

TAL TALES



The Alberta Library 2004 AGM and Board of Directors Meeting

On April 16 in Calgary, The Alberta Library (TAL) held its Annual General Meeting and also conducted its semi-annual Board of Directors meeting.

The following incumbents were acclaimed in Executive Committee positions for 2004: Linda Cook, Chair; Liz Rossnagel, Public Library Representative and Steve Schafer, University Libraries Representative.

Breakout groups were also a part of the TAL AGM and the following were discussed:



One of the breakout groups at the 2004 The Alberta Library annual general meeting.

1) *Fee for service.* Should services be offered on a fee for service basis? If so, are the conditions identified appropriate and satisfactory? The feedback from the fee for service discussion will be examined in upcoming Governance Standing Committee meetings.

2) *Libraries and E-learning.* What are libraries doing in the e-learning arena? How do we articulate the library role? To whom do we target our efforts? What actions do we need to take as individual libraries and collaboratively?

June 2004
Volume 7, Issue 1
ISSN 1488-013X
1488-0075

The Alberta Library 2004 AGM and Board of Directors Meeting	1
Celebration of the of the Knowledge Network	1
Online Reference Centre	2
Inter-Library Loan Feature on TAL Online	2
Web Awareness Links	2
The Alberta Library (TAL) Linking Project	3
NetSpeed	3
Lois Hole Library Legacy Program	3
SuperNet Project Update	4
Executive Committee Member Profile	4
'Valued and Visible' at the Alberta Library Conference	5
The Alberta Library Staff News	6/7
Improved Databases on RPA	7

Celebration of the Knowledge Network

An evening reception was held on April 15 to recognize the accomplishments of the Knowledge Network Steering Committee, which successfully culminated its many achievements on December 31, 2003. Linda Cook, Chair of The Alberta Library, presented the members in attendance with a gift and certificate of appreciation for all the hard work that was accomplished by the committee since 1998.

Members of the Knowledge Network Steering Committee were: Keith Walker (Medicine Hat College Library), Joanne Kemp (Grant MacEwan College Learning Resource Centre), Susan Brayford (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Library), Barbara Marshalsay (University of Lethbridge Library), Doug Poff (University of Alberta Libraries), Alan MacDonald (University of Calgary Library), Debbie McGugan (Grant MacEwan College Learning Resource Centre), David Larsen (Keyano College), Lucy Pana (The Alberta Library), Maureen Woods (The Alberta Library), and Margaret Law (The Alberta Library).



Keith Walker accepting a certificate of appreciation from Linda Cook

The Alberta Library
Room 6-14
7 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2V5

Phone: 780-414-0805
Fax: 780-414-0806
Email:
admin@thealbertalibrary.ab.ca
www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca



Inter-Library Loan Feature on TAL Online

The TAL Online Development Standing Committee is pleased to announce the TAL Online inter-library loan feature, which went live on the site on May 3, 2004. After eight months of consultation, revisions and meetings with TAL members, the button is available to all public and post-secondary libraries with further development in progress. The NEOS Government and Health libraries have been undergoing a testing phase and will be going live soon.

Once the user clicks on the "Request this Item" button, they are then asked to choose their library/public library region from a drop-down list. If the item has an ISBN or ISSN associated with it, the system then confirms whether the item that is requested is held by their highest level consortium (e.g., NEOS or TRAC). If the item is held by their highest level consortium, the user is encouraged to place a local request via a link to their library's PAC or allowed to continue with the request if they provide a reason (e.g., the status is "Damaged" or "Lost"). After choosing their pickup location and entering their patron information, the request is sent via e-mail to the patron's library or public library region for processing.

With high interest from TAL's post-secondary members, the Committee will be investigating the possible offering of alternate e-mail formats such as Generic Script or ISO-ILL that would facilitate automatic parsing into ILL management software. Later this year, auto-population of the patron information will also be investigated within the larger TAL Online Integrated Authentication priority.

If bugs are encountered with the function, please go to <http://admin.talonline.ca/> and look for the links to "Search Alberta (Site Search)." From there will be a link to the trouble reporting form where you can indicate your situation.

Web Awareness Links

Be Web Aware is a program of workshops that highlight the challenges and questions that arise as young people go on the Internet. This program training is available to all TAL library members. A few of these sites are:

Predators on the Web

News and accounts of teens sexually assaulted by much older online "friends"

<http://www.canoe.ca/NewsStand/>

[LondonFreePress/](http://www.londonfreepress.com/)

To:

day/2004/05/03/445022.html

Media literacy guidelines published for the digital generations' parents

Ten years ago, parents may have worried about children watching too much TV, but now must also consider the Internet, video games and other electronic media.

[http://](http://www.accessnews.com/national_040604a.shtml)

www.accessnews.com/national_040604a.shtml

Online Reference Centre

The partnership between The Alberta Library (TAL) and Alberta Learning that prompted the inception of the Online Reference Centre (ORC), continues to grow. This suite of licensed online resources is available free to students, teachers, pre-service teachers and parents. Students in schools are IP authenticated, while remote access is available from home with a username and password distributed by Alberta Learning to school jurisdictions in the province.

In the past year, three French language databases have been added to the ORC to support the French as a Second Language (FSL), Immersion and Francophone students in the province. Repère and Biblio Branchée provide access to Canadian and international magazines and newspapers in French. A multi-media encyclopedia, Hachette, has also been included.

Public libraries will receive an information package in September 2004 that will assist them in working with students who use the public library to access the ORC.

If you have further questions about access to the ORC or its contents, please contact Diane GallowaySolowan, Project Coordinator, at the TAL offices. She can be reached at: Phone:

(780) 414-0805

E-mail: dgallowayslowan@thealbertalibrary.ab.ca





The Netspeed 2004 Conference will be held in Calgary at the Glenmore Inn, October 21-23. The conference will offer technology-based sessions for librarians, technical staff and trustees. Some topics will include: *Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Open Source, videoconferencing issues and demo, XML and content management, SuperNet and wireless libraries.*

Please note, there will not be a Netspeed 2004 pre-conference session. For further conference and exhibitor information, go to:

<http://www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca/netspeed/netspeed2004/info2004.html>

Mark your calendars for Netspeed 2004—registration information is coming soon!



Lois Hole Library Legacy Program

Public libraries in Alberta received a remarkably generous donation through the Lois Hole Library Legacy Program. The Hole family donated a set of 17 gardening books to each of 318 public libraries in Alberta in honour of their parents, Ted and Lois Hole. Also, new titles in the series will be donated as they are published.

Requests for additional bookplates should be directed to The Alberta Library. Letters of thanks to Bill, Valerie, Jim and Marcia Hole may be sent to:

*The Hole Family
Hole's
101 Bellerose Drive
St. Albert, AB
T8N 8N8*

The Alberta Library (TAL) Linking Project

The Alberta Library (TAL) is conducting a linking project to investigate the feasibility of providing linking software to Alberta's post-secondary libraries. Linking software would provide a means of linking among the various electronic resources that a library may subscribe to. In particular, links could be built from citations in electronic indexes and abstracts to:

1. Sources of electronic full-text,
2. Corresponding records in a library OPAC, and
3. A document order program.

A few Alberta libraries have a linking program in place and a few are actively pursuing the acquisition of such a program. Most post-secondary libraries do not have a linking program in place and the results of the TAL linking project may be of particular interest to them. Some public libraries may also be interested in participating in the project.

At this early stage in the study, visits have begun at the various post-secondary libraries, with a presentation to library staff in covering: the perceived need for electronic linking, describing the TAL linking project and what it entails and showing some examples of link resolvers that have already been set up and how they work.

The project will then involve sending out requests for information (RFIs) to the various vendors of linking software to determine:

1. What features these products offer,
2. How they work in a consortial setting, and
3. What they cost.

This would be followed by:

1. Testing of the preferred product(s),
2. Consultation with libraries to evaluate the possible consortial options, and
3. Development of final recommendations with a final report expected in February 2005.

Funding for the linking project is provided by Alberta Learning through Medicine Hat College. APLEN has also allocated some additional funding.

If your library is actively pursuing a linking software program resolver, please send comments to: Eric Tull, Linking Project Coordinator, Phone: (403) 220-6648
E-mail: etull@thealbertalibrary.ab.ca

