REPORT TO: STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2023
FROM: KRISTA ROBINSON, CEO
SUBJECT: OLA LIBRARY TRUSTEE BOOT CAMP

The Library Board is invited to attend the OLA Library Trustee Boot Camp during Ontario Library Association Super Conference. The Boot Camp is held on Saturday January 27 in Toronto at the Metro Convention Centre. Expenses related to registration and transportation (mileage or public transit expenses) will be covered by the Library.

The Library Trustee Boot Camp program is designed to empower you to contribute more meaningfully and constructively to the library board.

Full details: https://www.olasuperconference.ca/

SCHEDULE

OLBA Annual General Meeting | 8:45-9:15am

Opening Speaker | 9:15-10:15am

The opening keynote session for the Library Trustee Boot Camp is designed specifically for public library board trustees, centered on enhancing team building and communication skills. Throughout this engaging session, you will acquire the tools to foster a collaborative and cohesive board. Participants will develop a deep understanding of effective communication strategies, active listening, conflict resolution, and the significance of diverse perspectives.

By the end of this session, you'll gain the ability to facilitate open discussions, foster a culture of inclusivity, and effectively address board-related challenges. You'll leave with the skills to strengthen board relationships, ultimately enhancing decision-making processes and aligning with the needs of your community.

Current State of your Library Board | 10:45-12noon

Engage in a transformative conversation where library board members come together to share their valuable experiences. This interactive session invites you to explore the existing strengths and opportunities within your library board. Through dialogue, you'll connect with peers from libraries grappling with similar challenges, recognizing yourself as a valuable resource for boards in need of support.

By the end of this session, you'll have a clearer perspective on your board's strengths and potential areas for growth. You'll leave with a strengthened network of colleagues from boards across Ontario. This conversation promotes collaboration and mutual support, strengthening the collective impact of library boards in addressing shared issues

Lunch | 12-1:15pm

Advocating for Change | 1:15-2:30

Join us for an exploration of the vital role of library boards in advocating for their libraries. Through compelling historical and contemporary examples, this talk will emphasize the importance of library boards speaking up when it matters most. You will learn effective strategies for advocacy that don't disrupt harmony within the community.

Discover how to build connections within the library community and beyond. This session marks the beginning of a conversation where board members can actively engage in critical debates, making a substantial contribution to shaping the future of libraries and safeguarding their place in the community. This session will include examples of effective advocacy strategies applicable to libraries of all sizes.

Working with your Municipality | 2:45-3:30pm

This session is dedicated to strengthening the relationship between library boards and municipal governments. This panel discussion will provide practical insights, drawing from real-life success stories, highlighting the importance of building productive partnerships. Learn strategies for navigating the intricacies of local government, articulating the library's significance, and fostering mutually beneficial collaborations.

BOARD ACTION

If you are interested in attending, let Cathy Perreault know as soon as possible.