



OSLA President's Report

Esther Rosenfeld
OSLA President 2002 and 2003

OLA and OSLA Advocacy Efforts Continue

OLA and OSLA advocacy efforts for school libraries have intensified as of October 2002.

Esther Rosenfeld and Stephen Abram address the Education Equality Task Force.

On September 18, OLA president Stephen Abram and I made presentations to the Education Equality Task Force. Stephen spoke eloquently as the president of a 4,000-member professional association, a professional librarian, a businessperson, and a parent. He deplored the deteriorating state of Ontario's school libraries and attributed this deterioration to the government's short-sighted funding formula and its inadequacies.

Indicating that our society now demands information literacy skills of its citizens, Stephen stated that this could not be accomplished by public libraries working alone, by use of the Internet, or by the training programs of corporations. He emphasized that society's need for an information literate citizenry demands the province's commitment to adequately funded school libraries, and to teacher-librarians and their teaching of information literacy skills.