

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Reading Campaign Launch at RPL

A literacy campaign, called *Grow with Stories*, is being launched provincially. The campaign is the work of a provincial committee that was struck as a result of the Government & Public Libraries Forum in 2009. The campaign will be launched by Minister Harpauer at RPL's Albert Branch on May 2nd. The month-long promotion includes posters, programs, crafts, and materials for parents and caregivers of preschoolers. It will also be widely visible through various online media.

Lottery Early Bird Winners

The RPL Home Lottery early bird draw was held on March 31st and four tickets were drawn, each worth \$10,000. The winners were:

- Conway & Terry Pelletier
- Wayne Stenson
- John Pawliw
- Linda Griffin & Dana Prodonchuk

May Board Meeting

The Canadian Library Association conference is one of a few different events at the end of May and early June and, after speaking with Chair Darlene Hincks Joehnck, the May Board meeting has been cancelled. Alternative dates available for a May meeting were very close to either the April or June meetings so the next regular RPL Board meeting will be June 28th.

NCSF Announcement

Included in the Board package is the backgrounder and media release for the announcement of funding for the North Central Shared Facility, which includes the new Albert Branch. The announcement went very well and representatives from all stakeholders were present. The group of capital contributors to the facility has changed since the original concept designs were done and, while preserving the principles of the partnership, the concept will have to be re-worked as it moves forward to construction. Julie McKenna has been on the Facilities Committee for the NCSF and an RFP for final design and construction drawings will go out soon.

New Board Photos

Tony Playter is arranging for new photos to be taken of Board members, probably around the time of the June Board meeting. Around the same time, we will refresh the bios of Board members for the website.

Current Prince of Wales Branch Property

At one of its winter meetings, the Board had a general discussion about options for the current Prince of Wales Branch. The new branch should be ready to open in early June and decommissioning the current location could be complete shortly thereafter. Within the Director's Office, there have been preliminary conversations about other uses for the space but the condition of the building is such that there is no long-term future for any use of the building. Administration is not prepared to recommend an alternate use of the property and, unless the Board wishes to pursue another option, recommends that the building be decommissioned and made available for public sale with the proceeds going to the capital donation reserve.

Provincial Librarian

Effective April 4, Brett Waytuck was appointed as the new Provincial Librarian/Executive Director of the Provincial Library and Literacy Office. Brett has been with the Ministry of Education since 2007 and has a long history in Saskatchewan libraries.

Prince of Wales Opening

The new Prince of Wales Branch is nearing completion and, as noted above, should be ready to open in June. Timing is still a bit unpredictable as the finishing touches can sometimes be the most cumbersome. In a few weeks' time, there will also be the question of when to have a grand opening. Unless the spring is very, very dry, the landscaping in front of the building will not be complete before the school year ends. Once Administration has a clearer sense of the delivery and installation of furniture, shelving, and technology and of the spring weather, we will come back to the Board with some options.