



SSLA Awards and Bursary

Biography of Award or Bursary Recipient

Connie Acton Award of Merit

2010 Recipient – Ruth Garnett

Ruth has been an ardent supporter of SSLA since she became a teacher librarian about 16 years ago. She has served as networking director for SSLA and in 2006 she was the inspiration behind and co-chair of the SSLA conference in Saskatoon. Ruth has always willingly shared her expertise and passion for teacher librarianship by presenting at provincial conferences. She currently serves as vice president of the Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Awards "The Willow Awards".

While Ruth has made many contributions at the provincial level her most important work has been with teacher librarians in Saskatoon Public Schools. She has been on the executive of the local Teacher Librarian Council (TLC) for most of 16 years, serving in various capacities. Her most significant contribution, however, lies in the area of professional development.

Ruth is all about lifelong learning and she brings that passion to her colleagues through her interest in technology and her promotion of critical thinking skills and resource-based learning. When everyone was learning about wikis, it was Ruth who set up a wiki for teacher librarians to post lists of newest and best books to fit curricula.

Ruth has served on the Saskatoon Public Schools Teacher Librarian Advisory Committee since it was formed in 2007. She has been able to articulate the direction Saskatoon Public Schools is taking and how it impacts the needs of the students and teachers and the role teacher librarians can play in the implementation of curricular changes. She readily volunteers her time to organize joint book displays with Saskatoon Catholic Schools and inspires her colleagues by signing up for every learning opportunity. Ruth truly leads by example.

While we recognize Ruth's contributions to her fellow teacher librarians, the qualities that best define our colleague and friend are her calm, cool and collected demeanour, her integrity, her witty sense of humour and her genuine interest in the people she is with.

To her colleagues at Saskatoon Public Schools, Ruth is recognized as the heart and soul of the TLC and truly deserving of the Connie Acton Award of Merit.

Submitted by Lucille Dubé and Florence Barton