

NLLS Chair Report

NLLS Board

Feb 23, 2024

December

The executive hosted its meeting at NLLS headquarters and was privileged to spend part of the afternoon with all staff to celebrate the holiday season and recognize a year of exemplary service from all NLLS Staff. Thank you to all the staff who put the time and effort into organizing the event, creating opportunities for the board and staff to socialize is greatly appreciated and a valuable opportunity for the board to better get to know the individuals behind all the magic!

MLA Meetings

- James and I met with Cold Lake MLA rep Scott Cyr as a follow up of our letter requesting follow up from red tape reduction advocacy efforts in 2019 and 2021.
- He encouraged libraries within NLLS meet with their individual representatives.
- He encourages in person meetings over letters.
- NLLS has access to advocacy materials that are available for boards to use as support when talking to elected officials over library matters.

System Advocacy

- All regional systems met in January to discuss 2024 advocacy efforts.
- Province wide advocacy does not need to be updated as talking points remain relevant.
 - Libraries Deliver Value Beyond Words.
 - Libraries are the heart of rural Alberta.
 - Libraries support Economic Development, health, education, credible information, environment.
- A subcommittee was formed to create support information for library boards on how to better advocate to their municipal stakeholders.
- Discussion points around reserves. – including policy examples that highlight the importance of reserves to the overall financial stewardship of the library board.
- Relationship management.