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Hello, and welcome to *The Teaching Librarian*. Your new Editorial Board has

taken up the challenge of continuing to provide members with current information which invites all to read, reflect upon and use. We have made a few changes both in the content and look of your publication and invite you to suggest other ways to make *The Teaching Librarian* your preferred program source.

We will continue to have a theme in each issue featuring the best ideas from across the province. Literacy, advocacy, and leadership are this year's themes, through which members will gain hands-on approaches to library curriculum, program delivery and professional growth. Regular TL features on information technology, web sites, professional resources and much more will vary to fit the theme as appropriate. Each issue will feature a personal profile and include curriculum pullouts for both elementary and secondary use that you can file in a binder. In short, we will be trying our best to make each issue of TL one that you can use and depend upon professionally.

Help us and yourself by getting involved. Send your tips for the "It Worked for Me" column, express your concern in "Letters to the Editor", and let any one of us know if you are interested in submitting an article.

In this issue, we look at library program to improve literacy in your school. The teaching of literacy skills has always been one of our most important tasks. It is integral to everything we do, from providing a rich print collection which encourages basic reading skills, to teaching information and research skills. In light of the Ministry's EQAO testing, literacy has become a major focus of most jurisdictions, and qualified library staff with a strong library program are needed more than ever. Research clearly shows that the role of the Teacher-Librarian is critical. Curry Lance showed this in the *Colorado Study: How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards*. His second study, April 2000, shows that test scores rise the more times classes visit the library and when teacher-librarians and teachers work together. This issue will provide you with food for thought, and with concrete ideas for getting literacy initiatives off the ground in your school. ■

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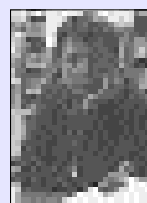
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