

OLBA WORK PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

OLBA has had a busy and immensely productive term so far. We developed and are implementing our [Work Plan 2022 - 2025](#). We wanted to take a moment to celebrate our achievements thus far. We would also like to invite OLBA members to consider [serving](#) on the [OLBA Council](#) in helping us serve our members across Ontario!

[OLBA Council Nominations](#) deadline has been extended to **December 31, 2022**.

OLBA Vision

The Ontario Library Boards' Association is a leader and recognized authority in public library governance and community leadership development. Connected and responsive to its members, OLBA is a valued partner within the public library system.

OLBA Mission

The Ontario Library Boards' Association is a centre of excellence in governance for public library boards in Ontario.

OLA Strategic Priority 1: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Advancing our strong and passionate commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA), we are updating the [Council Handbook](#) to guide OLBA in becoming an IDEA organization.

OLBA offered and conducted customized consultations for public library board trustees to assist in their IDEA journeys.

OLBA coordinated and presented IDEA sessions at Boot Camp 2022 and looking forward to offering sessions and resources at Boot Camp 2023.

OLA Strategic Priority 2: Advocacy & Leadership

Advocated on behalf of public libraries and supported OLA and FOPL in their advocacy and leadership work during the Ontario provincial elections.

Strengthened OLBA's existing relationship with Ontario Library Service (OLS) through Communication and Content Creation Framework to develop collaborative training for public library board members in Ontario.

Designed and developing a unique and innovative partnership with OLS Board to jointly connect with and serve public library boards and governing bodies across Ontario.

OLBA President is representing the Association on the [Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's Public Library Service Awards](#) Jury and OLA Friends Committee.

OLA Strategic Priority 3: Membership & Engagement

Developed and offered [#ONLibChat - Libraries in the North](#), to meet, engage, and serve public library boards and governing bodies where they are.

Diligently planning to connect with every single public library board and governing body in Ontario to offer support in meeting the needs of their unique communities.

To benefit our public library member boards serving a population size of up to 15,000, OLBA will continue to offer complimentary registration to Boot Camp 2023.

To recognize our members and partners in the public library ecosystem OLBA will continue the tradition to present the following awards at the OLA Super Conference 2023:

1. [The OLBA W.J. Robertson Medallion \(Public Librarian of the Year\)](#)
2. [Joyce Cunningham Award \(Public Library Board of the Year\)](#)

OLA Strategic Priority 4: A Profession of Continual Learning

Updated and redesigned [Cut to the Chase](#) — the essential primer for public library boards and governing bodies. Consulted with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and OLS to ensure current and accurate information.

Published semi-annual issues of InsideOLBA - membership newsletter with resources and best practices pertaining to current public library governance and community leadership development.

Updated [OLBA's website](#) to provide current resources on public library governance.

Participated and presented at the OLS' 2022 **Stronger Libraries. Stronger Communities. Virtual Conference**. Collaboratively developed **Your Board, OLBA, and the Library Ecosystem** presentation with OLS. Attended by over 125 public library board members and staff from across Ontario.

OLA Strategic Priority 5: Organizational Innovation & Sustainability

Developed and implemented [OLBA's Work Plan 2022 - 2025](#). Derived from [Ontario Library Association](#) and [Ontario Library Services'](#) Strategic Plans to ensure organizational alignment with our partners in the library ecosystem. OLBA's Work Plan lays a solid foundation for organizational innovation and sustainability.

Updating [OLBA Council Handbook](#) to ensure OLBA Councillors stay up to date with movements and trends in public library governance and community leadership through professional and leadership development.

[OLBA Council elections](#) extended to December 31st, 2022 to ensure more public library boards' members have an opportunity to run for Council positions leading to organizational sustainability.

Designing an innovative OLBA Boot Camp 2023 to ensure professional development resources are provided to public library board members with varying and diverse experiences meeting them where they are.

Promoting "[Keep Library Boards Independent](#)" as a sustainability initiative.

