Executive Director
NLLS REPORT

September 2019

Administration

Staff:

We are very fortunate to have acquired four additional MLIS to NLLS; this now makes NLLS fully compliant with the PLSB requirements.

- Amy Knifton is our new Bibliographic Services Manager. Amy has quite extensive knowledge in the technical department thanks to her previous experience in Ontario.
- The biggest change to NLLS is our Public Services department. Jake Marion, our new PS manager has been making waves in the department by evaluating his staff and placing them where their skill set is best suited.
- Greg Morgan and Vicky Zhang are our new PS Consultants, each giving their own unique skills and perspective to provide an excellent library experience to our library managers.

Funding:

Currently, throughout the province, the government will be releasing 50% of the library funding based on last years grants, the rest will be decided when the provincial budget is passed in November. Due to this announcement, NLLS released 50% funding to our board of record libraries on the 31st August as per the NLLS policy.

Conference:

I recently attended an International Federation Library Association Conference (IFLA). This association is world encompassing where 150 countries were represented and over 6,000 people attended. A report will be submitted, however; the highlight of the conference pertained to equitable access to e books and audiobooks. Recently, there have been problems with embargo's on titles, changes from perpetual access to 2-year expiration and limits to front list titles that will start in November. One of the culprits for these changes is data collected from companies such as Amazon and passing this information onto publishers and authors, countries are having difficulty and a worldwide movement is in the works in approaching a solution.

Departmental Reports

Marketing:

There is an important message from our Marketing department to help advocate for our libraries by supporting your library and library system by asking your councils to turn to social media - twitter - Facebook - webpage etc. We need to spread the word that libraries are much more than books and are a vital hub of community engagement. Please check out the Marketing department report for further information and Heather will be available if you have any questions.

Information Technology:

- Cyber Security: Earlier this year Marigold Library System (MLS) was hit by malware that breached their servers costing the system a considerable amount of money. Please pass onto your libraries and councils to not open suspicious emails and certainly do not click on any suspicious links associated in the email. NLLS is fortunate to not back up library data onto our servers but require the libraries to frequently back up their own data onto a drive. It is important that the libraries learn how to back up their information and to do this on a regular basis.

- Computers: An important reminder is that from January computers with Windows 7 pro will no longer be supported on our network. The libraries and their boards have been informed well in advance (18 months)
  Please see the IT department report for further details or if you have concerns please see our IT Manager, Kelly McGrath.

Bibliographic Services:

Vehicles: We are currently investigating the purchase of a new van to replace the 2010 Chevy Uplander. This vehicle has over 300,000 km and is the oldest vehicle in our fleet. The old vehicle will be up for auction in the next few months, if you are interested please contact Amy. There are many more great things happening in bib Services please see the report for further information.

Public Services:

- With having the PS department totally revamped a lot of positive changes have been happening in filling holds, help desk and our HQ collection. There services have been re-evaluated and enhanced to reflect the needs of our libraries.

- The consultants have started discussions for training and are starting to develop a training program for grant writing and a new librarian's package (with the help of Bonnyville) and statistical analysis (with the help of Vermilion). Future training materials for policy and board development programs for the local library boards are also in the works.