Deadline for Applications: October 30, 2014

Applications are available <u>online</u>. For more information contact: SLA Executive Director, at 306-780-9413 or <u>slaexdir@sasktel.net</u>.

Ontario Libraries Capacity Fund

The Ontario Ministry Tourism, Culture and Sport is consulting with the public library community regarding the 2014 Ontario Budget which has included new funding for Ontario's public libraries.

Over the next three years the government will invest \$10 million to help achieve IT improvements, enhance service delivery, and encourage more research and innovation across the sector.

OLA and OPLA, along with other public library organizations/associations, had a chance to meet with ministry representatives in August to discuss the opportunities. Key areas identified from a provincial perspective include support for developing qualitative metrics for evaluating the impact of public library programs, funding for collaborative, strategic projects that develop a community led approach to library engagement, supports for comprehensive staff training, and ensuring equitable opportunities for technology (digitization, access, resources).

The ministry is sending a survey to all public libraries to elicit further feedback on the investment.



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