



SSLA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS 2014-2015

PRESENTED AT THE MAY 2016 AGM

AGM Reports

2014-2015

President's Report

The 2014-2015 year served a reflective year as it is my final year in the role of President. Serving as President since 2010, I have witnessed the tenacious growth and completion of tremendous undertakings of the Saskatchewan School Library Association. SSLA hosted its own web site in 2007; rebranded in 2011; and conducted a professional development opportunity entitled, *Teacher-librarians Constructing Understanding through Inquiry* (also known as The Inquiry Project), in partnership with the STF and the Ministry of Education in 2012. In 2013, SSLA created a self-directed online professional learning opportunity entitled Digital Fluency Badges. Digital Fluency Badges provides a professional learning opportunity in which participants earn digital badges through learning about technology tools and applications, and then apply the learnings purposefully to teaching practices in order to deepen student understanding of learning outcomes. Digital badges offer participants the opportunity to pave their personal learning pathways and leverage the potential for mastering digital age skills embodied in the [ISTE Standards](#) and [Saskatchewan's Technology in Education Framework](#).

Saskatchewan School Library Association continues to have a vibrant provincial and global presence. The Association has presented nationally and internationally, as well as serve on many committees, which has enhanced the importance of having a qualified teacher-librarian in every school in Saskatchewan.

The mission of the Saskatchewan School Library Association is to provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement in school libraries in order to enhance student learning. Throughout my tenure as President, SSLA has continued to remain abreast of current changes in the field of teacher-librarianship by providing quality information, insights, and publications into issues pertaining to school libraries. The SSLA conducted its annually reviewed Strategic Plan in order to continually meet the needs of membership. Due to the feedback, SSLA strengthened its professional learning opportunities and formats – formal, informal, self-directed, facilitated, virtual, and face-to-face.

The Saskatchewan School Library Association continues to exceed one hundred members, but SSLA is cognizant that the role of the teacher-librarian is being eliminated in many school divisions. It was disheartening that the *Saskatchewan Reads* document does not significantly highlight the importance of teacher-librarians in promoting literacy. Dwindling numbers of teacher-librarians and the ever present misunderstanding of their role, continues to be at the forefront of SSLA's strategic plan. SSLA continues to attract participation from provincial and global educators, but the Association still strives to promote the role of the teacher-librarian as the instructional, technological, and literacy collaborative partner in each school.

Submitted by Carlene Walter

President Elect's Report

The duties of the President Elect this year fell into three categories: liaison, advocate and historian.

Liaison

SSLA was able to establish a liaison in every school division which has at least three teacher-librarians. Work will continue on finding liaisons for the remaining school divisions. SSLA appreciates the efforts of these voluntary contact people who helped spread the good news about SSLA's projects and partnerships such as Digital Badging, Learning Events, the Annual Conference and Saskatchewan Library Week.

SSLA also liaises regularly with other library organizations who report at each monthly meeting. These organizations include The International Association of School Libraries, The Canadian Library Association, the Saskatchewan Library Association, Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board, Saskatchewan Multitype Database Licensing Program, and the Polytechnic School of Communications Technology's Library Information Technology Program Advisory Board.

Advocate

Each year it is an honour for the President Elect to coordinate and preside over the SSLA Award's ceremony recognizing the achievements of Saskatchewan teacher-librarians. This year the recipient of the John G. Wright Award for Distinguished Service was Donna DesRoches, North Battleford. Diane Barsi, Saskatoon was recognized with the Connie Acton Award of Merit. Anita Hammond, Regina, was awarded the Dr. Alixe Hambleton Bursary.

Acting as an advocate for Saskatchewan teacher-librarians, the Association provided feedback to the writing committee of the Ministry's *Saskatchewan Reads* document asking that the profile of teacher-librarians and school libraries be heightened. In response, the writing committee did make some revisions using a quotation from *Connections* (2008) to emphasize the important role school libraries play in student learning.

SSLA was able to capitalize on an opportunity to showcase the Association's work for a national audience by having the President Elect attend the Ontario Library Association Super Conference in Toronto, January 27 – 30, 2015. SSLA's inquiry and digital badging projects were featured at the Together4Learning showcase on Thursday, January 28. The display generated a lot of interest and garnered some new contacts. Later in the breakout sessions, the inquiry project was highlighted during Carol Koechlin and Anita Brooks Kirkland's *Leading Learning* session.

Historian for The Legacy Project

The Legacy Project became the special project for the President Elect. The history of SSLA, now in its 56th year as an association, needed to be compiled and have a presence on the website. Combing through

back issues of *The Medium* and with the assistance of archival material from Violet Smotra-Cook and the late Art Forgay, the list of executive members from 1959 to the present along with highlights including conference themes, publications, and major constitutional changes was assembled. SSLA will now work with the website developer to design a timeline to display the information.

Treasurer/Membership Report

Our financial institution remains Teacher's Credit Union. Regina has Teacher's Credit Union so all account numbers and bank information can stay the same. The term deposit matures December 2016.

The financial books were submitted to Kent Creelman for review and that review was then forwarded to the STF. When the review was submitted our general grant from the STF was paid.

Quick Books online is being used as SSLA's bookkeeping software. We have a subscription that is paid monthly on the 16th.

Submitted by Dawn Morgan

Saskatchewan School Library Association PROFIT AND LOSS July 2014 – June 2015

	TOTAL
Income	
Access Copyright	638.44
Book Bytes Income	131.74
Conference	4,185.00
Conference 2015	11,342.27
Digital Badging Income	437.45
General	287.22
Interest	10.78
Learning Event	3,435.24
Membership	3,053.38
Sales	0.00
STF Basic Grant	1,728.00
Total Income	\$25,249.52
Gross Profit	\$25,249.52
Expenses	
Advertising	97.73

AGM Awards and Bursary	557.16
Audit	500.00
Book Bytes	140.00
Conference 2015 Expense	11,069.01
Digital Badging	2,363.43
Executive Meetings	2,674.87
Executive Travel	5,349.25
Financial Record Keeping	104.50
Gifts	216.86
Learning Event Expenses	2,651.88
Legacy	37.27
Office expenses	49.94
Other general and administrative expenses	52.26
PD Opportunity – Third Year Executive	1,000.00
President Elect PD Opportunity	2,000.00
Publications	555.76
Wufoo Online Survey Maker	329.45
Total Expenses	\$29,749.37
Profit	<u>\$ -4,499.85</u>

*Note, the Special Projects Grant of \$3000 was reported as income in the previous year. The majority of the expenses were incurred in 2014-2015.

Secretary/Archivist's Report

As secretary I attended all meetings of the SSLA both online and in person. During the meetings, I took notes and created the minutes. The minutes were sent to the president for review, distribution and addition to the SSLA website.

I have gathered the minutes, contracts, and reports digitally for the year and will share with the president.

With the president, I will submit the necessary documents for the archives.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Florence

Publications Councillors' Report

There were two councillors this year, making the workload more manageable and an opportunity to collaborate and share ideas. The Medium continues to have a well-balanced, and wide range of topics for articles reaching our membership and beyond. Our blog was well maintained this year with current topics

and frequent posts. We tried to generate some discussion by adding a comment feature to the blog, which will continue into the next year with the hopes it may spark conversations and a more connected social media presence.

In the fall Medium issue we had 3 diverse articles. Jana Scott Lindsay had an interesting modification on the "If You Give a Mouse" books through student empowerment and technology. Carlene Walter's article on Genius Hour was based on a dynamic presentation at the ISTE conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Tracy Woodward has been busy transforming her library and shared her ideas in Part 1 of her article.

The winter Medium issue had the premiere article showcasing our Digital Badges written by Carla Katerynych. Charlotte Raine attended the CLA Super conference and wrote an article about the library as a commons and gathering place for your school. Chantelle Anderson was piloting a class set of iPads in her division and shared ideas on how to implement them in your school or classroom.

The spring issue of the Medium included Part 2 of Tracy Woodward's library transformation. Carla Katerynych wrote the follow up as well to her article on Digital Badging. Carlene Walter wrote about a collaborative unit on procedural writing in a grade3 / 4 classroom.

The publications format for next year will remain the same with the addition of the commenting feature on the blog. We hope to continue to bring forward innovative resources and ideas to our membership and others who visit our website.

Submitted by Jana Scott Lindsay and Chantelle Anderson

Communications Councillor's Report

The role of the Communications Councillor continued to involve notifying the membership regarding membership renewal, upcoming events and SSLA information through email, Facebook, and Twitter. This year Gmail continued to be used to contact members regarding membership renewals. This year SSLA created an account and used MailChimp to send out newsletters and liaison information. The SSLA Facebook group, is beginning to be viewed by more members and currently has almost doubled its members from 53 to 103 members, but there is still limited interactive discussion between members. We continue to monitor our Twitter presence using Klout. This year we also created a SSLA Pinterest board which we hope will also help our members. Currently we in the process of verifying the SSLA website in order to see the analytics. There were no expenditures from the budget.

Submitted by Laurie Hnatiuk

Professional Development Councillors' Reports

Conference 2015 Final Report

Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division organized and hosted this year's conference. The conference was held in Saskatoon at the Travelodge on Feb. 26, 2015. The number of registered participants was 74. The theme of the conference was Be the change You Want to See in Education and the World. Shannon McClintock-Miller was the keynote. It was a successful conference as indicated by feedback. The participants found Shannon to be a dynamic speaker whose presentation was both engaging and relevant.

Shannon shared her personal journey of building a library program through social media and developing a makerspace. She showcased many apps to promote student reading, writing, collaboration, and discussion. She shared many tips for beginning a makerspace program in a school library, particularly with regards to funding and set-up. Shannon also described several techniques she used for connecting with authors, students, and other educators via social media tools such as Skype, Twitter, and others.

The Travelodge provided coffee, lunch and snacks. There were 9 vendors in our display area. Displayers at the conference were, Follett, ULS, SYRCA Willows, Wintergreen, JerBear, Scholastic, Sask Books, Gabriel Dumont, and Edureference. Saunders was a sponsor for the Conference, but was unable to attend.

Registration

74 registrations were received. Of the registered participants, 66% were from Saskatoon Public Schools, and 34% were from school divisions outside of Saskatoon.

CONFERENCE BUDGET 2014-2015

INCOME	Memo	Budget	Actual
Balance		\$ -	
Registration Fee	based on 86 people X \$140	\$ 12,040.00	\$ 9,249.76
Displayers' Lunch		\$ 50.00	
Sponsorship		\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,092.51
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 14,290.00	\$ 11,342.27

EXPENDITURES		Budget	Actual
Planning Meetings		\$ 125.00	\$ -
Keynote Speaker	Honourarium	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,282.00
Keynote Speaker	Airfare	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 673.72
Keynote Speaker	Accommodations (2 nights)	\$ 475.00	\$ -
Keynote Speaker	Meals	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Décor/tables		\$ 100.00	\$ 120.13

Nametags	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Facility	\$ 850.00	\$ 840.00
Refund of Brian Boutn		\$ 140.00
Swag	\$ 215.00	\$ -
Presenters' Gift	\$ 60.00	\$ 66.00
AudioVisual	\$ 215.00	\$ 332.20
Program	\$ 25.00	\$ -
Nutrition Break	\$ 700.00	\$ 403.51
Lunch	\$ 2,375.00	\$ 2,191.45
	\$ 24 person (plus tip)	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 11,290.00	\$11,049.01

GRAND TOTAL	Budget	
Income	\$ 14,290.00	\$ 11,342.27
Expenditures	\$ 11,290.00	\$11,013.01
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 3,000.00	329.26

Report submitted by: Gaétan Hammond

Learning Events Report

As Professional Development Councillor responsible for Learning Events, Tracy Woodward organized and hosted four webinars using the Adobe Connect platform. The webinars were recorded and archived for participants. On October 8, 2014 Sylvia Martinez provided the first webinar session. Naomi Harm followed on November 5, 2014. Shannon McClintock Miller's presented on December 3, 2014. The final webinar was presented by Dr. David Lankes on February 4, 2015.

Special Projects Councillor's Report

SSLA Digital Fluency Badging Project

The SSLA Digital Fluency Badging project was initiated as a Special Project in the 2013-2014 year. It provides a self-directed professional learning opportunity for teacher librarians and educators who earn digital badges through learning about technology tools and applications, and then applying their learnings purposefully within their teaching practices in order to deepen student understanding of learning outcomes. A grant was received from the STF to cover a portion of the associated development and implementation costs. During Phase 1 and 2 (January-June 2014) an environmental scan was completed, the project was introduced to members at the 2014 AGM, the initial website using WordPress was developed and embedded in the ssla.ca website, and, focus-group testing occurred regarding project content and website navigation.

It has been my pleasure to continue supporting the Digital Fluency Badges initiative during the 2014-2015 year.

By the end of June 2015, the following phases have been supported:

- Phase 3 – Implementation and Promotion Phase (July 2014-June 2015...ongoing)

- SSLA Digital Badging Project was presented at the STF Special Council Meeting, Sept 2014
 - During the summer and fall of 2014, project refinement occurred based on feedback from focus group
 - Six Digital Fluency badges were developed with over 60 tasks offered to support the development of the Digital Fluency areas
 - Officially launched late fall of 2014 with the release of a video clip introducing and promoting SSLA Digital Fluency Badges to all members. It was further promoted throughout the year through contact with School Division contact personnel and SSLA social media sites
 - Registration began in November with participants designing their own pathway to learning
 - Promotional materials including bookmarks and handouts were developed and distributed
 - Promotion of the Project also occurred as Conference sessions at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference, Jan 2015, SSLA Conference Feb 2015, IT Summit April 2015 and SLA Conference May 2015
- Phase 4 – “Do It” Phase (November 2014-June 2015..on-going)
 - During this phase the participants continued to work on their own pathway to learning as they determined what they were willing to try and apply to their learning purposefully within teaching and/or professional practices
 - Participants were monitored and assisted through engagement with and submissions of the tasks and the accountability system
 - Project tasks continued to be reviewed to ensure suitability and viability within the project
 - New project tasks were developed and added to the website
 - One style segment video was developed to promote and showcase badging tasks
 - Members’ feedback was solicited through “Badging evenings” and a survey
- Phase 5 - Accountability
 - As tasks were submitted and completed, participants were awarded task badges as an acknowledgement and reward for engaging in their own self-directed learning. Digital Fluency Badges were awarded upon the completion of the required number of tasks within the Badge area
 - Articles describing, reviewing and showcasing SSLA Digital Fluency Badges successes were included in the Winter and Spring editions of the Medium. The winter article was submitted to STF’s Saskatchewan Bulletin, however, it was not published.
 - A “Badges and Beverages” evening was hosted in early June to recognize the accomplishments of our participants and to celebrate SSLA’s Digital Badging Year One

To date over 100 participants are registered including 4 institutional registrations. The SSLA Digital Fluency Badges project will continue into the 2015-2016 year, with continued project refinement, enhancement, promotion and support for participants.

Report submitted by Carla Katerynych