,740

This year, OPLA has undertaken projects that advocate for public libraries, promote the idea of public libraries as inclusive community hubs, and support the continuing professional development of our colleagues.

OPLA contributed to key OLA advocacy initiatives in 2016. We supported another successful **Ontario Public Library Week**, including a wildly popular Twitter contest which encouraged Ontarians to celebrate libraries using book spine poetry and a hashtag. We provided input into a draft **Culture Strategy** for Ontario, which establishes goals and actions to promote participation in arts and culture; build on the sector's economic impact in communities across the province; and help Ontarians tell their stories and express themselves. We supported the **Canadian Association of Community Television Users and Stations (CACTUS)** in a request to the CRTC to develop Community Media Centres (potentially co-located with public libraries and linked to our work with makerspaces, multimedia studies, and lifelong learning). At council, we also strengthened relationships with various like-minded organisations, including SOLS, ORION, FOPL, and CELA (Centre for Equitable Library Access).

One project I am particularly proud of this year is the **OPLA Ambassador Program**, inspired by OCULA's program and championed by Sarah Gauthier from Hamilton Public Library, our 2016 OPLA Kickstart to

Participation council member. While it will launch in 2017, the foundation for the initiative was laid in 2016. The mandate of the ambassador program is to facilitate conversations about OPLA's activities in all public libraries across the province. Ambassadors will provide a more local link to ensure that OPLA members feel engaged with OPLA and connected to the larger public library community.

OPLA's committees are the essence of the division, and they have accomplished some amazing things in 2016. The **Readers' Advisory (RA) Committee** hosted another successful **RA in a Day** with the theme of "Investing in RA: Skill Building Strategies." At RA in a Day, author Ann Walmsley shared how she came to run a prison book club; a panel explored training for RA; and a participatory session allowed attendees to discuss their recommended reads.

The **Child & Youth Services Committee** released the 2016 *Child and Youth Services Benchmarks and Statistical Report*, in partnership with Counting Opinions. The focus of the report was on children, and 50% of Ontario libraries contributed to the report. The **Child and Youth Services Expo**, themed "Reality Check: Level Up" was held in November at London Public Library and was a great success. Over 130 individuals attended to hear author Richard Scrimger, lightning talks, sessions about change management and STEM learning; and participate in speed networking and poster sessions.

I would like to particularly acknowledge the partnership that was developed in 2016 between the **OPLA Best Bets Committee** and the Readers' Advisory Committee. Vivien Keiling, Erin Walker, Melanie Kindrachuk, Andrea Dunn, Monika Conduit, and Maureen Johnson worked together on building a fruitful rapport, which resulted in a jointly delivered, two-part Education Institute (EI) webinar showcasing the work of both committees. It's worth adding that the first session "broke" the EI platform due to the high turnout, and the session had to be restarted!

Also, a big thank you to our intrepid **OPLA 2017 Super Conference** planners: Beth Crawley and Alexandra Eisenbichler, and to Vanessa Holm, **HoOPLA** editor, and Catherine Coles, OPLA editor of *Open Shelf*. I am similarly continually impressed by the passion, creativity, professionalism and dedication of the OLA staff. With their humour, thoughtfulness, and passion, the last year flew by, and all of us in the Ontario library community are fortunate to have them in our corner.

Serving on council takes time out of the work weeks and personal lives of every councillor. It has been my privilege to work with all of my council colleagues this year; together, we have rolled up our sleeves to support one another, our members, and the work of the association.



ONTARIO SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

KATE JOHNSON-MCGREGOR, PRESIDENT

OSLA

2016 OSLA Membership: 1,397

The OSLA council team worked diligently throughout 2016 to advance many goals.

The partnership OSLA forged with **TeachOntario** was a highlight of 2016. The projects led by OSLA members included webinars on makerspaces, an online book club and an online course on comics for educators. We are thrilled that TeachOntario provides an online learning space which actively values and supports school library programming.

In May, we demonstrated the role of school libraries as partners and leaders at the **Ministry of Education Faculties of Education Forum**, Learning and Teaching for Tomorrow: Building Collaboration and Capacity. OSLA also made an impact on new teachers at the Ministry of Education Building Futures conferences at faculties of Education in the fall through Brock and Nipissing.

OSLA teacher-librarians taught summer courses through the **Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and Ontario Teachers Federation (OTF)**. The ETFO courses focused on implementing *Leading Learning*, innovation and technologies in schools. The OTF course blended *Together for Learning*, *Leading Learning*, new *Canadian World Studies Curriculum* and effective use of technology for inquiry.

We advocated with our respective unions, including

ETFO and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA), to make formal language around staffing school libraries part of our collective agreements with the province. We continue to share the message: properly staffed school Library Learning Commons are vital parts of Ontario schools and fundamental to student learning and developing a love of reading.

OSLA attended **People for Education's Making Connections 2016 Conference** in November to learn more about current research in the Measuring What Matters project and to remind stakeholders of the impact of school library programs on student learning.

May saw the inaugural **OSLA President outreach initiative**. In a meeting with the Ontario Teacher Education Librarian Association (OTELA), we discussed building relationships between teacher candidates, OTELA librarians, and school libraries. We also collaborated with a dynamic group of secondary teacher-librarians from the Ottawa area in a session focused on *Leading Learning* and the transition to a Library Learning Commons. It was a wonderful opportunity to share ideas and connect face-to-face with our members.

OSLA has joined **Canadian School Libraries** as an organizational member. Through a broad variety of events, school libraries celebrated **National School**

Library Day on Oct. 24, 2016, demonstrating the myriad ways in which they serve their communities. OSLA ran the **School Libraries Matter** media contest in November and December to close out the year. Winning videos are available on the OLA website.

The September issue of **Teaching Librarian** included a print copy of a multi-year Ministry of Education collaborative writing project with TALCO (The Association of Library Coordinators and Consultants of Ontario) librarians and teachers. The **Student Inquiry Poster** is also available in digital hyperlinked format on the OSLA resources page on the OLA website.

Councillors worked to revise the *Together for Learning* website this year. We are proud to announce the streamlined, more user-friendly version went live in November. We also began revising the 2010 *Together For Learning* vision document, making relevant connections to the 21st century global competencies.

A special thank you to OSLA council and OSLA Super Conference planners Jessica Longthorne and Michelle Campbell for being dynamic, funny, fabulous people who get stuff done. I am honoured to have served as President of OSLA for 2016 and humbled by the amazing dedication of library people around this province.