

Library Association of Alberta 2009 President's Award goes to Bob Batchelder

Bob Batchelder, Assistant Director-Technical Services for the Shortgrass Library System, has been awarded the 2009 President's Award from the Library Association of Alberta (LAA). The announcement was made at the 2009 Alberta Library Conference held at Jasper from April 24th to 26th.

While candidates for this award are considered each year, this award is only bestowed when the LAA is able to identify an individual "who has made a major impact on a province-wide basis in the library field in Alberta." Past recipients have included: Honourable Lois Hole (2005); Dr. Alvin Schrader (2003); Punch Jackson (2000); and Ernie Ingles (1996).

Bob was honoured with this prestigious award for his innovation and willingness to share his knowledge and experience. Realizing that an integrated library catalogue would greatly benefit member public libraries, Bob became one of the pioneers of the integrated library system for the province of Alberta by creating, at the Shortgrass Library System, the first regional ILS with automated circulation at member libraries, allowing each member library to have its own branded online catalogue; a first in the province for regional library systems. This became the model for other library system catalogues in Alberta. Bob has also been a huge proponent in the development of a province wide network for public libraries in Alberta.

We are proud and pleased to have Bob as a member of our team at the Shortgrass Library System, and ask you to join us in congratulating him on earning this prestigious award!



Julia Reinhart, CEO of the Shortgrass Library System, presents the Library Association of Alberta 2009 President's Award to Bob Batchelder, Assistant Director - Technical Services with the Shortgrass Library System.