

Message to Candidates in 2020 Election

Libraries are Invaluable to our Communities

As a candidate in the 2020 election, we ask that you consider the vital role of libraries in communities and how you can support these critical spaces and services. Academic, public and special libraries make our communities thrive.

- Libraries are one of few free public spaces, wherein cost of use is either null or minimal.
- Libraries provide equal access for all to its physical and digital spaces and resources.
- Libraries embrace and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in a multitude of ways, creating happier and healthier communities.
- Libraries sustain and promote democracy through their efforts to foster an informed and participatory citizenry.
- Libraries work to advance and improve literacy in its various forms, including reading literacy, media literacy, digital literacy, and more.
- Libraries support (and in many cases, provide) all types of learning, training and education, across all stages of life- from infants to seniors.
- Libraries equip learners with the necessary tools for academic success, learners who might otherwise be without access to computers, printers, Internet, quiet space, etc.
- Libraries are a community gathering place and a social outlet for many, combating social isolation and facilitating intergenerational and cross-cultural connections; a fact thrown into sharp relief during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Libraries are trusted and credible sources that help navigate and develop skills relating to information and technology. This is critical as the vast increase in information available online does not necessarily equal improved access or modes of consumption.
- Libraries are neutral and important preservers of local history, culture, and knowledge.
- Libraries contribute positively to the overall social, economic and cultural development of Saskatchewan and how it is perceived by its residents and others.
- Libraries are adaptive and dynamic. They are at the forefront of the Information Age and provide community leadership, evidenced by their rapid adjustment to and implementation of modified service provision throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Libraries are whatever our patrons need us to be.

During your campaign, connect with your local library.

*Please note, due to public health considerations, not all libraries are open for a full range of services.