

# Thank You

It is with a very heavy heart I write my last Chair's report for NLLS. I want to first and foremost Thank every person for your support and work over the past few years. Our executive and Executive Director with his staff has been instrumental in moving us forward to making this system provide the best possible service. I cannot in good conscience ask the general board to change policies so I can run again. I am a firm believer that things happen for a reason, and I think new blood and new vision is a good thing and with our new Plan of Service committee starting up, this is an excellent time. I am confident of the continued success of NLLS because of its staff and you, its representatives.

I know a lot of our representatives are new to their roles and it is rather daunting at first. Our seasoned representatives know we have gone through the replacement of a new Executive Director, kept the doors open and running with an interim (Thank you Terri!) while challenged with the monumental task of hiring a new executive director. We went through an organizational review (requested by ourselves) in which we have completed all recommendations including a new organizational chart. The Plan of Service was done, and its implementation was done even during Covid. James and the team have accomplished a tremendous amount of work and changes to bring all the plans to fruition.

We started a road show, as I call it, trying to make sure all our municipalities are aware of the value of their investment; they are receiving in being a part of the Northern Lights Library System. I loved meeting all the councils and getting their feedback. Our executive has stepped up to the plate and met with their respective Zones as well. James makes a point of visiting all our libraries and attends library board meetings when he can and or when requested. He has structured it so each MLIS has their own libraries and requires them to visit and become aware of the strengths and where they can use help. We have worked hard to try and ease a lot of workloads for our libraries. A survey of our libraries has been done and will be conducted annually gathering feedback on how we are doing and what we can continue to improve upon. All this has been a tremendous amount of change and work. Again, our staff must be given Kudos. Have I mentioned I loved libraries and what they do for their communities! I know we have some of the best libraries in Canada right here in NLLS.

Our weekly report provides our representatives, libraries, and boards with a clear and transparent view into what we are doing and accomplishing. If we have done anything I am most proud of is that we are only a phone call away and very open and very transparent with everything we do. Our executive works hard on your behalf being on several committees. To the executive Thank you! from all of us and especially me. Another important position I need to recognize is our Library Manager chair currently Jodi Dahlgren who is instrumental in bringing the libraries voice to the executive table. Thank you for your commitment to the libraries and our executive!

I need to close off this final report with my statement it has been an honor and blessing to be a chair of Northern Lights Library System to work with all of you, our staff, and most of all our Executive Director. James, who has so much patience in working with me and my lack of computer skills, texts, and emails at all different times of the day or weekend when a thought strikes me. His can-do attitude of getting things done quickly and meeting challenges head on are to be commended. Thank you, James!

Once again to all of you with gratitude, I Thank you for the honor of being your chair and allowing me to serve you.

Vicky Lefebvre, NLLS Chair