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**OPLA 2016 Annual General Meeting  
Metro Toronto Convention Centre  
Thursday, February 2nd 2017, 8:00a.m.-9:00 a.m.**

**OPLA Children and Youth Services Committee Report December 2016**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

- Committee Members:
  - Amanda Wilk, Burlington Public Library (Co-chair)
  - Cameron Ray, Toronto Public Library (Co-Chair)
  - Jane Venus, Ottawa Public Library
  - Kelley England, King Township Public Library
  - Greer MacDonald, Lambton County Library
  - Amy Kay, Amherstview Library, County of Lennox and Addington (on maternity leave but staying in group)
  - Douglas P. Davey, Halton Hills Public Library
  - Jestine Waterman (Student)
  - Amanda Hodgkinson, Orillia Public Library
- Council Liaison:
  - Monika Conduit
- Guest member:
  - Michael Rogowski, OLA Event Coordination

**CHAIRSHIP:**

In fall 2016, Amanda Wilk was selected as Co-Chair. We continue having an overlapping two-Chair system, with each Chair serving two years, but only one year with any given Co-Chair. Douglas Davey stepped down as Co-chair but will continue to participate in the working group. We thank Douglas immensely for his hard work and dedication to the group.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:**

- 2016 saw a few changes
- 2016 was the end of Douglas' term as Co-Chair, and the turnover of our student member
- Jestine Waterman is our new student member
- Stephanie Park ended her term as student member.
- 2017 will see significant change as terms finish up on four long-term members.
- Work has already begun to replace these four long-term members.



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## **AWARDS**

Due to the relocation of the award ceremony from Superconference to the Children's and Youth Expo, we had two sets of winners in 2016. The winners announced at the latter event were:

- Carolyn Swayze - OPLA's Children's or Youth Services Librarian of the Year Award
- Trish MacGregor - OPLA's Advocacy in Action: Excellence in Children's or Teen Services Award

## **BENCHMARKING SURVEY AND REPORT**

In 2016 we saw the release of the report on *The OPLA Child and Youth Services Benchmarks and Statistical Report 2016*. The focus was on children and we received feedback from 50% of Ontario libraries which is down 4% from the previous 2009 report. Key findings were that: 33% of libraries report that full day kindergarten has impacted on them negatively, circulation of children's materials make up 24% of overall circulation, while children's budgets only make up 17% of overall spending, and the percentage of library staff in Child services is highest (23%) in communities with populations in the 15,000 to under 50,000 category. They make up the smallest percentage (3%) in the largest libraries, which are those over 100,000.

## **THE CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH EXPO:**

The Children's and Youth Expo was a huge success and it is the intent of this committee to offer the event again next year. It was held in London, Ontario in 2016 in order to grant access to those who cannot travel on the day. This changing of venues is anticipated to continue in order to allow greater access to the expo and the resources it offers.

## **CONCLUSION:**

The Children and Youth Committee is operating well, with many changes having been made to ensure its ongoing success, including the adoption of a two-chair system, and the collection of committee document on the OLA's Community website.

Thanks to OPLA council for their continuing support of our efforts.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amanda Wilk – Co-Chair, OPLA Child and Youth Services Committee

Cameron Ray – Co-Chair, OPLA Child and Youth Services Committee