

**.../Ontario Library Boards' Association**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
to  
MEMBERSHIP  
FOR THE YEAR 2016**

**PRESENTED AT  
SUPER CONFERENCE 2017**

***3 February 2017***

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## **AGENDA**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>1. Call to Order and Welcome</b>                                  | <b>Pierre Mercier</b> |
| <b>2. Approval of Agenda</b>   | <b>Membership</b>     |
| <b>3. Establish Quorum</b>   | <b>Nancy McLuskey</b> |
| <b>4. Introduction of 2015 Council</b>                               | <b>Pierre Mercier</b> |
| <b>5. Approval of Minutes (Pg 5)</b>                                 | <b>Nancy McLuskey</b> |
| <b>6. Outgoing President's Report</b>                                | <b>Pierre Mercier</b> |
| <b>7. Treasurer's Report</b>   | <b>Elsbeth Belair</b> |
| <b>8. New Business</b><br><i>- Proposed – Amendment to By-Law #5</i> | <b>Pierre Mercier</b> |
| <b>9. Business from the Floor</b>                                    | <b>Membership</b>     |
| <b>10. Recognitions</b>  | <b>Pierre Mercier</b> |
| <b>11. Incoming President's Address</b>                              | <b>Kerry Badgley</b>  |
| <b>12. Adjournment</b>   | <b>Kerry Badgley</b>  |



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## **OLBA MISSION**

**The Ontario Library Boards' Association is a  
Centre of Excellence for Governance for  
Public Library Boards in Ontario**

Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) represents Public Library Board Members 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. OLBA provides information, materials and training forums for advancing board development.

## **OLBA COUNCIL 2016**

<b>President</b>	<b>Pierre Mercier</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Kerry Badgley</b>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Lynn Humfress-Trute</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Elsbeth Belair</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Nancy McLuskey</b>

## **Regional Representatives**

<b>South West Region</b>	- <b>Mariam Hamou</b>	<b>London PL Board</b>
<b>Central West Region</b>	- <b>Andrew Porteus</b>	<b>Niagara on the Lake PL Board</b>
<b>Mid Central Region</b>	- <b>Natalie Petra</b>	<b>Caledon PL Board</b>
<b>Central East Region</b>	- <b>Nancy McLuskey</b>	<b>Haliburton Co. PL Board</b>
<b>Eastern Region</b>	- <b>Pamela Sweet</b>	<b>Grenville PL Board</b>
<b>North West Region</b>	- <b>Eileen Johnson</b>	<b>Greenstone PL Board</b>
<b>North East Region -</b>	- <b>Elsbeth Belair</b>	<b>Sault Ste. Marie PL Board</b>



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**Minutes  
Annual Membership Meeting  
29 Jan 2016**

**1. Call to Order**

President Lynn Humfress-Trute called the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Library Boards Association to order at 4:30 pm. Lynn welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for their support over the last year.

**2. Establish Quorum:**

Forty-two members were present: quorum established.

**3. Adoption of Agenda:**

Motion: To accept the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Margaret MacLean

Seconded by: Andrew Porteus **Carried**

**4. Introductions:**

The members of the 2016 OLBA Council were introduced.

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion: To approve as written, the Minutes of the AGM convened on January 30th, 2015.

Moved by: Mike Werenich

Seconded by: Debera Flynn **Carried**

**6. Outgoing President's Report:**

Outgoing president Lynn Humfress-Trute touched on the milestones achieved by OLBA during her term as president. Leadership by Design was successfully launched. OLBA has a record 1,229 individual members from 160 boards. A new award for the Public Library Board of the Year was launched and then renamed The Joyce Cunningham Award for Public Library Board of the Year to honour the memory of Joyce Cunningham. Lynn also reviewed the factors that have prompted a request to amend By-law #5.



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Lynn thanked Beth Phieffer and Frances Ryan for their efforts to plan a successful Super Conference on the members' behalf. In particular she thanked Beth for the many successive years of conference planning. Announced that the conference planners for 2017 will be Frances Ryan and Andrew Porteus.

Lynn also thanked Shelagh Paterson and all the OLA staff for their support.

### **7. Treasurer's Report - Elspeth Belair**

Motion: To approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Moved by: Mike Werenich

Seconded by: Andrew Porteus                      **Carried**

### **8. New Business-Proposed amendment to By-Law #5**

Motion: To approve as written the amendment to By-Law #5.

Moved by: Mike Werenich that OLBA recommend to OLA Board of Directors that By-Law #5 be amended as proposed.

Seconded by: Don Lynch                                      **Carried**

### **9. Business from the floor**

There was a question about members voting for positions in regions other than their own.

Also, there was a discussion about the benefits board members have from OLBA membership.

### **10. Recognition**

Lynn thanked Beth Phieffer for her dedication to OLBA over the years.

Lynn also thanked Don Lynch for his support during her term of office.



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## 11. Incoming President's Address-Pierre Mercier

On behalf of OLBA Pierre thanked the following:

- Counting Opinions, our AGM sponsor who makes all this possible.
- The OLA Executive Director Shelagh Paterson and her staff.
- Conference Co-planners Beth Phieffer and Frances Ryan.

Pierre also introduced incoming council members Pamela Sweet and Natalie Petra.

Pierre also touched on the priorities of OLBA council in the coming year.

As well, Pierre officially thanked Lynn Humfress-Trute for her leadership over the past year.

## 12. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn

Moved by: Joy Lambert

Respectfully submitted by

Nancy McLuskey

OLBA Council Secretary 2015

***Motion Required:***

***To accept the minutes as presented/amended***

***Made by:***

***Seconded:***



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## Outgoing President's Report

The past year has been eventful, populated with some bumps, kerfuffles, schmozzels, successes and overall progress. I am honoured to have had the opportunity to serve as your President for the past year, acting as nominal leader of a terrific team of dedicated and gifted individuals who freely volunteered many hours of their time in your service.

### ***Leadership By Design roll out***

Thanks to a grant to OLA and FOPL from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Leadership By Design, originally a static on-line library of Board development resources has been updated into an online interactive platform with updated videos and other resources. The complete package of modules has been loaded and awaits your perusal. Taken in sequence, the modules correspond to the four year life-cycle of the Library Board beginning with skills and knowledge development and concluding with succession planning. Leadership By design is available at no cost through LearnHQ, a collaborative project of the Southern Ontario Library Service, Ontario Library Service – North, and the Ontario Library Association.

We're always looking for ways to improve our products, so if you have any suggestions or comments we'd love to hear from you.

### ***Change in terms of service, OLA Bylaw 5***

Changes to the OLBA Bylaws regarding terms and conditions of service on Council were approved by the OLA Board at their AGM last June 10th. Whereas before, Councilors would have to resign if they were not reappointed to the Library Board if a Municipal Election occurred during their term, they can now complete their term even if not reappointed by



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Municipal Council following the Municipal election. This should greatly reduce turnover, loss of continuity and loss of expertise on Council every four years.

### ***Elections***

OLBA Council welcomed two new Councilors at this time last year, Natalie Petra representing the Mid-Central Region, and Pamela Sweet representing the Eastern Region.

There are some elections held every year in OLBA Council due to the staggered terms of three years. In addition, an election might be required due to a vacancy. This was the case this year as our representative from the Northwest Region resigned for personal reasons. In addition, a vacancy in the Southwestern Region caused by the incumbent's acceptance of the Vice President's position was filled.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize and to thank all the Representatives for the huge effort and commitment it takes for our representatives to participate in Board activities. This is especially true for the Representatives from more remote areas who often expend more than an entire day in travel, driving for hours along questionable roads to make connecting flights to stay in hotels away from home and loved ones in order to attend day-long meetings.

My colleague, New President Kerry Badgley will introduce the new Council later in this meeting.

### ***Changes to OLBA Super Conference Travel Bursary***

Two changes in the criteria for OLBA's Super Conference bursaries have resulted in a big change in how the bursaries are awarded.

Four bursaries are available to member library boards in the Northwest and Northeast regions while a fifth bursary will be awarded to a Board with 5000 or fewer residents anywhere in Ontario. In the past, only Boards in the Ottawa Valley Near North region of SOLS could apply.

Another change is that the Bursaries will be awarded to Boards, which would then select a Board member to whom the Bursary would be provided. As in the past, the recipient must never have attended the Super Conference before. The changes in the Bursary criteria were voted on at the September OLBA Council meeting.





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This year two bursaries are awarded to Boards in the Northwest Region. No applications were received from the Northeast or the smaller Boards.

### ***Proposed Changes to regions***

OLBA Council is made up of representatives from 8 regions and the President, Vice-President and Past-President. Each region represents a number of boards located in that area.

OLBA is recommending the realignment of two Toronto area regions that have caused an anomaly since 1998. Prior to municipal amalgamation in 1998, the Toronto Region represented 7 library boards. Since amalgamation Toronto Region has been an exception to the pattern with only the one board represented by the region.

The motion, to be voted on later this meeting, would incorporate the current Toronto Region into the Mid Central Region. This would round out the boundary of the Region and hopefully augment representation without substantially adding to the workload of the Representative as it results in the addition of only one more Board.

### ***Awards***

#### ***Joyce Cunningham Award***

2016 was the inaugural year of the Joyce Cunningham Award, given to a Public Library Board [or two Public Library Boards that participated in a collaborative effort] that has demonstrated a high level of collaboration and innovation to produce outstanding results. Prior to the creation of the Cunningham Award, only individuals could be recognized through the Bain Medallion.

Joyce was an exceptional mentor and role model for many individuals in the library field and this award is a fitting tribute to the years of leadership and hard work Joyce contributed to public libraries in Ontario.

This year's winner of the award is West Gray for its dynamic approach to Library Governance culminating in the opening of the new fully accessible Durham Branch replacing a Carnegie



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Library, which unfortunately was not accessible. To quote one of the letters of support, “The Library Board members have brought much needed change. They have updated Library Services within the West Grey Community. They have achieved all of this with positive drive, hard work and an essential spirited team approach.”

### ***The James Bain Medallion***

I’m very pleased to report that this year’s winner of the James Bain Medallion (Public Library Board Member of the Year) is Don Lynch, Past President of OLBA and long time Councilor and editor of Inside OLBA. Don has given OLA and OLBA many years of passionate and dedicated service and through his leadership at OLBA, since 2010, as well as at Six Nations Public Library, since 2007, and epitomizes the qualities recognized by the award; outstanding leadership in governing a public library in Ontario.

In addition, we would like to honour the extraordinary service commitment of Lynn Humfress-Trute. Over the past decade, Lynn has continually volunteered for OLA in a variety of significant roles including on OLBA Council, the OLA Board, the OLA Governance Committee, and the OLA Finance and Audit committees. With deepest appreciation, we would like to present Lynn with a plaque to memorialize her commitment to the association.

### ***Assembling a new 2016-2017 Work plan***

At its November meeting OLBA Council began assembling a new 2016-2017 Work plan which will help us itemize and prioritize our plans for the next year in a manner synchronous with the existing OLA Strategic Plan and help us to contribute to the development of OLA’s new Strategic Plan in the coming year. If you have any strategic recommendations for us please communicate them to one of our Councilors.



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## **One of the highlights of the annual OLA Super Conference,**

The **OLBA Boot Camp**, will be held tomorrow, February 4<sup>th</sup> 2017. The two previous Boot Camps were great successes, with heavy turnouts and many favourable comments.

This year's theme is "advocacy / managing public relations / getting your story out there". The Spotlight Speaker is John Chratska, the founder and Executive Director of EveryLibrary, speaking about How to Strategically Engage with Your Community. The next sessions are: How to Strategically Engage with Your Community again with John Chratska; Converting Fence Sitters to Fans with Jamie Hardie, Erin Scuccimarra; Scandal Panel, Managing Effectively After a Scandal with Kitty Pope, Peter Frise, and Claudette Richardson; and, And From Chaos to Clarity: Creating Policies for Difficult Situations.

I hope you can all make it; the investment of time is well worth the effort.

Once again, heartfelt thanks to our incredible Super Conference Planners, Frances Ryan and Andrew Porteus, who put in many hours of hard work to put together a truly "Super" Conference program and Bootcamp.

### ***Importance of membership***

Assuming that all the participants in tonight's AGM are members, there's no great need to extol the great value in membership in OLBA. In addition to being part of a super organization at the cutting edge of library governance, there is the terrific ease of membership; one Board membership results in all the individuals on the Board being members of OLA without further expense. And then there are all those perks and discounts.....

Membership in OLBA is at an all-time high, but this is no time to rest. There is still lots of room for growth so please remind your friends in Boards that aren't part of OLBA that it's well worth it to include the minimal cost of OLBA membership in their next budget



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***Finally,***

This is just a small sampling of what OLBA is up to these days. Your hardworking representatives on OLBA Council deserve your support and need your feedback so please do interact with them.

As I mentioned before it's been an honour and a pleasure to work with these people as well as my other colleagues from the various Divisions of OLA that make up the OLA Board under the leadership of President Todd Kyle.

To paraphrase Newton, I've had the opportunity to stand on the shoulders of giants, my predecessors in the role of OLBA President. I'd like to call out Past Presidents that I have had the pleasure of working with, Jane Hilton, Joyce Cunningham, Kim Vares, Don Lynch and of course Lynn Humfress-Trute, not to forget my successor, Kerry Badgely your new President. Kerry and Don have also been co-editors of Inside OLBA.

The Councilors, Pamela Sweet, Nancy McLuskey, Elspeth Belair, Natalie Petra, Eileen Johnson, Mariam Hamou and Andrew Porteus, have been stalwart, innovative and patient. This week we are reaping the benefits of the creative hard work of our Super Conference planners, Frances Ryan and Andrew Porteus. Shelagh Paterson, the Executive Director of OLA and her staff have been unfailingly kind, supportive and patient, and serenely competent in helping us do our job. Thank you one and all.

It's been a challenge and a gas being your President for 2016, thank you for the opportunity. It's time to pass on the reins to Kerry.

Now to the Treasurer's Report, New Business and then the Introduction of the new Council.



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*Elspeth Belair*

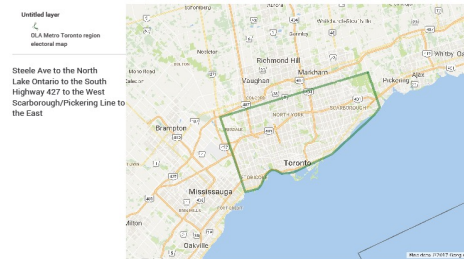
**Treasurer's Report  
Fiscal Year 2016**

***Motion Required:  
To accept the Treasurer's Report as Presented  
Made by:  
Seconded by:***

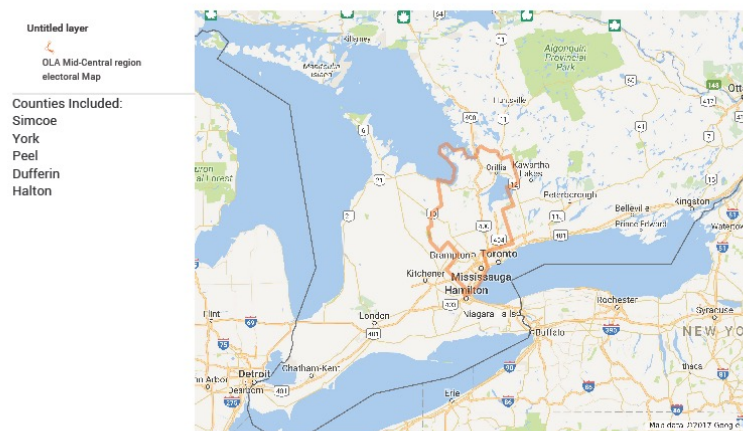


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OLA Metro Toronto region electoral map



OLA Mid-Central region electoral map



## Proposed Changes to By-Law #5

By-Law No.1 governs all divisions of the Ontario Library Association (OLA), including the Ontario Library Boards' Association.

By-Law No. 5, below, is specific to the OLBA.

**BE IT ENACTED as a By-Law of the  
ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
as follows:**

### Name

1. The name of the division herein constituted shall be the **Ontario Library Boards' Association**, Division of the Ontario Library Association and shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Division.

### Objects

2. The object of the Division is to foster, encourage and improve the capacity of public library boards to achieve excellence in library governance, in order to provide optimal public library service for all people in Ontario.

### Membership



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3. The members of the Division are those personal members of the OLA who are also public library board members on public library boards in Ontario or, public library board alumni who have purchased a Personal/Individual Membership as defined in Membership Types

## Council

4. The affairs of the Division shall be managed by the duly elected Council, in a manner consistent with **By-Law No. 1**.

- a. The composition of the Council shall be:
  - i. The Past President;
  - ii. The President;
  - iii. The Vice President (President-Elect);
  - iv. One Representative from each duly constituted Region;
  - v. Executive Director (non-voting);
 provided that each of the foregoing, except for the Executive Director, are personal members in good standing of the Division at the time of their election, and throughout their term of office.

In the event that any duly elected member of the Council ceases to be a Board Member on a Public Library Board in Ontario, the member may remain on Council for the duration of their term if the conditions of Membership are met.

- b. The Vice-President shall serve the first year after election as Vice-President, the second year as President, the third year as Past President.
- c. The term of office of a Councilor is three years. One third of the Council shall be retired annually.
- d. The Council shall choose a Secretary and Treasurer from the Councilors each year. If there is no candidate for either position, the Council may appoint a member-at-large to the position.
- e. No Councilor shall serve as a Councilor for more than two consecutive terms.

## Regions

The Division shall be composed of seven regions:

- Southwestern Region
- Central Region - West
- Central Region - Mid
- Central Region - East
- Eastern Region
- Northern Region - West
- Northern Region - East

The members of a region are those Members of the Division who are Public Library Board Members or hold a Personal/Individual Membership and reside, in that particular geographic area.

### **Motion Required:**

**To recommend to OLA Board of Directors, the adoption of the changes proposed to By-Law No. 5.**



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**Made by:**

**Seconded:**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Special Thanks:**

**OLBA Council and Membership would like to extend their sincere appreciation to:**

**Mr. Frank Biss  
of  
Counting Opinions**

*“...providing organizations with innovative, comprehensive, cost-effective ways to capture, manage and measure performance data, including open-ended customer feedback, qualitative and quantitative data, trends, benchmarks, outcomes and peer comparisons.”*

**For their generous sponsorship of tonight's event.**

**Please stay and enjoy the refreshments, provided to  
you for attending!**