



:. ontario library association

Who We Are?

Founded in 1900, the **Ontario Library Association (OLA)** is the oldest continually operating non-profit library association in Canada.

With more than 4,000 members, the OLA is the largest library association in the country. We provide the chance for library staff and supporters to share experience and expertise while creating innovative solutions in a constant changing environment. We offer opportunities for learning, networking, recognizing, influencing, and celebrating within the library world.

[A Who's Who of Library Leadership: The Presidents of the Ontario Library Association](#)

Whether in a formal library setting, in a commercial setting or in government, we are the people who bring information to the people of Ontario. We are experts in the organization of information and ideas and supports to research and development. We are:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Libraries | Front line staff | Financial officers |
| Technicians | Teacher-librarians | Library suppliers |
| School administrators | Authors | Subject specialists |
| Publishers and producers | Friends of libraries | Information brokers |
| Protectors of the culture | Community catalysts | |
| Directors | Systems specialists | |

Our Mission

We empower our members in the library and information services to build informed, participatory, and inclusive communities through:

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Research | Advocacy |
| Education | Partnerships |

Our Vision and Values

OLA is leading and inspiring the growth and innovation of the library and information services sector. Our set of guiding values have stood the test of time and continue to guide us in our work

How OLA is Organized

The OLA is governed by a board of directors that is comprised of:

- The board executive committee; vice-president, president, past president, and treasurer.
- The president and vice-president of each of the 7 OLA divisions.
- The Executive Director (ex-officio) who is responsible for the operations of OLA and reports to the OLA Board of Directors.

Members of OLA are also a member of one of our divisions. The association is comprised of [7 divisions](#); each OLA division has an elected council. [Divisions - Ontario Library Association \(\[accessola.com\]\(http://accessola.com\)\)](#)