



LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA

A member of The Partnership, Canada's national network of provincial and territorial library associations.

Alberta Annual Report

Submitted by Christine Sheppard, LAA Representative

Continuing Education Certification Pilot

The Library Association of Alberta undertook a 1-year pilot of a Continuing Education Certification Program on behalf of The Partnership. The Partnership is Canada's national network of provincial and territorial library associations providing various programs and services to its members. The CE Program allows participants to document and reveal the day-to-day learning that they undertake both formally and informally. It does not replace post-secondary training, but allows all library workers to show the extent to which they stay up to date and move forward in their knowledge. The program is designed to be open to all library workers, inexpensive for both the participants and the association, and flexible enough for someone working in a remote library to be successful in the program. Up to 50 LAA member volunteers are taking part in a pilot of a continuing education certification program. Participants have been recording their continuing education activities since September 2009 and the pilot and 8 LAA members have received certificates of recognition for accumulating 30 CE points. The Partnership has extended the pilot for another year and LAA will continue to administer it. We hope to start offering the program nationally by 2012.

Alberta Library Conference 2011

"Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Access" was the theme of ALC 2011. Keynote speakers were [Anna Maria Tremonti](#) and [Richard Worzel](#). Over 800 delegates, vendors, speakers and guests attended the conference held at the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge.

LAA Open Access Policy

LAA developed a draft policy in support of Open Access (OA) as described in the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) statement on OA: <http://www.ifla.org/en/publications/ifla-statement-on-open-access-to-scholarly-literature-and-research-documentation>. LAA now provides immediate open access to its content on the principle that making information freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge.

Copyright Act

LAA supported the position of the Canadian Library Association / Association canadienne des bibliothèques (CLA) with respect to Bill C-32, *An Act to Amend the Copyright Act*. There are several issues of concern arising from Bill C-32 that are relevant to libraries which include, but are not limited to: Fair Dealing, Digital Locks, Exceptions for the Print Disabled, Preservation, and Educational Issues.

The Alberta Readers' Choice (ARC) Award

The Alberta Readers' Choice (ARC) Award is presented by the Edmonton Public Library (EPL), in partnership with the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA). Currently in its second year, the ARC Award promotes literacy and reading to Albertans by highlighting the unique literary and book publishing industry that exists in our province. The \$10,000 prize, which goes to the author of the winning title as voted on by the reading public, is one of the largest literary prizes offered in Alberta and is comparable to many national literary awards. This year's winning book is *Letters from the Lost - A Memoir of Discovery* by Helen Waldstein Wilkes (AU Press).