

## Northern Lights Library Network Governing Board

### Director's Report June 17, 2006

#### Meetings/Activities

##### APRIL

- 4/24 Telephone/Internet service conference with Arvig Communications, Detroit Lakes  
4/25-26 Multitype Directors Quarterly meeting, St Paul  
4/26 Joint meeting of Multitype System Directors, MELSA Directors, and CRPLSA Directors, St Paul  
4/29 Minnesota Book Award Celebration, Minneapolis

##### MAY

- 5/3 NLLN Executive Board meeting, Detroit Lakes  
5/9 Ready4K Board of Directors meeting, St Paul  
5/12-18 Vacation: Son's wedding, daughter's college graduation, family travel  
5/19 Meeting with Peg Werner, VLS, regarding delivery, Detroit Lakes  
5/23 White Earth Early Childhood Initiative/Children's Defense Fund/Readmobile, White Earth  
5/24 Telephone Conference call: Kathy Fredette re: delivery services  
5/26 Book Selection meeting with Kim Lage for Readmobile, Detroit Lakes  
5/30-6/2 Working Vacation, Mallard Island, Rainy Lake

##### JUNE

- 6/6 Every Child Ready to Read@your MN Library (LSTA grant) Advisory Committee, Telephone conference, Detroit Lakes  
6/7 Small Towns Symposium/Rural MN Summit, UM-Morris, Morris  
6/8 Installation of Arvig internet and telephone service, NLLN Office  
6/9 Telephone Conference call: Terry Vasquez re: FFN programs  
6/9 Telephone Conference call: Tamie Finn re: MnTRECC/FNN's  
6/9 Telephone Conference call: Barbara Jauquet-Kalinoski re: delivery  
6/12 MMCDC/White Earth Early Childhood Initiatives, rural Becker Co  
6/17 NLLN Governing Board Meeting, Detroit Lakes

#### North Star Library Consortium

- Additional schools and special libraries are still signing up to join the Consortium.
- Approximately 15 licenses remain. These will be used to pick up remaining schools and to add special libraries.
- Training sessions are scheduled for late August for new members/refresher course for existing members
- White Earth Child Care Readmobile is the newest member to join the Consortium
- Discussed contract work with Chris McArthur for summer clean up work, special projects, and training.

#### Early Childhood Education and Libraries

- The Every Child Ready to Read @ your MN Library Advisory Committee met to discuss the final stages of the LSTA grant and plans for a new stage of the project.

- Beginning to use the new “Ready4K/at your Minnesota Library” logo and work with the Ready4K policy advisory group to include libraries in the R4K Legislative agenda proposal.
- Submitted a letter of inquiry for a Mn Early Learning Fund (MELF) grant for the White Earth Child Care Readmobile. The letter was submitted by the White Earth Tribal Council; NLLN helped write the letter and provided support for the project.
- Kim Lage (WE Early Child Care) and I have begun ordering books for the Readmobile. We have been assisted in this by Birch Bark Books in Minneapolis and by the core collection lists provided by Jean Strauchon of Hennepin Co Library.
- Leech Lake Early Child Care is interested in the concept of an early childhood readmobile for their area. We have begun exploring the opportunities on the Leech Lake reservation to provide support for early childhood literacy.
- The Ready4K Board is working closely with all the allied partners to form the legislative agenda for the 2007 session. Particular attention is being given by the library community to establishing links between libraries and the family-friend-and neighbor (FFN) caregivers to support school readiness.

### **Continuing Education**

- Provided access to the College of DuPage teleconferences as a satellite downlink at MSU-M in partnership with the Tri-College Libraries, and as a webcast directly to the desktop. The NLLN office also makes these available in a VHS format for later use in staff development or individual viewing.
- We have begun discussions with the regional public library systems and MINITEX to provide fall workshops for schools/public library regions/MINITEX.
- We have received 39 applications for NLLN Continuing Education Scholarships so far this fiscal year. We will not spend the entire \$10,000 that was allocated for scholarships, but we will see considerably more expenditures than last year. It is a growing program that has been very successful.
- Have begun planning a series of staff development workshops for the fall.

### **Communication**

- Electronic communication continues to be the predominant, and most effective, means of communicating with the far-flung members of the NLLN region. Email, 2 listservs, a blog, and updated web page are the primary means of communication.
- NLLN Office has switched to a new internet and telephone service provider (Arvig Communications Systems – ACS) and have installed a wireless network in the office via cable modem.
- Telephone and in-person visits are the other main communication venues.
- The NLLN webpage has a revised and updated events calendar. I have been talking with a web content manager to re-design the NLLN webpages.
- The guidelines and application form for CE Scholarships need to be updated for the new fiscal year; we will also separate the application form from the guidelines for ease of use. Some reformatting will be done to make the process of applying and reimbursement easier.
- I have been in conversation with Patty Nunn about contracting for assistance in creating the NLLN Newsletter (electronic and print).
- I have been using *Gotomypc* as an experiment and, after trying it as well as other similar applications, will probably continue to use this one. This software allows me to access my office computer from remote sites. I will continue to use it as a trial for several months.

Ruth Solie  
June 17, 2006