Vision for MT Libraries

To achieve this vision libraries need:
- Library Directors
- Library Boards
- Library Infrastructure
- Lifelong learning opportunities
- Public Access Technology
- Collaboration
- Effective governance & Funding
- Staff

Library development services necessary to guide & support Montana libraries engaged in achieving this vision:
- Consulting
- Consulting
- Resource Sharing
- Literacy
- Technology Support
- Resource Sharing
- Consulting
- Consulting
- Training & Certification
- Training & Certification
- Digital Content Management
- Resource Sharing
- Federations
- Community Development
- Training & Certification
- Federations
- Digital Content Management
- Community Development

We are better able to achieve this vision when all types of libraries are involved
Library Directors who:

Advocate
• Analyze community needs
• Understand the role of librarians
• Value professional development & certification
• Manage library resources efficiently (lean management)
• Engage in team building through consensus building
• Understands & communicate libraries’ role in economic development
  • Market library services
  • Collaborate with partners
• Contribute to the professional community (state, region national)
  • Manage change & transitions
  • Create and communicate a vision
  • Lead
Library Boards that:

• Understand the roles of libraries and librarians
• Understand boards’ role (division of power)
• Contribute an adequate amount of time / participate both locally, regionally, statewide
  • Advocate
  • Create & communicate a vision
  • Understand and reflect community needs
• Serve as a resource and support system for directors
• Consist of independent thinkers who are willing to express their individual points of view
  • Can work together and compromise to achieve the goals of the library
  • Bring together a variety of skills (legal, contracting, policy, grant writing, etc.)
    • Provide & participate in board development
      • Take on responsibilities and are willing to be held accountable
• Keep up with current trends in libraries and translate trends into action for libraries and in communities
Library infrastructure that:

• Enables the end user to get resources & services, easily, seamlessly, utilizing current technology
  • Is both accessible & affordable
• Can be experimental or adaptable, is nimble, and cutting edge
  • Supports access to more e-books and e-audio
• Encourages consortial resource sharing to make information resources, technology and service delivery more efficient, effective, affordable, customizable, sustainable, scalable
  • Supports distance learning opportunities
• Works across a wide variety of accessible platforms to support the widest possible access
  • Designed to achieve the objectives in a library’s strategic plan
Lifelong learning that supports:

• Learning that spans a lifetime
• Learning that spans all types of libraries
• Early Literacy outcomes supported through family Literacy
  • Financial literacy
  • Telling the community story
• Community engagement inside & outside the library, fostering engagement in the world and empowering an informed citizenry
  • Technology & digital literacy and digital inclusion
  • Connecting patrons to the Talking Book Library
    • Promotes educational values
    • Engagement with arts & humanities
  • 21st century skills (connections to people)
    • Inspires new channels of learning
• Test proctoring & distance learning opportunities
• Learning that happens in the library and virtually
• Learning through creation as well as consumption
Public Access Technology:

- Reflects other strategic lifelong learning goals
  - Makes use of affordable broadband
- Supports technology & digital literacy and digital inclusion
  - Goes beyond public access computers
  - Reflects upcoming technology trends
- Enables the use of current content, ie. MTLibrary2Go
  - Incorporates both wifi and wired connections
  - Helps all libraries to have an online presence
    - Supports distance learning
- Supports learning through creation as well as consumption
Collaboration:

• Among libraries
  • Among community stakeholders/community partners
  • That is scalable, affordable, implementable for all types of libraries
    • Respectful & polite
  • May be inspired by other industries
  • Recognizes the collaborative value of the MT library community
• That creates a shared resource platform that libraries contribute to in order to help address specific needs, ie. building, branding, funding
• Collecting & compiling library stories to share them statewide
Staff or volunteers who:

- Have project management skills
- Have customer service skills
- Analyze community needs
- Understand the role of librarians
- Understand the need for certification
- Manage library resources efficiently (lean management)
  - Advocate
- Understand & communicate the libraries’ role in economic development
  - Market the library services
  - Collaborate with partners
- Contribute to the professional community (state, region national)
  - Manage and/or accept change & transitions
  - Create and/or communicate a vision
Governance & funding:

• Built on open and active communication and advocacy
• Supported by libraries that identify the outcomes and impacts of their services and can tell those stories
• Is informed by different governance & funding models and librarians and boards take responsibility for evaluating and improving their governance structures
  • Is buoyed through grants
• Supported through librarians and boards that aren’t afraid to ask for the resources they need and who seek creative sources of funding