



## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday March 3, 2026

10 am Pacific / 11 am Mountain / 12 am Central /  
1 pm Eastern / 2 pm Atlantic / 2:30 pm Newfoundland

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### Agenda

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Indigenous Land Acknowledge Statement
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda
- 4) Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, March 4, 2025
- 5) ELA Spring 2026 Education Webinar - Connected Canadians Digital Literacy Workshop:  
ChatGPT & AI - Navigating the Digital Conversation
- 6) Break - 15 minutes
- 7) Resumption of Meeting
- 8) Business Arising From the Previous Minutes  
None
- 9) President's Report - D. Harvie
- 10) Treasurer's Report - B. Henderson
- 11) Committee Reports
  - a) Membership Committee - B. Henderson
  - b) ELA Newsletter Committee - F. Davidson-Arnott
  - c) Biography Committee - L. Bruce

- d) Ad Hoc Library Tours Committee - V. James
  - e) Website & Listserv Committee - L. Bruce
  - f) Facebook Committee - D. Burton
  - g) W. Kaye Lamb Award Committee - C. Wilson
  - h) Indigenous Student Bursary Committee - D. Thomas
  - i) Advocacy Committee - D. Harvie
  - j) Education Committee - T. Kyle
- 12) Board of Directors Election - D. Thomas
- a) Nomination Slate Presentation
  - b) Call for Nominations from the Floor.
  - c) Election
- 13) Other Business For Which No Notice Has Been Provided
- 14) Adjournment

On behalf of the ELA Board:

D. Harvie, President  
D. Thomas, Past President  
C. Penman, Secretary  
B. Henderson, Treasurer & Membership Secretary  
L. Bruce  
D. Burton  
F. Davidson-Arnott

T. Eadie  
V. James  
C. Moore  
S. Press  
J. Schneider  
E. Ridler  
C. Wilson



### **Ex Libris Association National Land Acknowledgement**

I would like to begin by acknowledging the many Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. While we meet today on a virtual platform, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the importance of the lands, which we each call home, and the diverse Indigenous peoples who have been and continue to be stewards of this land. ELA recognizes that those attending this meeting today come from the traditional lands of different Indigenous nations and we thank them for sharing their lands with us.

We do these acknowledgements to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility - both personal and professional - to take action to improve relationships between nations. We seek to find a better path to walk together not only for this generation but for those who will come after us.



**Ex Libris Association  
Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday March 4, 2025**

**10:00 a.m. Pacific, 1:00 p.m. Eastern**

**In attendance:** Deb Thomas (President), Tom Eadie (Past-President), Cynthea Penman (Secretary), Bob Henderson (Treasurer and Membership), Christina Wilson, Frances Davidson-Arnott, Lorne Bruce, Donna Burton, Julia Schneider, David Harvie

Members at large: 17

**Minutes v3**

**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

Meeting was called to order and land acknowledgement delivered by Deb Thomas.

**2. Adoption of agenda**

*Motion to adopt:* Elizabeth Ridler

*Seconded:* David Harvie

*Approved*

**3. Approval of Special AGM Minutes, March 5, 2024**

*Motion to adopt:* Frances Davidson-Arnott

*Seconded:* Bernard Katz

Approved.

**4. Business arising from minutes**

No business arising.

## **5. President's Report (Deborah Thomas)**

The full report was provided prior to the meeting. Deb Thomas reported that it had been a very active year, with much accomplished, including the addition of two new board members.

## **6. Treasurer's Report (Bob Henderson)**

The full report was provided prior to the meeting. Measures have been taken to tighten the financial processes.

As of January 1, 2024, there was a balance of approximately \$4,400. Income for this year was approximately \$28,000, including membership fees (approximately \$5,400), general donations (approximately \$600), Indspire donations (approximately \$3,200) and the GIC (approximately \$19,000).

Expenditures were approximately \$30,000, including for general administration (approximately \$2,800), newsletter (approximately \$5,000), Indspire bursary (approximately \$3,100) and the reinvested GIC (approximately \$18,000).

The balance was approximately \$2,900.

Total assets were approximately \$20,400, of cash and GIC.

Liabilities include a trust fund for life memberships of \$600.

*Motion to adopt:* Chris Wilson

*Seconded:* Julia Schneider

*Approved*

## **7. Membership Report (Bob Henderson)**

The full report was provided prior to the meeting. Bob Henderson reported that there are 242 members. A draw for a free membership was held at the OLA SuperConference. Names will be drawn for a free membership.

Questions and discussion:

- a. renewal through CanadaHelps - it is convenient, but ELA does lose a small amount on their administrative fee
- b. greater geographic diversity would benefit the membership and association (still feels Ontario-focused), with outreach by all encouraged
- c. as life memberships are no longer offered, it was suggested that multi-year memberships (until age 80) could be an alternative

*Motion to adopt:* Frances Davidson-Arnott

*Seconded:* David Harvie

*Approved*

## 8. Committee Reports.

*(Note: in the interest of time, full reports, provided prior to the meeting, were not read, but questions and discussion were welcome.)*

### a. Archives Committee (Chris Wilson)

Chris Wilson reported that Lorne Bruce and David Harvie are looking at both digitizing and expanding the archival material presence on the website. Having an archivist on the committee would be a definite positive - not onerous but important. It is important to ensure that accepted standard procedure are being followed. The committee is looking for a home for the physical material, including that which was added from Nancy Williams' office.

Questions and discussion:

- a. with the digitized material, would it be available to anyone or members only? A two-tier system is being considered - e.g. biographies open to all, but other materials for members only.
- b. there are two archivists who are ELA members, and Bob Henderson is in contact with both.

### b. Biography Project Committee (Lorne Bruce)

Lorne Bruce reported that they have started a new project adding content to the over 150 biographies, including pictures and shortened links. ELA now has the largest collection of Canadian librarian biographies (surpassing Wikipedia) and is unique in Canada. Lorne encouraged others to join the committee.

### c. Education Committee (Deb Thomas)

Deb Thomas reported that two webinars were held in 2024. Guy Robertson presented on disaster planning for libraries in June, and Moe Hosseini-Ara on the human impact of the cyber attack on Toronto Public Library. Suggestions for future topics are welcome.

### d. Facebook Committee (Donna Burton)

Donna Burton reported that the Facebook page has been working well, with new views, likes and followers. Canadian Librarianship website continues to be a great source of content. Pictures are popular, and everyone is encouraged to comment and/or like the posts, as well as make suggestions.

e. Indigenous Student Bursary Committee (Deb Thomas)

Deb Thomas reported that two awards have been given so far. Last year the award went to an LIT student and this year, to an MI student from U of T. Library Bound continues to provide \$500, but other sponsors are being sought.

Questions and discussion:

- a. Students at the OLA SuperConference were very positive about the opportunity
- b. Award winners are asked to provide a short write-up for *ELAN*, which is very positive, as well as a good marketing piece

f. ELAN (Newsletter) Committee (Frances Davidson-Arnott)

Frances Davidson-Arnott reported that the committee is interested in articles by anyone with an MLS, not necessarily on a library topic. The committee welcomes people to help out, and being on the committee is not required. Areas of need include book reviewer, editor, news on archives and finding and writing obituaries. One topic being explored is the history of different library types, starting with health.

Questions and discussion:

- a. Elizabeth Ridler offered to write an article about her role as judge of crime writers

g. Nominations Committee (Tom Eadie) (nominations from the Floor)

Tom Eadie reported that he had worked on the report, with the guidance of Bernard Katz. There are a number of openings.

David Harvie agreed to step in as President Elect, so this position has been filled, with Board approval. Deb Thomas has served as President for additional years beyond the regular term, and is stepping down as of the AGM. David Harvie will take over as President, for a new term. Deb was thanked for her service and exemplary leadership, and David was congratulated on his new role.

Nominations were accepted from the floor. Current Board openings include President elect, Archivist and Directors at large.

Frances Davidson-Arnott nominated Sally Press for Director at Large, as well as Carole Moore. Both accepted the nomination. Elizabeth Ridler volunteered to be a Director at large.

*Motion to close the nominations:* David Harvie

*Seconded:* Deb Thomas

*Approved.*

h. Recruitment / Membership (Frances Davidson-Arnott on behalf of Tom Eadie)

Others were encouraged to join the committee, and being on the Board was not required.

i. Tours Committee (Julia Schneider on behalf of Vivienne James)

The upcoming tour in May is to the Stratford Public Library. If anyone is also interested in attending the play, it may still be possible to get a ticket. Contact Julia Schneider if interested.

j. Website / Listserv Committee (Lorne Bruce)

Lorne reported that this year's focus was on creating a page for intellectual freedom, improvements in navigation and a section to bring together events, presentations, etc., dating back to 2002.

With the listserv, contact information was reviewed and updated, and it currently has over 200 members. It's an excellent way to keep in touch on important issues.

k. W. K. Lamb Award Committee (Christina Wilson)

Chris Wilson reported that the key date for this year is October 2, for submitting nominations. Notices have been placed in the newsletter, website, etc. The committee is interested in expanding the award beyond public libraries.

*Motion to accept reports:* Frances Davidson-Arnott

*Seconded:* Donna Burton

*Approved.*

**9. Other Business**

There is no other business.

**10. Adjournment.**

*Motion to adjourn:* Chris Wilson

*Approved.*

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m., Eastern time.

Following AGM, there was a presentation by Michelle Arbuckle and Lily Kwok on preserving student library supports, with an update on the “Save our school libraries” campaign.

**Ex Libris Association 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo**



# EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2026

<b>President's Report 2025</b>
<b>Date: January 6, 2026</b>
<b>President: David Harvie</b>

## President's Report 2025

To begin, I would like to thank all the Board Directors and Committee members, for all the work they have done during the past year. Each Committee Chair will provide updates on the activities of their group's work, so there is no need for me to repeat their achievements in my report.

The Board was thrilled to receive vice-regal patronage from Her Excellency Governor General Mary Simons in 2025. We will endeavour to maintain the trust that the Governor General has placed in Ex Libris.

Along with continuing our many current activities, my focus as President for 2026 will be as follows:

- Advocacy

Ex Libris will act in a supportive role in advocacy initiatives with national and provincial library organizations. Our non-partisan approach will be to educate rather than to shame elected officials, in order to help them create policies that allow libraries to flourish.

- National Recognition of Librarians and Archivists

Ex Libris will investigate the possibility of the creation of a national honour for librarians and archivists. Such an honour would recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the profession and their communities.

- Board Succession Planning

Echoing previous President's AGM Reports, succession planning continues to be a theme. We continue to look for new recruits to the Ex Libris Board and committees. In particular the Vice President (president-elect) position is vacant, and we have a real need for an archivist to assist with the ELA Archives Digitization Project.

To end, I invite members to contact me to discuss what is of value to them and what else Ex Libris should be doing. You can contact me at [dharvie@mac.com](mailto:dharvie@mac.com) with any comments, concerns, suggestions, or inquiries about joining a Committee or the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

David Harvie BA MLS CD  
President

**EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2026 Annual General Meeting**

<b>Treasurer's Report for 2025</b>
<b>Date: January 19, 2026</b>
<b>Treasurer: Bob Henderson</b>

**Ex Libris Association  
Financial Report: January 1 – December 31, 2025  
Statement of Income and Expenditures**

<b>Balance January 1</b>		<b>\$ 2,859.62</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Fees	\$ 4,914.28	
Donations	\$ 1,525.80	
Indspire Donations	\$ 4,311.00	
Archival Donations	\$ 10.00	
Sales: Polo Shirts	\$ 15.00	
GIC	\$ 18,471.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 29,247.08</b>	<b>\$ 29,247.08</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Board Expenses	\$ -	
Board Travel	\$ -	
General Administration	\$ 26.11	
Membership Expenses	\$ 162.25	
Newsletter <i>ELAN</i>	\$ 6,574.63	
ELA Website	\$ 320.67	
Promotion		
Conferences (OLA, BCLA, APLA)	\$ 693.93	
Events (FI, Regional meeting, tour)	\$ -	
Prizes / Awards / Donations	\$ -	

Indspire Bursary		\$ 2,800.00	
Conference & Annual General Meeting		\$ -	
Bank Charges		\$ 27.50	
GIC		\$ -	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$ 10,605.09</b>	<b>\$ 10,605.09</b>
<b>Balance</b>			<b>\$ 21,501.61</b>
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash in bank account			\$ 21,501.61
GICs	*		\$ -
<b>Total Assets</b>			<b>\$ 21,501.61</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Trust fund for Life Memberships (\$100 x 5)			\$ 500.00
*Includes Ryder Bequest \$4,000.			

Bob Henderson, Treasurer,  
Ex Libris Association

January 19, 2026

## Committee Reports

### EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2026 Annual General Meeting

<b>Membership Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 19, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Bob Henderson</b>

#### Report on Activities in 2025

The membership to December 31, 2025 is:

Personal members:	
Annual	245
Life	5
Total	250
Institutional/organizational members:	
	6
Honorary members	19
Current total mailing list:	275

Membership renewals:

- 98 members renewed for 2025
- 12 members renewed through OLA/ELA option
- 41 members renewed through e-transfers
- 16 members renewed through CanadaHelps
- 23 members renewed for 2026

I continue to invite all members to help in the recruitment of new members, either by giving new retirees the ELA online brochure or by forwarding their names to me at 647-297-8161 or by e-mail at [bob.exlibris@gmail.com](mailto:bob.exlibris@gmail.com).

# EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2026

**Date: December 13, 2025**

**Committee/Role: Newsletter Committee**

**Chair: Frances Davidson-Arnott**

**Members: Judy Dunn, Suzette Giles, Vivienne James,  
Leslie McGrath, Wendy Newman, Julia Schneider, Jean Weihs**

## **Report on activities:**

*ELAN*, our newsletter, is by and for members of Ex Libris Association. We publish two *ELAN* issues annually, spring and fall. The *ELAN* committee meets via Zoom after each issue is complete to make decisions about what will be put into the next issue and to consider problems and tasks to be worked on. There is considerable email communication between meetings to discuss problems as they arise.

This year has been very eventful for *ELAN* and the *ELAN* committee.

- We completed a Memorandum of Understanding with OLA for the layout and production of *ELAN*. We now pay for the layout work.
- We hired a new editor, Julie Carl, after Jo Calvert resigned.
- Sally Press has taken over the Book Reviews portfolio.
- Because of the death of Tanja Harrison, we had to find another Maritimes reporter. Penny Logan has kindly agreed to take on this column. She has also agreed to include Newfoundland & Labrador News since the recent death of Dick Ellis. It will revert to the name "Atlantic News", as it was before Dick took on NL&L News as a separate column.
- Susan Hart will become our Archives News reporter starting March 2026.
- We have started a series on the history of various types of libraries, e.g., medical/health, government libraries. The series is edited by Suzette Giles.
- The 40<sup>th</sup> ELA Logo is ready to include on the cover.
- We will add the information that the Governor-General is our Patron to the masthead.

There are several major projects we are currently working on:

- Devising "Editorial Guidelines", as requested by the Board. It will go to the Board for approval or amendment when it is done.
- Amending our house style sheet to look at deviations from the style we have made in recent years and work with the editor to codify or correct those changes.
- Creating a document that will list practices and decisions made regarding *ELAN*.
- Consider minor layout changes to *ELAN*.

We are still looking for someone to take over compiling “Obituaries”. This position does not require *ELAN* committee membership. Please contact Frances Davidson-Arnott (frances.davidson-arnott@senecaretirees.ca) if you are interested in working on this column. Suggestions for improvement to *ELAN* are very welcome. We invite all ELA members to make suggestions about topics to be explored, suitable books to be reviewed, and to send us news (honours, deaths, retirements) about our members and professional associates. Members who publish books are asked to let us know.

We are grateful to our members for writing such great articles. Thanks to our “new” editor, Julie Carl, for her skill, and to Bob Henderson for his significant contribution to *ELAN* work. Special thanks go to the Ontario Library Association for their continuing support and dedication in publishing *ELAN*. Laurel McLeod continues to do a great job.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frances Davidson-Arnott

December 13, 2025

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2026 Annual General Meeting

<b>Biography Project Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 8, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Lorne Bruce</b>
<b>Members: Barbara Clubb, Ross Gordan</b>

### Annual Biography Project 2025

The Ex Libris Biography Project page is at: <https://www.exlibris.ca/history:canadian-librarians-biographies>. There are currently 148 biographies available. To improve our linkages with Google and Bing search engines, the URLs for the main page and all biographies were shortened to give a greater priority in responding to searches.

The ELA in memoriam page is at: <https://www.exlibris.ca/history:memories-and-tributes>. There are currently 33 notices contributed by ELA members.

The ELA Biography Project features brief, pertinent biographies about prominent Canadian persons in the Library and Information Science and Archives fields. It includes personal facts, significant information on education, careers, publications, honours, awards, accomplishments, or work and positions in associations across Canada, as well as comments by contemporaries. The inclusion of sources provides readers or researchers with further references on each individual. With the addition of current (retired) professionals, we hope to add personal comments provided through direct communication.

A few bios have been added this year, including Ken Haycock, and two Parliamentary Librarians, Félix Desrochers and Martin Burrell. Images for several persons have been added.

Ross Gordon, who did biographies for the Parliamentary Librarians, and Barbara Clubb, are Project members contributing their time to this Ex Libris endeavour. However, I would like to invite other ELA members to contribute to the project to keep our momentum going. Ex Libris members can contribute to the project in several ways: by writing biographical entries, by suggesting improvements to the database, by correcting erroneous information, checking for new or correcting old links, and by adding biographical material to persons already in the database. We welcome contributions to this project.

I will also note that the memories and tributes page for members who have passed away is also expanding. This personalized page allows Ex Libris members to comment on their former friends and colleagues in a timely manner.

If you would like to contribute to the Biography Project, please get in touch with me at [lbruce@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lbruce@uoguelph.ca)

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2026

<b>Library Tours Committee</b>
<b>Date: December 10, 2025</b>
<b>Chair: Vivienne James</b>

### Report on Activities in 2025

#### Fall 2025 Library Tour Overview

The Fall 2025 Library tour was held on November 12, 2025, and was attended by 11 participants. The group enjoyed an engaging and informative tour of the University of Toronto Music Library and Archives, where they met with two dedicated staff members: Janneka Guise, Head of the Library and Archives, and Becky Shaw, the Archivist.

#### Tour Highlights

During a sit-down orientation and Q&A session, the topic of virtual library tours was discussed. Jana suggested the possibility of organizing a virtual library tour of other music libraries in Canada. She mentioned that her location is equipped with a space that can accommodate both virtual and in-person meetings simultaneously.

This suggestion prompted us to inquire about the feasibility of using the same space and technology for ELA general meetings. Jana was receptive to this idea and believed it was highly possible, given the available room and equipment. This information is hereby brought to the attention of the Board for its consideration.

#### Future Initiatives

Following the tour, a virtual meeting took place with Ms. Guise to discuss the organization of a virtual music library tour in Spring 2026. In addition, arrangements are being made for an in-person tour during the same period.

#### Lunch and Chat

Before the tour of the University of Toronto Music Library and Archives, the group gathered for lunch and conversation at the Acacia Café at Wycliffe College, enjoying the opportunity to connect and socialize.

#### Membership Update

Frances initiated a complimentary membership for Ms. Guise, who expressed great enthusiasm about becoming an active member of the ELA.

#### Conclusion

The Fall 2025 Library Tour proved to be both successful and productive, resulting in valuable experience and future possibilities.

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2026

<b>Website and Listserv Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 8th, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Lorne Bruce</b>
<b>Members: Barbara Clubb, Jovette Jolicoeur (Webmaster)</b>

The ELA Website page is at: <https://www.exlibris.ca>. Content in the entire site can be searched using the search bar in the upper right-hand corner.

2025 has been a relatively busy year. There have been changes to the main sidebar, for example, to highlight ELA Advocacy, the W.K. Lamb award process, and ELA Presentations.

All the broken links (more than 100) on the site have been updated in the fall, or in the case of expired newspaper or website links, eliminated. Thanks go to our webmaster, Jovette Jolicoeur, who has identified these.

Three new biography pages were uploaded: Ken Haycock, and two former Parliamentary librarians, Martin Burell and Félix Desrochers

Two issues of ELAN were posted and its “Good Reads” page was updated for books after 2021.

In the News and Views section major stories were added:

- the Vice-Regal patronage by Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada
- a call for nominations for the WK Lamb award
- Heather Turnbull’s violence and safety webinar

In the ELA Presentations section, two main items were posted for viewing:

- Michelle Arbuckle and Lily Kwok on the Ontario campaign, Save Our School Libraries
- Michael Dudley on Public Libraries, City Planning, & Pluralism: Redefining Library Neutrality

Additional information about how to join ELA and also how to donate was added to the main sidebar with an accompanying page.

In the Memories section five persons were added and a longer tribute, Memories of Flora Patterson: A Manager and a Friend by Kathryn Mikoski and Betty Deavy, was added to the Occasional Papers section with a number of images.

A few portraits were added to the Biography section, e.g., Marion Gilroy and Ken Haycock.

As well, navigation was improved by changing the headers, footers, and sidebars for each major section.

Along with our Listserv, the Wiki format for our site makes it easier to contact our membership and keep people updated. The Listserv, hosted by the University of Guelph, has been busy this year, and there have been fewer disruptions due to several changes in the basic listserv protocols for security. If you would like to help with the website work, please get in touch with me at [lbruce@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lbruce@uoguelph.ca) or volunteer right away at the AGM!!

## **EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM**

<b>ELA Facebook</b>
<b>Date: January 12, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Donna Burton, Facebook Editor</b>

### **Report on Activities in 2025**

The ELA Facebook page continues to experience steady growth. As of December 31, 2025, the page had 269 “Followers” and 12 “Following”, up from 244 Followers in December 2024. Those labelled “Followers” by Facebook are mainly personal names but also include a few organizations such as the Ontario Library Association, *Librarianship.ca*, Friends of Canadian Libraries, and National Gallery of Canada. Those listed as “Following” are all libraries and associations. A slight mystery for sure!

75% of the audience originates from Canada with over 24% elsewhere including a proportion of that number from Asia. Of the Canadian based followers, 36% are from Toronto, 14% Ottawa, with the remaining almost 50% from elsewhere in Southern Ontario and across Canada.

ELA page postings highlight recent news and trends in the library and information sector, notices of conferences, and other related articles that might be of interest to ELA’s diverse membership. Popular posts in 2025 included ones about ELA receiving Vice Regal Patronage, Vickery Bowles retiring, and Moe Hosseini-Ara’s appointment as Toronto’s new City Librarian.

Page Followers especially like posts promoting ELA activities, ELA news and events such as tours and webinars, as well as photos of libraries. Photos were posted of the May 15<sup>th</sup> ELA trip to the Stratford Public Library (a Carnegie) and to see *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. The ELA page is a public page and can be viewed by both ELA members and non-members. Where an event is for ELA members only, it is noted.

Due to the Meta ban on posting news on *Facebook*, important sources for posts continue to be *Canadian Librarianship* or *Librarianship.ca*, and library websites. *Librarianship.ca* links to library news on their website in a section called “Canadian Librarianship News Updates” and makes reference to these articles on their Facebook page.

ELA members are encouraged to check out the ELA Facebook page. It can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/ExLibrisAssociation>

Viewers can “Follow” the ELA page to get new updates in their FB newsfeeds and are encouraged to comment on any of the postings or share items on their own FB pages.

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2026 Annual General Meeting

<b>W. K. Lamb Award Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 21, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Christina Wilson</b>
<b>Members: Todd Kyle, Donna Burton, David Harvie (Ex Officio)</b>

### Report on Activities in 2025

The W. Kaye Lamb Award is given out biennially to a Canadian library whose application demonstrates outstanding library service to seniors. Named for Canada's first National Librarian, it includes a cash prize of \$500.00 with a commemorative plaque. In past years, the award had been co-sponsored by Ex Libris Association (ELA) and the Canadian Federation of Library Associations/Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB). In 2025, CFLA-FCAB was unable to continue its involvement with the award beyond assisting with sharing information through its national network. Both of the 2025 awards certificates only name Ex Libris Association as the sponsor.

### Application Details, Timelines and Activities:

The W. Kaye Lamb Award is open to any library across Canada, whether private, public, governmental, special or postsecondary. In the fall of 2025 the call for submissions went out requesting applications submitted by Thursday, November 6, 2025. The award was promoted at ELA's 2025 OLA SuperConference booth, articles in ELAN, postings in ELA's listserv and Facebook site and a revamped awards section of ELA's website. Information about the award appeared in: librarianship.ca, FOPL.ca, LAA's newsletter and a variety of library listservs, including APLA, ELA, Jerome (Alberta) and BCLA. Consequently, the W.K. Lamb Award Committee received a wide ranging response to the call for nominations for this award. By Thursday, November 6, a total of 17 applications were received. All came from the public library sector, serving a mix of large, medium and small communities from the 5 provinces of BC, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia. Two Regional Library Systems -- Chinook Arch, Alberta and Cape Breton in Nova Scotia -- submitted applications on behalf of two public libraries in their regions.

The awards intake of all applications came through ELA's website, via [exlibrisaward@gmail.com](mailto:exlibrisaward@gmail.com). Thanks to Lorne Bruce's work in updating the Awards section of ELA's website with a list of past winners, the past 2 winners' press releases, photographs and links to William Kaye Lamb's online biographies, few questions arose from applicants. Moreover, all of the submitted nominations were complete and met the criteria of the awards guidelines. These were placed in a Google drive for committee members to access prior to the review meeting. The W. K. Lamb Awards Committee met in December to review the applications.

## And the winner is ....

After much deliberation are pleased to recommend that **Kingston Frontenac Public Library** receive the W. K. Lamb award for their "Older Adults Hub". It operates out of the library's Rideau Heights Branch which is located in a low-income neighbourhood with limited services. Below is an excerpt from KFPL's winning application:

*"The Older Adults Hub was developed in partnership with Kingston Community Health Centres (KCHC) to provide an opportunity for all to be a part of their community in a positive way. A key element is the **Monday** morning, Older Adults Day program that includes KCHC-facilitated Seniors Strength, Fitness & Balance Maintenance Exercise Group, a café for socializing, and a Super Seniors Speaker Series alongside the Library-facilitated Board Game Café, Monthly Book Club, Tech Tutor sessions and a mobile library that brings lending collections into the program space. Library staff reported successes beyond the program's growth as seniors began to gain confidence and form relationships with each other and the program facilitators. The 'Hub' model has provided multiple accessible programs that offer a variety of fun and free activities where older adults can meet with their neighbors. We strongly believe that it can be replicated in other libraries and community centres across the City and potentially across Ontario."*

The library would receive \$500, the W.K. Lamb Award plaque/certificate and an honorary Ex Libris membership.

Due to the range and excellence of the submissions, the Committee suggested that second award be given, recommending that Edmonton Public Library's (EPL) innovative inter-generational program "Together We Grow" receive an Honourable Mention award.

*"The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) Together We Grow program expands the reach of the library's services to underserved communities, reaching seniors who cannot visit the library due to mobility, memory, or other health issues while nurturing positive relationships between generations by bringing early literacy programming into retirement residences. This program provides engaging activities for seniors, especially those with memory care needs, and gives young children and their parents a chance to connect with another generation. By fostering empathy and understanding between age groups, Together We Grow seeks to combat senior's social isolation and to help older adults find joy in interacting with the youngest members of our community, contributing to a more inclusive and connected community."*

EPL would receive \$100, the "W. Kaye Lamb Honourable Mention" certificate and honorary membership in Ex Libris Association.

**Board Approval and Next Steps:**

The Ex Libris Board approved the W. Kaye Lamb Committee's recommendations for the W. Kaye Lamb Award and Honourable Mention Honour as of January 7, 2025. With these approvals, the winners the winners and other applicants will be contacted.

**Further:**

- The Committee will develop ELA's media release to spread the word to our members and the community at large.
- The Committee will work with OLA and the SuperConference Planning Committee to arrange a formal presentation during OLA's Awards Gala, held on Thursday, January 29, 2026.
- David Harvie updated the Awards certificates; Bob Henderson will arrange their printing and framing in time for the presentation. The Committee thanks Deb Thomas, Past President and the Ex Libris Board members for their timely assistance with the W. Kaye Lamb Awards.

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2026 Annual General Meeting

<b>Indigenous Student Bursary Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 31, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Deb Thomas</b>
<b>Members: Tom Eadie, Bob Henderson, Lorisia Macleod</b>

### Report on Activities in 2025

The \$2500 ELA Indigenous Student Bursary has now been awarded to three students since the bursary was created in 2023.

The recipients are announced in December of the year preceding the year in which they will be used. The following were awarded in 2025:

For the school year **2025**, a student in the Masters of Information program, University of Toronto: "Receiving this bursary has significantly eased the financial burden of my studies, allowing me to dedicate more time and energy to my academic and professional goals. This support has been valuable in helping me to remain focused on achieving success in my program."

For the school year **2026**, a student in the Masters of Library & Information Science, Western University: "Receiving the bursary has supported me by easing the financial burden of the high cost of living. As a graduate student in Library and Information Science, the workload is extremely heavy. Finding time to pick up a part-time job is nearly impossible. Thankfully, the ELA's support has allowed me to devote my focus to my studies and excel in my program, stress-free of any financial burden. As a Mi'kmaw woman I am forever grateful to have your financial support and investment in my future. Wela'lin (Thank you)."

In 2025, we have expanded the possible pool of recipients to students in Education programs intending to graduate with qualifications to be teacher/school librarians.

Library Bound has continued their gift of \$500 annual to the bursary fund. The remainder is made up of generous donations from ELA members and others in the library community. We approached several other vendors at conferences and by letter over the last year for additional sponsorships and, though several seemed interested, none have chosen to commit. We are continuing our efforts to find additional sponsors.

More information on the bursary and how to donate can be found on our website [here](#).

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2026

<b>Advocacy Committee</b>
<b>Date: December 30, 2025</b>
<b>Chair: David Harvie (Chair), Deb Thomas (Past Chair)</b>
<b>Members: Tanis Fink, Chris Middlemass, Elizabeth Ridler, Julia Schneider</b>

The Advocacy Committee addressed the following issues during 2025:

- **Funding of Ontario Colleges and College Libraries**  
A letter of support for university and college libraries was sent to Minister Quinn and Premier Ford. The letter strongly urged the Ontario Government to provide and emergency infusion of \$1.4 billion into colleges and college libraries, and additional \$1.34 billion annually to bring Ontario up to the national average of per-student funding.
- **Hudson's Bay Company Royal Charter**  
A letter was sent to Minister Guilbeault urging the Government of Canada to take immediate action to secure the *Hudson's Bay Royal Charter of 1670* for the collection of Library and Archives Canada, and to prevent its export from Canada, or sale to a private collection inaccessible to researchers.
- **Alberta's Proposed Book Bans in Schools**  
A letter was sent to the Education Minister Nicolaidis concerning the proposed book bans in Alberta schools. The correspondence strongly urged the Minister to meet with representatives of the Library Association of Alberta (LAA), to discuss their concerns and offer their expertise, in order to craft policies that would better serve and strengthen all children in Alberta. Ex Libris also endorsed the [Canadian Schools Libraries' Statement on Alberta's Announcement Regarding Possible Book Bannings](#).
- **Bill C-15 and the Library Materials Rate**  
Correspondence was sent to the Prime Minister, several Ministers, and Members of Parliament, concerning the proposed changes in Bill C-15, which announced the elimination of the Canada Post library materials rate.

Thanks to Deborah Thomas from her leadership as the inaugural chair of this Committee, and her willingness to continue as a member of this group.

The Committee continues to encourage Ex Libris members interested in intellectual freedom and wishing to advocate for libraries, to join this committee. The fight is never-ending.

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION 2025 Annual General Meeting

<b>Education Committee</b>
<b>Date: January 23, 2026</b>
<b>Chair: Todd Kyle</b>
<b>Members: Deborah Thomas</b>

### Report on Activities in 2025

Our Spring 2025 webinar was held on May 27, 2025 on the topic of **Public Libraries, City Planning, and Pluralism: Redefining Library Neutrality** with speaker Michael Dudley, a Librarian at the University of Winnipeg.

Dudley used the profession of urban planning to explore different models of ways that institutions can work with diverse community stakeholders in a pluralist and democratic society. Instead of imposing their own views of what constitutes the public good, urban planners have learned to work with their communities within an agreed-upon process framework. So, too, Dudley argued, should libraries avoid imposing any particular view of the public good on their users, instead concentrating on four dimensions of neutrality: value neutrality (not imposing one's own values on users), stakeholder neutrality (treating all users equally), process neutrality (providing all users the same opportunity to participate), and goal neutrality (not steering users to a preferred goal).

While the number of live attendees to the webinar was fairly low, a lively discussion ensued between participants, often bringing several examples where libraries have failed to ensure ethical neutrality or have been confronted by difficult situations. A recording of the webinar continues to be available on the Ex Libris website, and you can read more about it in the article [\*The Role of Multidimensional Library Neutrality in Advancing Social Justice: Adapting Theoretical Foundations from Political Science and Urban Planning\*](#) by Michael Dudley and John Wright.

Our Fall 2025 Webinar was presented on November 20, 2025 on the topic **Library Violence and Staff Safety**. Our guest speaker Heather Turnbull outlined the scope of the issue in public libraries across Canada and the US and introduced us to a trauma-informed approach to violent incidents and to examples of successful strategies to mitigate violent behaviour as well as increase library staff resiliency.

The webinar was publicized through other library organizations including the British Columbia Library Association and the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries. Interested staff were asked to contact ELA for the Zoom connection information and a total of 28 people did so. A total of 47 people participated in the webinar, the vast majority of which were non-ELA members, and some likely had the information shared with them by local colleagues. All in all, it was a successful event, and ELA should consider extending participation to non-members again in the

future. A recording of the webinar as well as Heather's slide deck have been posted on the ELA website.

For Spring 2026, we are presenting a webinar at the AGM on March 3, 2026 on Artificial Intelligence including considerations for safety, security, privacy, accuracy and writing effective prompts, and how these interact with our responsibilities as information professionals. Our presenter is Connected Canadians, a registered charity that supports Canadian seniors in navigating the digital universe through workshops like these as well as a free helpline. To facilitate this, the Board agreed to pay a \$400.00 fee and to consider entering into a Memorandum of Agreement as a partner of Connected Canadians.

The Committee continues look for topics and speakers for future webinars, including Mis/Disinformation and climate literacy. We welcome input and suggestions about other topics for future education sessions.