



ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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 ∴ ontario library association
2017 ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT OF LESLIE WEIR

2017 PRESIDENT, ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



2017 was an incredible year of change for the Ontario Library Association!

Super Conference 2018

This year's theme **Fearless by Design** captures the essence of the library and information profession in our society – we are here to support

society in being the best it can be and, sometimes, we are called upon to be fearless in ensuring equitable access to accurate information with relevant and innovative services for all members of our communities, especially those that may be marginalized. I know that this year's conference will be fearless by design, thanks to all our fearless speakers, conveners and attendees and a special thanks to our fabulous conference planning co-chairs, Emily Burns and Jacqueline Whyte Appleby and their incredible conference planning team, what an excellent job they have done!

Strategic plan

In 2017, OLA approved its new strategic plan to guide the Association through 2020 with the new vision to *lead and inspire the growth and innovation of the library and information services sector*. Our updated mission is to *empower our members in the library and information services sector to build informed, participatory, and inclusive communities through: Research; Education; Advocacy; Partnerships*. Our Strategic Priorities that will guide our actions until 2020 include:

- Focusing member services across diverse career paths.

- Influencing policy and demonstrating value.
- Building evaluation and research capacity.
- Addressing the unique needs of rural, remote and indigenous communities.
- Enablers: People, Technology, and Fundraising.

Advocacy

Government advocacy, as reconfirmed in our new strategic plan, remains one of OLA's top priorities and as such, OLA participated in meetings with key government officials and several round table consultations. November 23 was Library Day at Queen's Park! Working in close collaboration with the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL), we took Queen's Park by storm with our message that we need "A Modern, Sustainable Approach for Ontario's Libraries". Major "Budget Asks" included mandating school boards and schools to properly spend the \$100 million in funding currently invested by the Ministry of Education to support school libraries and teacher-librarians, providing enhanced, predictable and sustainable funding for all public libraries with an increased annual investment of \$17 million, and support of the Ontario Digital Library, currently under study by the government, with a recommended \$25 million annual investment. We will follow-up Library Day at Queen's Park with a submission to the provincial budget process, formalizing these "Asks".

CFLA-FCAB

We are excited that the Canadian Federation of Library Associations / Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB) will hold its 2nd Annual General Meeting in collaboration with OLA Super Conference 2018. I look forward to hearing about their policy meeting planned for

Regina. OLA continues to support this important voice in national advocacy on behalf of all libraries, though the active participation of Shelagh Paterson, the Executive Director, who has been a board member and treasurer of CFLA for the past two years.

Revenue

The Library Marketplace, with its national role as a seller of library-themed merchandise through The Partnership, has had a great year, with very successful product lines that have led to increased revenue. Check out the favourite Library Lust series as well as the Partnership perks! OLA has launched its Fundraising Committee that has developed a plan for OLA fundraising and member-giving recognition. This year, OLA is highlighting the New Librarian Residency Award (\$20,000 that any college or university library can apply for) to hire a new grad from an Ontario library program that will get a one-year contract! Our goal this year is to raise \$10,000 by February 2018. Please check it out and consider contributing.

With our new fiscal year in place (September-August), we will be holding our Annual General Meeting at Super Conference 2018 – looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, January 30 at 6:00 PM

It has been an incredibly rewarding year for me, working with the Board, staff and members, in my role as President. Thank you all for your engagement, enthusiasm and commitment to OLA and keep doing what you are doing, being **Fearless by Design!**

ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE L'ONTARIO-FRANCO

MARYSE LAFLAMME, PRÉSIDENTE

ABO-FRANCO

2017 ABO-Franco Membership: 215



Merci pour une belle année remplie de projets!

Le Conseil de l'ABO-Franco désire toujours **mieux connaître et comprendre les besoins de ses membres**. C'est ainsi qu'un **sondage** fut réalisé au printemps 2017 et vos réponses sont claires : votre désir est de favoriser **le réseautage, la collaboration et la formation** tout en mettant l'accent sur les ressources en français disponibles pour les membres. Véronique Dupuis (Vice-Présidente du Conseil) et moi avons créé une **vidéo** vous identifiant **nos priorités et nos défis**. N'hésitez pas à consulter notre site web pour visionner la vidéo.

Des représentants de l'ABO-Franco ainsi que d'OLA ont **participé aux table rondes du Ministère du Tourisme, de la Culture et du Sport** pour aider le ministère à mieux comprendre les besoins des bibliothèques publiques et permettre le développement de ce que l'on appellerait le **"Digital Public Library" en Ontario**.

Le Conseil de l'ABO-Franco travaille aussi activement à assurer la poursuite de la **traduction** des documents d'OLA et du Conseil. Nous sommes aussi à la recherche **d'idées d'objets promotionnels en français** que vous aimeriez voir au Library Marketplace. Un **nouveau plan stratégique** a été établi pour

2017-2020 et ce dernier sera traduit en français.

La **littérature jeunesse** demeure toujours au cœur du Conseil de l'ABO-Franco et plus précisément, la lecture francophone en Ontario. Nous sommes toujours aussi fier du programme **Forêt de la lecture pour les prix Tamarac, Tamarac Express et Peuplier**. Votre soutien et collaboration sont importants. Les jeunes nous en seront reconnaissants.

La **Super Conférence** est un moment opportun pour des rencontres et en apprendre davantage dans le domaine public, collégial, universitaire et scolaire du milieu des bibliothèques. Le Conseil développe chaque année un programme varié pour offrir des ateliers en français. Nous avons eu quatre présentations en 2017 et pour la première fois depuis plusieurs années, le Conseil a évalué les diverses propositions de communications et ces membres sont fiers d'avoir au programme **7 présentations, pour la Super Conférence 2018**. Nous avons hâte de vous y voir et de connaître votre appréciation! Je tiens à remercier Véronique Dupuis pour son support à la Super Conférence 2017 ainsi que Véronique Labonté pour nous aider à faciliter la programmation de 2018.

Nous cherchons à communiquer en français et je tiens à remercier Paul Laverdure pour son excellent compte-rendu de la présentation de

Monsieur Bénéteau à la Super Conférence 2017. Son article a paru dans *l'Inside OCULA* de juillet dernier. De plus, je remercie Véronique Dupuis d'avoir offert le **webinaire "Better Service for your French-speaking Patrons"** en août.

Saviez-vous que nous avons fait un changement au règlement no. 7? Depuis juin 2017, nous avons un **poste de conseiller étudiant** qui a été approuvé à la dernière assemblée générale d'OLA. Avis aux intéressés!

Que nous attends le futur? Nous voulons **développer des solutions** pour nos défis et priorités. De plus, nous désirons fortement vous offrir une **"mini conférence" à l'automne 2018**. Restez à l'écoute!

Je termine ce rapport annuel avec des remerciements pleinement mérités aux membres du Conseil. Vos efforts, votre écoute, vos suggestions font de ce Conseil un espace motivant. Je vous suis reconnaissante de votre confiance et j'ai grandement apprécié nos discussions! Je tiens aussi à remercier l'aide de l'équipe d'OLA. Vos suivis rapides et vos commentaires furent toujours appréciés. Ce fût un honneur de siéger sur ce Conseil. Je ne serai pas très loin puisque je soutiendrai le prochain Conseil en tant que Présidente-sortante. Au plaisir de vous revoir!



ONTARIO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

SARAH SHUJAH, PRESIDENT

OCULA

2017 OCULA Membership: 640

This year I had the privilege of leading OCULA Council in 2017. We had a successful year of activities, events, and strategic planning. I am proud to highlight our achievements.

The **OCULA Spring Conference** discussed “Storytime! Using Narrative to Represent Ourselves, Our Work, and Our Libraries”. Keynote speaker Sage Tyrle (Seneca College) delivered a theatrical session that examined what makes narratives compelling, and gave audience members a chance to practice through a participatory storytelling exercise.

The **OCULA Spring Social**, in its inaugural year as a social, encouraged attendees to “Eat, Meet, and Compete”. The event was a “pre-game” to OLITA’s Digital Odyssey, and participants joined us for board games like Codenames and Bananagrams plus a digital game, Jackbox. Rob Makinson, *InsideOCULA* editor helped us to highlight Centennial College’s board game collection. Our special guest Scott Nicholson (Wilfrid Laurier University) lead us through an invigorating trivia game where everyone left a winner.

The online **OCULA Fall Conference** focused on “Overcoming Fears”. Anita Boey’s (York University) keynote discussed the power of failure as a learning opportunity that can lead to future success. Hamza Khan’s (Seneca College/Ryerson University) keynote shared a simple framework for mastering one’s fears in order to break through creativity and productivity. The New Librarian Residency Award (NLRA) Fundraising Committee continued its crowdsource fundraising

campaign with the OLA’s Fund Development committee. We updated the website with a FAQ section, updated the NLRA terms of reference to include a research component, launched an incentive program for contributing, developed a hashtag, created a video about the NLRA that will be launched at OLA Super Conference 2018, and are hoping to host a panel with past winners at OLA Super Conference 2018. We hope to achieve our goal of \$20,000 by OLA Super Conference 2018, that includes the OLA Board match of every contribution made to the award up to a maximum of \$10,000. Learn more at: nlra.accessola.com.

This year **InsideOCULA** had four issues and migrated to a new *Open Shelf* platform. The new platform promises flexibility and reflects best practices in website design and web publishing. Each issue features engaging content for our members on events, issues, and research. This year we also welcomed new editors Thomas Guignard (OCLS), Jennifer Robinson (Western University), and Rob Makinson (UBC, formally Centennial College).

The **OCULA Award for Special Achievement** was presented to an open source online learning tool, **The Learning Portal** (Heads of Libraries & Learning Resources), that serves as an academic skills hub for students and faculty in Ontario Colleges. This special initiative was crafted collaboratively across the 27 Ontario Colleges by librarians, learning strategists, faculty, and more.

The **OCULA Award for Lifetime Achievement** went to Gladys Watson, former Director of Libraries at Centennial College. This award recognizes Gladys’ significant contributions to the profession as a longstanding member of OLA, and to college libraries across Ontario. She has affected the lives and careers of librarians and library technicians, and has made impacts evidenced by her strong record of publications and presentations.

OCULA council aligned their activities to the new **OLA Strategic Plan 2017-2020**. We collaboratively decided on new activities for the next three years. We are renaming the strategic voice committee to the advocacy committee, starting a research liaison role, exploring providing an OCULA research award, exploring the idea of involving library technicians more formally, and reframed other initiatives to align with the strategic goals.

To summarize, thank you to the 2017 OCULA Council, our volunteer members-at-large, and our ambassadors for all their time, effort, and exceptional contributions to our OCULA initiatives and activities. Thank you to our outgoing Council members Denise Smith, Jack Young, Fiona Inglis, and Courtney Lundrigan for their hard work and accomplishments that benefit all members. It has been a pleasure to serve as OCULA President for 2017. I look forward to seeing how OCULA evolves over the next three years with the new strategic plan.



ONTARIO LIBRARY BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

KERRY BADGLEY

OLBA

2017 OLBA Membership: 1,114

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to serve as Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) President for 2017. As you know, OLBA is a division of the Ontario Library Association (OLA), representing public library board members on issues relating to their areas of responsibility. It serves chiefly to build a professional development program, and to provide information and training in aid of board development. The past year has been a busy and productive one for your OLBA Council, and what follows are highlights of some of our activities.

Bursaries

I am pleased to report that Council has added another Super Conference bursary to our list, making six in all: two for the North-West, two for the North-East, one for rural libraries serving populations of fewer than 5,000 people, and one designed to offset travel costs associated with attending the Saturday Boot Camp only. Virtually everyone who attends Super Conference believes it is a positive experience, and we are endeavouring to make Conference attendance a reality for as many board members as possible, regardless of location and/or resource constraints.

Web Site Renewal

We were also very fortunate to have had a student assist us in reviewing and revising our web pages

and related documents, including our *Councillors' Orientation Manual* (which will henceforth be known as the *Councillors' Handbook*). We thank Allana Mayer for her superb work on this project. I encourage members to make use of our web resources, and to let us know if there are ways that we can improve them.

OLBA Work Plan

I am also excited to announce that your Council has developed a new Work Plan. Now that the OLA has developed and approved its three-year Strategic Plan, OLBA developed and approved its own Work Plan. OLBA's Plan is designed to identify our key priorities, what we intend to do about them, and when the work will be accomplished. At the same time, we endeavoured to align our priorities as much as possible with those of the OLA. Consequently, our new Work Plan is not set for a period of one year (as had been the case in the past); instead, we have developed a three-year Plan that will enable the Council to take a long-term view on some of its key objectives. The new Work Plan is available on our web site, and I encourage you to read it. We are excited by our ambitious yet realistic Plan, and we hope that you will be, too.

Other Items

In addition to all of the above, we have been busy on a number of fronts, such as planning for OLBA

Council elections, addressing questions we receive from boards, attending SOLS Trustee Council meetings, publishing *InsideOLBA* (our semi-annual newsletter, available online) and the day-to-day governance associated with our organization.

What's Ahead?

The coming year promises to be an exciting one under the direction of our new President, Mariam Hamou. Mariam brings incredible abilities and enthusiasm to the position, and I am certain that she will focus on priorities such as increasing OLBA's membership, enhancing ties with Northern Ontario board members, and fostering an enduring relationship with First Nations libraries. I am looking forward to working with Mariam in my capacity as Past President.

To Conclude

In conclusion, my sincere thanks are extended to the OLBA Council for their enthusiasm, dedication, hard work this past year. I am very proud to work with you. And my sincere thanks to you, public library board members, for all you do for your respective local public libraries. Your efforts have a positive and significant impact on people throughout Ontario.

ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

MITA WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT



OLITA

2017 OLITA Membership: 1,090

It has been a joy and a privilege to work with OLITA Council in 2017 and our OLITA membership. This year brought new OLITA council members to join with our returning councillors and I'm proud of the work that we have accomplished together and have planned for the future.

This year's **Digital Odyssey** was dedicated to games and it lived up to its tag-line of "We Got Game: Gaming, Learning and Playing Together." Dr. Scott Nicholson, Professor of Game Design and Development from Wilfrid Laurier University in Brantford and author of *Everyone Plays at the Library* was our opening keynote. He started our one day conference with jolts and other playful activities for all of us to integrate into our teaching and presentations. Then there were sessions on Minecraft, on interactive fiction, integrating coding and creating, partnering with your local game development community, and exploring new

worlds in virtual reality. We want to thank OCAD for hosting Digital Odyssey and being our playground.

Use of OLITA's **Technology Lending Library** continued to grow in 2017 and we're excited to introduce new items for our members and their communities to try out including the BreakoutEDU's "Escape Room in a Box" and an OSMOT kit.

In 2016, OLITA Council launched a Social Media Roundabout as an excuse to try different social media channels to see which ones resonated with OLITA members. Our OLITA members told us what they really wanted was a listserv and in 2017 through the generosity of McMaster University, we launched **OLITA-L mailing list**. If you are a member of OLITA, please join us and sign up at: bit.ly/2B0z5PH. OLITA Council member Sarah Macintyre continues to bring the people

behind the technology to the forefront through her regular feature **IT Crowd** column in OLA's *Open Shelf*.

This year's **Technology Track at OLA Super Conference** was put together by Graham Lavender (Michener Institute) and Michelle Goodridge (Wilfrid Laurier University). Our featured Spotlight speaker was Sara Grimes, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Information of the University of Toronto. Among the many talks in the technology stream, our coordinators also brought Tech Talks back by popular demand as well as an inaugural OLITA debate on the topic of Makerspaces. Thank you so much Graham and Michelle for all your hard work.

And I would like to again extend thanks to my fellow OLITA Councilors for all their good work and I offer a hearty welcome to our new councilors and new OLITA members.



ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

JENNIFER LA CHAPPELLE, PRESIDENT

OPLA

2017 OPLA Membership: 1,397

2017 has been a busy year for the OPLA Division. Major undertakings have included moving to a new budget year format, reimagining the Children and Youth Services Survey, and supporting a grant proposal for an innovative program for older adults.

In 2016 the OLA Board approved changing the fiscal year of the Association from January-December to September-August. This change aligns OLA's budget with its events and revenues/expenditure flows. Divisions, including OPLA, have worked diligently to ensure that the double budget year in 2017 has not disrupted any program or event planning activities.

The Child & Youth Services Committee conducts statistical surveys and reports alternating on children's services and young adult services. This year OPLA Council discussed with the Co-Chairs of the Child & Youth Services Committee the possible expansion of the survey to include more demographic groups, library services and other topics. Past President Alex Yarrow and CYS Co-Chairs Amanda Wilk and Cameron Ray will sit on the newly ad-hoc committee to develop a strategy for surveying Ontario public libraries on other demographic groups and services.

Talking of Child & Youth Services, the CYS Expo held on November 3 at the Mississauga Civic Centre was a huge success. The theme this year was *Think Outside...Your Library, The Box, Your Comfort Zone*. Sarah Vermunt's Keynote Session was entitled *Easy There Tiger: How to stay fierce without losing your mind*. Join us next year for an equally thought provoking day!

In April the Readers' Advisory (RA) Committee hosted RA in a Day. The theme this year was *To Boldly Read Where No-one Has Read Before! – Science Fiction & Readers' Advisory*. If you're looking for RA inspiration you will find no better venue than this extraordinary one day conference. Watch for the April 20, 2018 registration information on OLA's website.

OPLA has provided a letter of support for the *Aging By The Book* program grant application to the Ontario Seniors Community Grant program. This volunteer-led reading circle program provides older adults with a safe and stimulating context to explore aspects of aging. Ottawa Public Library has successfully run this program since 2012. The grant application would, if successful, will refine the

materials and guides produced by Ottawa Public Library and distribute them, establish an ongoing ABTB steering group, and provide training for interested libraries and for volunteer facilitators.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of OPLA Council and all of our dedicated Committee and Task Force members for the outstanding effort they have put forth this year. These extra duties take time away from our work and families and add responsibilities on top of our already busy lives. My thanks also go out to our OPLA Super Conference Planners Beth Crawley (who used to be MY staff member – miss you Beth) and Alex Karlovski. They have prepared an incredible stream of sessions for the 2018 OLA Super Conference. I hope you can all attend. And finally, please join me in thanking outgoing editor Catherine Coles (*Open Shelf*) for her contributions to making our professional reading thoroughly satisfying!

I have enjoyed my tenure as President of this remarkable Division of OLA and look forward to next year when I will be Past President (and apparently Treasurer, yikes!).

OLA BY THE NUMBERS

HOW DID OLA STACK UP AT THE END OF 2017?

4,708
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

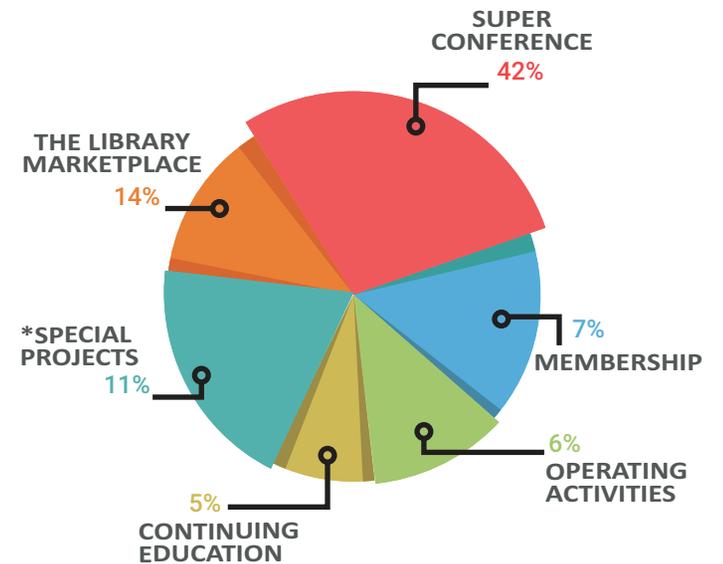
In 2017, The Library Marketplace had approximately 2,600 titles available in print. The most sought after items were: *Creating a Culture of Evaluation*, *This Meeting is Bullsh*t* socks, the *Fact or Fiction* bookmark, and *Delicate F*cking Flower* socks.

31K
items sold

Creating a Culture of Evaluation was published under OLA Press

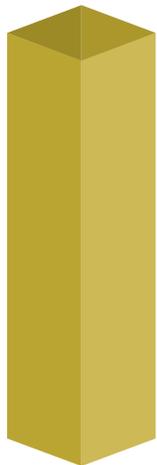


2017 OLA REVENUES



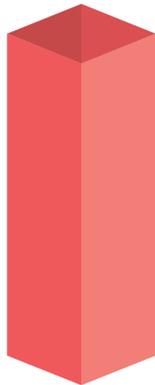
*Forest of Reading, Festival of Trees, Advocacy

FOREST OF READING® registrants



4,537

registered sites
in 2016



3,641

registered sites
in 2017*

FESTIVAL OF TREES™ ticket sales



Each circle represents approximately 200 Festival attendees.

- SAULT STE MARIE** 1,271 tickets sold
- TORONTO** 8,013 tickets sold
- LONDON** 1,700 tickets sold
- FRENCH** 1,963 tickets sold

FEARLESS BY DESIGN

DÉLIBÉRÉMENT AUDACIEUX

Over 260 sessions were attended by almost 4,500 delegates from around the country.

OLA SUPER CONFERENCE



Other OLA Signature Events include the **Child & Youth Expo** (162 registrants), **Library as Place** (126 registrants), and the **Marketing Libraries Think Tank** (107 registrants)



206K	program participants
118	nominated titles in the program
\$1.62 M	books sold by the official program wholesaler
163K	registered voters
184	INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS for OLA and 166 for The Library Marketplace as of December 2017
6875	TWITTER FOLLOWERS as of December 2017
2485	FACEBOOK FANS as of December 2017
1446	WEBINAR (SITE) REGISTRANTS for 67 Education Institute webinars
59K	WEBSITE VISITS exclusively to the OLA homepage
300+	STUDENT VOLUNTEERS who volunteered over 1,500 hours collectively

MEMBER BENEFITS

Ontario Science Centre added as member benefits.

QUICK FACTS

- Great Expectations! Initiating Outcome-Based Programming
- Teen Instagram Engagement
- Leading In Times Of Change
- One-Shot Library Sessions
- Book Club Picks That Will Keep Them Talking



MOST watched WEBINARS

*Overall registration numbers are lower this year due to bulk registration from Toronto District School Board and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, which were unable to provide information on specific programs being run in each school or library.



ONTARIO SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

KELLY MAGGIRIAS, PRESIDENT

OSLA

2017 OSLA Membership: 1,220

It has been a wonderful privilege to work with OSLA Council in 2017 and to continue to be a part of our journey in 2018. We have had many successes this year, continuing to advocate and support Ontario School Libraries.

The collaboration between OSLA and TeachOntario continues to develop through opportunities to innovate and grow. The projects led by OSLA members included online book clubs, online courses and outreach opportunities for educators to connect with stakeholders. We are thrilled by the continued relationship and support for student achievement and library programming provided by TVO and TeachOntario.

Since January, OSLA has participated in the Ontario Ministry of Education Joint Implementation Working Group. This group was formed in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action 62 and 63. OSLA members were honoured to be part of the discussion and collaboration that played an integral part of the curriculum revision of the Ontario Social Studies and History Curriculum, Grades 4 - 10.

In partnership with TALCO, the Association of Library Consultants and Coordinators of Ontario, in May we demonstrated the role of school libraries as partners and leaders at the Ministry of Education Faculties of Education Forum, building capacity and knowledge through Indigenous education curriculum connections in the Learning Commons.

OSLA teacher-librarians taught summer courses through the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and the Ontario Teachers Federation (OTF). The courses focused on examining and applying innovative practices, inquiry, developing makerspaces, technology and fake news. OSLA appreciates the ongoing support of ETFO and OTF in providing the opportunity to demonstrate the immense value of school libraries in learning and teaching.

OSLA council rep Johanna Lawler played an integral role in the recent resolution passed by the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) calling on the Ontario Government to amend the education funding formula to specify proportional staffing of teacher-librarians based on student population, with a minimum allocation of a 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) Teacher-Librarian in each work site. 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.

In October, OSLA council members Alanna King and Diana Maliszewski presented in Manitoba at the Canadian School Libraries Treasure Mountain Canada Research Symposium and Think Tank. The focus was on Culturally Relevant and Responsive School Library Learning Commons. The Manitoba School Library Association also partnered with CSL to provide opportunities to learn and share about Truth in our Stories: Seeking a Path to

Reconciliation.

In November, OSLA partnered with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation to host Indigenous elders and guest speakers in school libraries and public libraries during Treaties Recognition week. Five school libraries and two public libraries educated students and citizens about the importance of the role of Treaties in the history and the future of Ontario.

On November 23, 2017, the Ontario Library Association Board partnered with representatives from the Federation of Public Libraries to attend Library Day at Queen's Park. We gained significant momentum and progress meeting with Members of Parliament and notably Hon. Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education, where we advocated and expressed our concerns about the inequity in our Library Learning Commons across the province. Through OLA advocacy, the conversation about the importance of school libraries continues.

A special thank you to OSLA council and OSLA Super Conference planners Jessica Longthorne and Alanna King for their dedication, hard work and enthusiasm. I am honoured to have served as your President of OSLA for 2017 and look forward to our continued journey together in 2018.

REPORT OF SHELAGH PATERSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



2017 was the year to launch the association into the next three years of strategic possibilities! Thank you to OLA members for identifying a number of new areas for the association to tackle, and that will ultimately strengthen our library sector.

Under the leadership of Leslie Weir, OLA president, the OLA board of directors, divisional councils and committees, we are off to a great start with implementing our strategic plan as evidenced by the following 2017 highlights:

- OLA connected with the provincial government to secure further support and funding for public libraries. OLA's and FOPL's idea to strengthen broadband and digital access for rural and First Nations libraries was selected by Ontarians as part of "Budget Talks" to receive **provincial funding** (ultimately an investment of \$3 million!), out of more than 400 submissions. Further, OLA participated in a series of Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Round Tables on the culture strategy.
- Via **The Partnership**, Canada's network of provincial and territorial library associations, OLA members became part of an international conversation about libraries with the **#IFLAGlobalVision** conversations. OLA also became a member of IFLA this year!

- Establishing a Fund Development program including creation of an advisory committee and identifying our annual campaign targets for 2017/18: The **I Read Canadian Fund** to help kids have access to great Canadian books, and the **New Librarian Residency Award** which jumpstarts a career in academic libraries. Giving to an OLA fund is a direct investment in the library sector.
- OLA's Indigenous Task Force co-sponsored the **First Nations Gathering** in North Bay, May 2017 with Ontario Library Services-North and Southern Ontario Library Services. Ontario's First Nations Public Libraries are community leaders in cultural engagement and language revitalization.
- The launch of "Forest Fridays" (free to Forest registered sites!), which virtually brings an OLA Forest of Reading nominated author into classrooms and school libraries across Ontario. Approximately 1,000 students participate in each Forest Friday by using the chat feature to ask questions.

At our recent staff development retreat at the Ontario Science Centre we became astronauts and mission controllers and journeyed to Mars. Our commander remarked that he had never witnessed such a focused and calm team. With 16 annual events including the OLA Super Conference, Mars is a walk in the park. Thanks as always to a great staff team and our more than 400 volunteers annually who continue to make OLA a **fearless** organization!



Ontario Library Association
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Thank you to The Hon. Eleanor McMahon, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport for continued support of Public Libraries and launching #OPLW



New Support for Hundreds of Libraries Across Ontario
Ontario is kicking off Public Library Week with improvements to digital services at 307 libraries and library organizations across the province.
NEWS.ONTARIO.CA

Hon. Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport at the Burlington Public Library during Ontario Public Library Week to recognize the valuable role that libraries play in Ontario communities and announce the provincial funding for the local library system.

OLA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, 2017

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

	Audited 2017	Audited 2016
GENERAL OPERATIONS AND ADVOCACY		
REVENUES (\$)	8 months	12 months
Membership	143,504	298,552
Conference	1,300,846	1,184,115
Continuing Education	109,054	191,096
The Library Marketplace	230,785	332,931
Contract Administration (YI)	8,856	94,719
Programs and Projects	221,669	441,088
Government Grants	26,867	40,300
Contributions	131	8,148
Investment Income	6,218	10,552
Special Project	-	68,623
Other Income	98,748	163,233
	\$2,146,678	\$2,833,357
EXPENSES (\$)		
Salaries and Benefits	632,595	899,718
OLA Conference	552,049	633,818
Continuing Education	48,507	71,008
The Library Marketplace	176,120	276,658
Programs and Projects	207,949	351,448
Special Projects	-	62,100
Provision for Doubtful Accounts (recovery)	1,760	10,809
Honoraria and Awards	19,972	22,925
Catering	10,897	17,753
Purchased Services and Materials	48,465	66,402
Travel, Lodging and Meals	37,103	52,357
Occupancy Costs	102,522	137,846

EXPENSES continued in next column...

	Audited 2017	Audited 2016
EXPENSES (\$) continued from previous column...		
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	28,682	25,167
Supplies, Printing Delivery, etc.	20,275	22,115
Telephone	9,457	11,032
Professional Fees	25,703	37,099
Depreciation	12,399	34,486
Bank Charges, Credit Card Fees, and Foreign Exchange	11,409	61,453
	\$1,945,864	\$2,794,194
Revenues over expenses before the following	200,814	39,163
Extraordinary Income	-	180,456
Loss of Diposal of capital assets	(59,639)	-
Total Excess	141,175	219,619
Transfer from internally restricted funds	2,697	7,275
Net assets - general fund - at beginning of year	\$ 1,017,893	\$790,999
Net assets - general fund - at end of year	\$1,161,765	\$1,017,893

The Statement of Operations & Changes in Net Assets (General Fund) and the Statement of Financial Position are drawn from the audited statements for the year ended August 31, 2017, with the audited comparative figures for the year, which ended December 31, 2016.

Complete audited statements for the year ended August 31, 2017, as prepared by the accounting firm of Hillborn, LLP, and approved by the Board of Directors on January 15, 2018, are available on the OLA website at www.accessola.com.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Audited 2017	Audited 2016
ASSETS (\$)		
Current assets		
Cash	904,733	1,206,766
Short-term investments	155,097	136,712
Accounts receivable	113,246	344,369
Inventory	54,009	73,014
Prepaid expenses - conference	1,178	7,482
- other	61,774	21,139
	\$1,290,037	\$1,789,482
Long-term assets		
Investments	233,038	230,564
Loan Receivable	12,139	11,240
Capital assets	62,930	133,219
Assets under capital lease	11,360	-
	\$319,467	\$375,023
TOTAL	\$1,609,504	\$2,164,505
LIABILITIES (\$)		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,232	297,341
Deferred revenue	52,250	633,920
	\$223,995	\$931,261
Long-term liabilities		
Capital lease obligations	10,876	-
	234,871	931,261

NET ASSETS (\$)

General fund	1,161,765	1,017,893
Restricted fund	212,868	215,351
	\$1,374,633	\$1,233,244
TOTAL	\$1,609,504	\$2,164,505

REPORT OF SUSAN KUN OLA TREASURER



I would like to take this opportunity as 2017 OLA Treasurer to say that it has been an honour for me to work with the exceptional OLA staff and Board during my first year. I would like to extend my thanks to the collective efforts of the staff and Board for their ongoing commitment to serve the OLA membership and the Ontario community.

We ended 2017 with a surplus of \$143,872 allowing us to increase our accumulated surplus. The Super Conference and the Library Marketplace did exceptionally well adding to the overall surplus. Expenses were lower than expected across

the association and it's divisions when comparing to 2016. 2017 presents an eight-month period with our new fiscal year cycle beginning September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018. The new cycle allows the fiscal year to closely align with OLA's major activities.

A special thanks and congratulations to Stephanie Pimentel, OLA's Director of Operations, for her judicious financial management for another successful year. I would like to share with you some highlights: A Fund Development Committee was created in 2017 to assist the OLA Board of Directors with an annual crowd funding campaign for The New Librarian Residency Award with a goal of raising \$10,000 by February 2018 and the I Read Canadian fundraising campaign with a goal of \$20,000 for the 2018 fiscal year.

It is clear that OLA's commitment to innovation, vision, and strong leadership in our profession continues to contribute to OLA's many successes. It is a privilege to be part of such a vibrant and important organization. I wish the new OLA Board of Directors, OLA staff, and OLA members much success.

CONGRATS TO OUR 2017 AWARD WINNERS!

**OLA LARRY MOORE
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:**

Richard Reid, Durham District School Board

OLA TECHNICAL SERVICES AWARD:

Janet Rushton, Idea Exchange

**OLA LES FOWLIE INTELLECTUAL
FREEDOM AWARD:**

Vickery Bowles, Toronto Public Library

**OLA MEDIA AND
COMMUNICATIONS AWARD:**

Steve Paikin, Host
Mary Baxter, Producer
The Agenda

**OLA PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR
EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT:**

Dr. Guy Berthiaume, Library and Archives Canada

OLA ARCHIVAL AND PRESERVATION AWARD:

David Sharron, Brock University

**OCULA AWARD FOR SPECIAL
ACHIEVEMENT:**

The Learning Portal, College Libraries Ontario

**OCULA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD:**

Gladys Watson, Centennial College Libraries

**OLBA W.J. ROBERTSON MEDALLION
(PUBLIC LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR):**

Catherine Biss, Markham Public Library

**OPLA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD:**

Susanna Hubbard Krimmer, London Public Library

**OPLA JAMES BAIN MEDALLION
(PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER
OF THE YEAR):**

Shelagh Harris, Richmond Hill Public Library

**OPLA CHILDREN'S OR YOUTH SERVICES
LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD:**

Julie Brandl, London Public Library

**OPLA ADVOCACY IN ACTION: EXCELLENCE IN
CHILDREN'S OR TEEN SERVICES**

Laura LaFleshe, Barrie Public Library

**OSLA AWARD FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT:
Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)**

**OSLA TEACHER LIBRARIAN
OF THE YEAR:**

Sue MacLachlan, Hamilton-Wentworth DSB

**KEN HAYCOCK AWARD FOR PROMOTING
LIBRARIANSHIP:**

Sandra Singh, Vancouver Public Library

THANKS TO OUR 2017 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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And with thanks to **Melissa Jensen** who resigned from council due to a teaching assignment in Vietnam

OLA STAFF 2017



From Left to Right: Shelagh Paterson, Kenrick Oliver, Michelle Arbuckle, Phil Grozdanovski, Emily Bradley, Sarah Roberts, Meredith Tutching, Rachele DesRochers, Meagan Anderi, Michael Rogowski, Mary-Rose O'Connor, Robert Nishimura, Lauren Hummel

Not Pictured here: Stephanie Pimentel