We were concerned, up until the day of the conference, that the cost of the room and the catering might not be covered by admission because registration was low. Thankfully we had plenty of last-minute registrations and the room was packed! It was amazing to have so many people passionate about providing the best for youth together in a room. At professional development days like this, the networking between sessions is invaluable.

My goal now is to make CLASY the hub of professional development for library staff working with youth in Canada. It's a network; so it's important to remember that it's not me or anyone in particular saying "this is how things should be." On the contrary, we want to hear about how it is all over the country and we want the brilliant teacher-librarians, librarians and other staff to have a place to share their ideas, inspirations and experiences.

It's a grassroots community — when you join CLASY you are CLASY. The more people who contribute articles, bibliographies, pathfinders, program ideas or any resource that can help libraries serve teens, the more we can offer; our next step is to really encourage people to participate. Our listserv right now consists of 33 people, and as this number grows we will have more expertise to draw on. There are so many exciting innovations in libraries right now and we want to help everyone keep up with how this affects library staff working with teens.



Graphic: Matthew Daniels and Stephanie Vollick