

Interim Director's Report

New times for the Northern Lights Library System with some exciting changes that revolve around service to our libraries. Instead of putting money into a conference for 2016. We are looking at putting that money into training sessions such as the VDX one we have on today. Is it FOIP you need, or Polaris Training, is it Acquisitions, or Simply Reports? We want to start to look at where your skills need to be improved to make you better librarians and Northern Lights a better system. All computer based sessions will be recorded so that if you are unable to attend in person then there is an alternative form of delivery, or a reference guide if you forget.

Your Council meetings are for us to inform you of what we are doing at headquarters, with new developments and new technologies; it is a place for the libraries to discuss business between yourself and to inform us on changes that you want to see happen, it is also a forum to share ideas, to pick each other's brains and to help each other. We encourage you to have breakout sessions, to talk in groups about your needs. If you are afraid to put up your hand we encourage you to talk to us in person, email us, or call us with your thoughts and ideas. If there is a great program that one of the other systems have developed that you are interested in then tell us, and let's see if we can work together to develop our own unique programs.

Our plan of service is not geared to serve you and your needs but instead it just keeps the status quo, to expand or maintain services that are already available to you. This needs to change to include goals, how we plan to reach those goals and when. Our plan of service ends 2017, so we need to be proactive and get the ball rolling on developing a new plan with real obtainable goals, so I would like you to think ahead of what you want from Northern Lights.

New libraries joining Northern Lights are the S.V West Baptiste and on Monday I will be presenting to the Village of Andrew.

If you are planning on going to Jasper next year you will not be able to book it through NLLS. All you will need to do it to do is call the Jasper Park Lodge directly and tell them that you want to reserve the room for the ALC conference held at the end of April, 2016. You will need a major credit card to reserve the room but it will not be put onto your card until your stay at the lodge. The stay is normally for Thursday, Friday and Saturday night if you are not attending pre-conference. NLLS will be hosting this year at the Outlook Cabin. We suggest to register for the Lodge ASAP, registration for the ALC conference can be done at a later date.

Finally, money. The rest of the 25% of your funding has been approved, just not yet released. Hopefully, in the next couple of weeks you will find the rest of your dollars in your bank.