

## Northern Lights Library Network Governing Board

### Director's Report

April 28, 2007

#### Meetings/Activities

##### February

2/17 NLLN Governing Board meeting, Detroit Lakes  
2/21 Follett's webconference on Destiny 7.0  
2/27 Meeting with Paul Bursik regarding policies

##### March

3/5 Mn Book Award Planning Committee meeting, St Paul  
3/6-7 Mn Multitype Directors Meeting, St Paul  
3/6 Legislative Hearings, Capitol, St Paul (RBLSS/MINITEX)  
3/10 Mn Book Award Judging, Minneapolis  
3/14 Work with White Earth Readmobile, White Earth  
3/16 Meeting with Paul Bursik regarding policies/director's review  
3/21 Visit to Leech Early Childhood Program/ Leech Lake Tribal College  
3/23 Rural Library Sustainability Workshop, Detroit Lakes  
3/26 Ready4K Conference call regarding legislation  
3/26 Meeting with Chris McArthur regarding summer NSLC work  
3/27 Meeting with Tom Shaughnessy/Patricia Post; multitype directors – St Paul  
3/27 Library Legislative Day briefing  
3/28 Library Legislative Day at the Capitol  
3/30 Telephone meeting with Paul Bursik regarding evaluation survey tool

##### April

4/5 OPAL Forum on Libraries and Community, webconferencing  
4/6 Planning meeting with Chris McArthur regarding North Star Library Consortium  
4/12-14 Spotlight on Books Conference, Sugar Lake Lodge, near Grand Rapids  
4/17 Internet 2 Day, video conference, Osakis  
4/17 National Library Week program on Mn Book Awards, Alexandria  
4/20 OPAL Conferencing initiation/learning/planning meeting, online  
4/23 Planning meeting with Cyndi Anderson regarding Annual Meeting  
4/26 Mark Vinz retirement/McGrath series, MSU-Moorhead  
4/28 NLLN Annual Meeting, The Lodge on Lake Detroit, Detroit Lakes

**The report shared with the Governing Board and guests at the Annual Meeting will be a comprehensive overview of the NLLN activities and projects during the period of the 2005-2007 Strategic Plan. The following is a very brief update for Feb-April, 2007.**

#### North Star Library Consortium

- Planned with Chris McArthur for the summer work needed to be done in relation to the North Star Library Consortium.
- Met with Leech Lake Early Childhood Programs who expressed an interest in joining NLLN and the NSLC.
- Met with Leech Lake Tribal College to talk about interlibrary loan, joining a shared catalog, MINITEX services, and more.

- Region 1 upgraded the Destiny program to version 7.0.
- Receiving questions from members about costs for next year and training schedules.
- Interest is increasing across the state to consider the possibility of a statewide agreement with Follett for Destiny pricing. Various groups have discussed this and it will be a topic for upcoming meetings.

### **Early Childhood Education and Libraries**

- The **“Get Minnesota Ready for K!”** bills have survived in some form in both houses of the legislature and will now go into conference committees. The Family, Friend and Neighbor bill, which includes funding for libraries to work with family, friend and neighbor caregivers and children to enhance literacy skills and prepare kids for kindergarten, is still alive.
- I returned to spend a day with White Earth Child Care staff where planning continues to take place, but progress is slow. The shortage of staff and suitable shelving for this program continue to make planning difficult and has slowed implementation.
- Leech Lake Early Childhood Programs are interested in joining the NSLC and having a smaller vehicle serve as a Readmobile for their reservation. They also are in the planning stages but are looking at incorporating all the early childhood programs under one umbrella. Staff change was nearly 100% since my last visit, but they are anxious to gain some sort of control over their book holdings shared between child care and Head Start.

### **Continuing Education**

- We continue to receive Continuing Education Scholarship applications for a variety of events including MEMO Midwinter, Spotlight on Books, and individual pursuits in the higher education world. To date we have received 25 scholarship applications this year.
- Reports submitted by scholarship recipients are now on the NLLN webpage where they can be viewed.
- Spotlight on Books was an extraordinary success despite bad weather that kept Steven Kellogg on the East coast. We had a good turnout, great workshops, and 9 wonderful MN authors.
- A Soaring to Excellence teleconference was available via satellite downlink at MSUM and via desktop video streaming on April 13. We had participants at MSU-M and via webcast.
- We have a traveling display of the books from this year’s Mn Book Award nominations. It has been at Spotlight on Books, Douglas Co Library, the NLLN Annual Meeting and will go on to other locations. The Mn Book Award ceremony will be May 5 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in St Paul. Tickets are \$40.

### **Communication**

- The webpage continues to evolve. Suggestions are welcome.
- I am creating a super Annual report in the form of a 3 year report on the goals of the NLLN Strategic Plan. The document will provide an overview of NLLN projects and activities during this time span. Current pictures will be few since a bad media card in the digital camera resulted in the loss of all pictures taken in the past few months.

Ruth Solie  
April 23, 2007