

**2015 Study of MSL Library Development Programs and Services  
May, 2015**

**Charge**

The Montana State Library is statutorily obligated to give assistance and advice to all tax-supported or public libraries in the state and to all counties, cities, towns, or regions in the state that propose to establish libraries, as to the best means of establishing and improving those libraries; (MCA. 22-1-103). As the role of libraries changes so too does the work of the State Library to support public libraries. At the same time, both state and federal funding resources to support library development have remained stagnant for many years in the face of increasing costs and demand for support.

Recognizing the impact these forces have on the State Library's ability to effectively support libraries in all forms, the State Library seeks feedback from the library community about the priorities for our work and allocation of resources to do this work most efficiently. The State Librarian charges this task force to:

- Develop a process to evaluate the importance of programs and services of the State Library that support library development to ensure that Montana libraries are prepared to meet the challenges and to embrace the opportunities that come with being a 21<sup>st</sup> century library;
- Prioritize those programs and services, keeping in mind the needs of all types of libraries;
- Make recommendations regarding new programs and services if needed;
- Make recommendations regarding how all identified programs and services might be most effectively delivered; and to
- Make recommendations about how these programs and services might best be funded.

A primary purpose of this study will be to inform MSL on how the federal Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) and state Coal Severance Tax monies are spent beginning with the federal fiscal year 16 LSTA award. Recommendations will likely also inform budget requests for the 2017 legislative session.

## **Appointees**

- Commissioner – Anne Kish
- NAC member – Barry Brown
- Public Librarians
  - KellyAnne Terry, Lewistown Public Library
  - Jodie Moore, Red Lodge Carnegie Library
  - Mitch Grady, Livingston-Park County Public Library
  - Connie Behe, Imaginelf Libraries
  - Sonja Woods, Miles City Public Library
  - Bill Cochran, Billings Public Library
  - Susan Gregory, Bozeman Public Library
  - Jonna Underwood, Sheridan County Library
  - Debbie Wellman, Chouteau County Library
  - Judy Hart, Lewis & Clark Public Library
- School librarians
  - Jodi Oberweiser, Drummond School & Community Library
  - Joanne Didriksen, Helena High School Library
- Special Librarian
  - Roberta Gebhardt, Montana Historical Society Research Center
- Academic Librarian
  - Pamela Benjamin, Montana State University
- Trustee
  - TBD
- Legislative Representative TBD
- Governor's Representative TBD
- Invited guest
  - Darlene Staffeldt (Tentative)

## **MSL Staff**

- Jennie Stapp – State Librarian
- Sarah McHugh – Statewide Library Resources Director

**Introductory meeting notes:**

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Task force charge and goals
  - a. Develop and implement a process that maximizes input from the Montana Library Community and other stakeholders in order to develop prioritized recommendations for the use of available funds to support the mission and statutory obligation of the State Library to support libraries.
- 3) Review
  - a. History of Statewide Library Resources (SLR)
  - b. Relevant Montana statutes
  - c. Funding
    - i. Sources
      1. Library Services Technology Act funds
      2. Coal Severance Tax Funds
      3. General Fund
    - ii. Current budgets
    - iii. Budget Processes
      1. Federal award including plans and reports
      2. State budgeting system and legislative process
      3. Roles of the Network Advisory Council and Commission
      4. (SLR) Pilots, projects, programs
- 4) Process and timeline
  - a. Information gathering process to be determined by the task force;
  - b. Draft recommendations should be presented to the State Library Commission at the December 2015 Commission meeting;
  - c. Final recommendations will be presented to the State Library Commission at the February 2016 Commission meeting.
- 5) Next steps

### **Guiding Questions**

- What broad needs do Montana communities face?
- How do 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries respond to community needs?
- What support from the State Library do Montana libraries need to be effective 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries?

### **Practical Questions**

- As we think about 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries, do current library development programs and services meet libraries' needs?
- Are there new programs and services that should be considered?
- Are there current programs and services that should be discontinued?
- How would the task force prioritize these programs/ services?
- What resources are necessary to manage these programs/ services effectively?
- Is the State Library the most appropriate agency to manage these programs/ services?
- What funding sources exist to funding these programs/ services?
- Are there certain funding sources that make more sense than others to fund these programs/services?

## Programs and Services

Consulting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Library Director support</li> <li>• Board Development</li> <li>• Consulting regarding library laws, budgeting, strategic planning, etc.</li> </ul>
Training & Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certification Management Program</li> <li>• Training curriculum management</li> <li>• Professional development</li> </ul>
Resource Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCLC Group Services</li> <li>• Montana Shared Catalog</li> <li>• Courier Program</li> <li>• Statewide Databases</li> <li>• MontanaLibrary2Go</li> </ul>
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Literacy</li> <li>• Adult Literacy</li> <li>• Life Long Learning</li> </ul>
Digital Content Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montana Memory Project</li> <li>• MontanaLibrary2Go Local</li> </ul>
Technology support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-rate consulting</li> <li>• Technology evaluation an planning</li> <li>• Broadband planning</li> </ul>
Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Literacy</li> <li>• Community partnerships</li> </ul>
Grant Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federations</li> <li>• State Aid</li> <li>• SWIM</li> <li>• C &amp; C</li> </ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>