

OLA Scholarships, Bursaries, and Funds

The Ontario Library Association is pleased to operate a number of scholarships, bursaries, and funds to encourage members to expand their horizons and improve their skills and knowledge.

OLA Scholarships

OLA Dr. Janette Baker Scholarship

This OLA scholarship fund has been made possible through a generous bequest of \$50,000 by the late Dr. Janette Baker. Scholarships are available annually to support attendance at a recognized library and information program by individuals who have been working for a minimum of three years and who are employed outside of the education profession. Support this scholarship by donating to the fund.

OLA/OSLA Ken Haycock Super Conference Grant

Dr. Ken Haycock granted the Chancellor Group Conference Grant to the Canadian Library Association (CLA) in 1990 for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada as a way to honour the founding members of the Canadian Association of School Librarians. A travel grant of \$500 was to provide support to newly qualified teacher-librarians (the "TL") to attend the annual conference of the CLA. The funds were transferred to OLA in 2016 after CLA's dissolution. OLA is now proud to provide the grant to support new TL's to attend the OLA Super Conference. **This grant is also supported through member donations.**

[For more information on OLA Scholarships and to apply.](#)

OLBA Bursaries

The Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) Bursary Draw assists board members in distant communities with travel expenses to the OLA Super Conference, and allows them to choose from hundreds of professional development events, including the OLBA Board Bootcamp.

Bursaries available:

2 X Northwest Region: \$1,250 per person

2 X Northeast Region: \$750 per person

1 X Any Library Board serving a population under 5000: \$500

1 X Any Library Board - Saturday Board Boot Camp: \$500

In addition to the bursary, each recipient will be registered for the full OLA Super Conference including a single ticket to the Public Library Award Gala. Recipients of the Saturday Board Boot Camp bursary will be registered for the full Saturday program. The bursary award is non-transferrable and is for the exclusive use of the recipient.

[For more information on OLBA Bursaries and to apply.](#)

OPLA Scholarships

Joyce Kipps Memorial Scholarship

In partnership with Library Bound, two scholarships have been developed to help off-set costs for an OLA member to attend one of two signature events.

Scholarships available:

1 x RA in a Day: \$200

1 x OLA Super Conference: \$300

In addition to the scholarship, each recipient will be registered for the full event, and receive a one year free OLA membership. The scholarship award is non-transferrable and is for the exclusive use of the recipient.

Public Library Association (PLA), a division of the American Library Association, Conference Grant

Every 2 years, OPLA offers a PLA Conference Grant to a current OPLA member to financially assist their attendance conference in the United States. A grant of up to \$3,000 is awarded by random draw to a qualified nominee.

[For more information on OPLA Scholarships and to apply.](#)

Funds

OLA is a charitable and non-profit organization that accepts donations for several funds. Each fund supports the library and information sector in a unique way; from getting books into the hands of children across Ontario, to Mentorship, tuition scholarships, event travel bursaries and more! [Donations to these funds](#) can be made online or by mail. Unless otherwise noted, a tax receipt is provided for donations. [For more information on these funds and to apply.](#)

Internal Funds

I Read Canadian Fund

The I Read Canadian Fund supports the expansion of the Festival of Trees and Forest of Reading® program, the cost of book sets, and shipping costs into rural, Indigenous, and priority communities. This fund also supports the costs associated with author visits to these communities.

Larry Moore Fund

The Larry Moore Fund, named after the former Executive Director of OLA, funds the Larry Moore Challenge, a bi-annual competition to encourage and foster leadership and innovation in librarianship. Up to \$2,500 is typically awarded.

OLA Mentoring Fund

The OLA Mentoring Fund supports OLA mentoring programs identified or developed by the OLA Mentoring Committee. Programs are aligned with the strategic priorities of the association and are designed to increase professional capacity of members through mentoring.

Many of us in the library and information sector can identify our own mentors. This fund honours those who have provided their guidance, time and expertise to strengthen the library and information profession.

Research on Libraries Fund

This fund supports research that improves and enriches school library programs. Recipients may be an approved person or group from any library sector.

External Funds

Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship Fund

In 2007, Dr. Ken Haycock generously donated to the former Canadian Library Association (CLA) to establish an award for promoting librarianship. With the dissolution of CLA in 2016, OLA accepted a transfer of the funds to continue presenting the award. A cash prize of \$1,000 is awarded in addition to a plaque recognizing the recipient's achievement.

Sarah Badgley Literacy Fund for Rural Ontario Children

The Rural Learning Association established the Sarah Badgley Fund for Rural Ontario Children in 2002. As of 2016, the Ontario Library Association administers the Fund. Grants up to \$500 per year are available to rural public libraries and to urban public libraries that serve rural clientele. Typically, up to four grants are issued each year. The purpose of the grant is to support children's literacy initiatives.



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CLA Funds

The Children's Book Award

The Research and Continuing Education Fund

The Intellectual Freedom Fund

The Scholarship Fund