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About OLBA

The Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) is a division of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) that represents public library board members (trustees) on issues relating to their areas of responsibility. The work of the OLBA is primarily to build a professional development (training) program that is responsive to common issues of common concern. It provides information materials and training forums for advancing board development.

The Objectives of the Ontario Library Boards' Association

- Provide a forum for library boards to discuss issues and ideas that will improve the operation of boards and the management of libraries in Ontario
- Position library boards to act as catalysts for local community development
- Enhance the image and visibility of library boards
- Ensure comprehensive and continuing education (professional development) for public library boards
- Provide mentoring, consultation and communication at the regional and individual board level
- Work with other agencies who share common concerns and purposes
- Promote government support for provincial networks and local funding

The OLBA has no formal tie to government. OLBA represents library boards and trustees in the political arena and, through its special position within the Ontario Library Association, has the unparalleled opportunity to obtain the support of all library interests in Ontario. The members of the OLBA make the difference. Step up to the plate.

OLBA Mission

The Ontario Library Boards' Association is a centre of excellence in governance for public library boards in Ontario.

OLBA Vision

The Ontario Library Boards' Association is a leader and recognized authority in public library governance and community leadership development. Connected and responsive to its members, OLBA is a valued partner within the public library system.

OLBA Values

We believe:

- That public libraries are essential to the quality of life of the people of Ontario and vital to the educational, economic, social and cultural development of the province;
- That public library boards must continue to be independent and citizen-based in order to fulfill their governance mandate and provide excellence in public library service as a fundamental pillar in the development of vibrant communities throughout Ontario;
- That a sound partnership between each public library board and its Chief Executive Officer is essential to strong library leadership locally, regionally and provincially;
- That a collaborative relationship between each public library board and its municipal council is critical to effective public library governance.

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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