



Manitoba Library Association

April 18, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

A strong, unified library association with an active and engaged membership is integral to the ongoing health, growth and development of our library community.

The Manitoba Libraries Working Group was formed to investigate creating a stronger and more cohesive library organization within the province. Since May 2015, the Working Group has been working on diligently exploring the unification of several Manitoba library associations under one umbrella organization. The aim is to establish an association with a board structure that includes a representative from each member association, to centralize funds and expenses, effectively use human resources and to empower one organization to speak at the provincial and national levels for the Manitoba library sector.

The Manitoba Libraries Working Group includes representatives from the Manitoba Library Association, Manitoba Library Trustees Association, Manitoba School Library Association, Manitoba Association of Library Technicians, the Manitoba Libraries Consortium Inc. and the Public Library Services Branch.

During the Manitoba Libraries Conference, a Town Hall meeting will be held on **Thursday May 5, 2016 from 3:45-4:45 p.m. in Charleswood A at the Delta Hotel Winnipeg**. The Working Group will be on hand to summarize what has been accomplished to date, answer questions that have arisen and explain upcoming activities. Time will be allotted for questions and comments from the audience. We are seeking your input.

If you are not attending the conference but wish to attend this meeting please RSVP to president@mla.mb.ca. Alternatively, you can attend the Town Hall meeting via a live stream available from the Manitoba Library Association's homepage at <http://www.mla.mb.ca>. The connection will allow you to view all Town Hall activities; questions and comments from remote viewers will be accepted via Twitter (use the hashtag #MLCTownHall) and the stream chat.

The Working Group hopes that this meeting will show the value and potential of a unified library association in our province. Please join us in this discussion and help create a stronger library community in Manitoba.

Warm regards,

Alix-Rae Stefanko
President, Manitoba Library Association
Chair, Manitoba Libraries Working Group

CC: Jonine Bergen, MSLA; Donna Kormilo, MLTA; Cassie Page, MALT; Rick Walker, MLCI; Louise Ayotte-Zaretski, MLCI; Denise Weir, PSLB