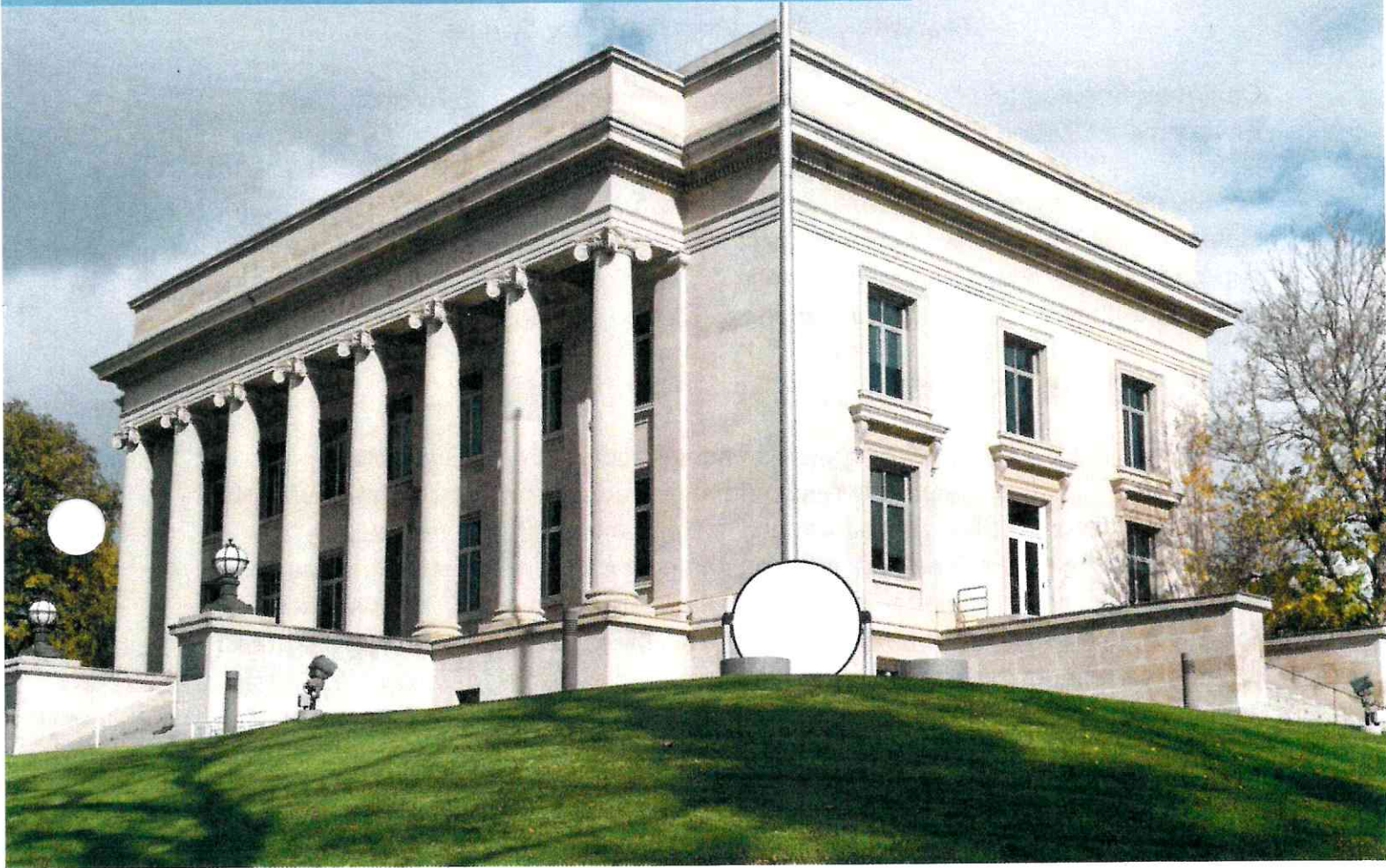


**Providing pathways to
information and innovation for
North Dakota's libraries, state
government and residents**



**Testimony to the Senate Appropriations
Committee
Senate Bill #2013
January 24, 2023**

**The North Dakota State Library is a division of the North Dakota
Department of Public Instruction, Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent.**



**TESTIMONY ON SB 2013
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
January 24, 2023**

**By: Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
701-328-4654**

Testimony- State Librarian Mary Soucie

Chairman Sorvaag and Members of the Senate Appropriations Education and Environment Division,

For the record, my name is Mary Soucie, State Librarian for the North Dakota State Library (NDSL). I am here to provide additional information about our agency's 2023-25 appropriation request. This can be used in conjunction with the information that was provided to the full Senate Appropriations committee on January 12.

North Dakota Century Code

The North Dakota State Library operates under Chapter §54-24 State Library Commission. The major statutory requirements for our agency include improving library service to citizens by providing assistance to librarians, staff, and trustees; by encouraging the expansion of cooperation among libraries at the state and regional levels; to make library materials available to state employees and citizens that do not have adequate access to library service; compile statistics of all North Dakota public libraries; coordinate Interlibrary Loan (ILL) which is the loaning of materials to North Dakota libraries from within and outside the state; provide access to informational materials that supplement and support the needs of all libraries in the state, either by direct loan or through consultation; provide technical assistance, continuing education and training programs to and for library personnel; to distribute grants to libraries for the purposes of developing or improving library services or programs and to provide services to the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC).

NDSL also operates under chapter §54-24.2 State Aid to Public Libraries. This chapter governs the disbursement of financial aid to public libraries. In order to be eligible to receive funds, public libraries must be established and operated in accordance with chapter §40-38.

I've included chapter §54-24 for your reference on pages 2-4.

CHAPTER 54-24 STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION

54-24-01. State library - State librarian appointed by the superintendent of public instruction.

The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint an executive officer to be known as the state librarian, who shall report to the superintendent and must receive a salary within the amount appropriated for salaries by the legislative assembly. The state librarian shall control the work and is the director of the state library. The position of state librarian is included in the classified service, as provided in section 54-44.3-20. The state library is an autonomous agency and retains a budget and staff separate from that of the superintendent of public instruction.

54-24-02. Library offices.

The state library must be furnished with adequate office room, with such suitable quarters as may be necessary for the proper shelving of its library materials.

54-24-03. Powers and duties of state librarian.

The state librarian shall:

1. Make rules for the operation of the state library.
2. Provide and care for all books and library materials in all collections of the state library and work to focus the collections.
3. Employ qualified library personnel to care for all library procedures.
4. Make library materials available to libraries throughout the state, to individuals connected with departments of state, and to citizens of North Dakota who do not have adequate library facilities, under the rules of the state library.
5. Work to improve library services to citizens by providing assistance to librarians and library trustees and staff and by encouraging the extension of networking and regional and statewide cooperation among libraries.
6. Coordinate the efforts of librarianship throughout the state, advising and assisting the extension of qualified public libraries into centers of county or multicounty libraries.
7. Compile statistics on all North Dakota public libraries and their services and their larger counterparts of county and multicounty libraries, regional library cooperatives, and multitype library authorities. Make a full biennial report to the superintendent of public instruction and the governor of the work done at the state library. The state librarian may not require a private sector library to submit information relating to the provisions of this subsection.

8. Collect, maintain, and make available informational materials that supplement and support the needs of all libraries in the state, either by direct loan or by consultation, and that form a reference source for the officers of the state in performing their duties.
9. Assist libraries in developing local standards and guidelines defining the basic level of service that they will provide.
10. Conduct, or have conducted, research into the conditions of library service in the state and produce written plans for the development and betterment of that service.
11. Promote and assist in the development of regional library cooperatives, including multitype library authorities.
12. Establish levels of certification for libraries of the state that meet the standards recommended by the American library association and the North Dakota library association.
13. Promote and assist libraries in this state in developing and maintaining a computerized, comprehensive, bibliographic statewide database for storing bibliographic records of libraries which allows residents unmediated, seamless, direct access to library catalogs with a common interface and a common set of commands and the ability to search the library collections of the entire state at one time or only the collections of the local library, regional libraries, or select group of libraries.
14. Coordinate interlibrary loan activities throughout this state.
15. Arrange for continuing education and training programs for library personnel.
16. Provide technical assistance and counsel to library personnel.
17. Distribute grants to libraries within the limits of legislative appropriations for the purpose of developing or improving library services or programs.
18. Provide staff services to the North Dakota library coordinating council.

54-24-03.1. Acceptance of federal aid.

The state library is hereby authorized to accept and to expend in accordance with the terms thereof any grant of federal funds which may become available to the state for library purposes. For the purpose of qualifying to receive such grants, the state library is authorized to make such applications and reports as may be required by the federal government as a condition thereto.

54-24-03.2. State library operating fund.

The state library's operating fund is a special fund in the state treasury. All moneys received for book replacement, cataloging services, and other miscellaneous library services must be deposited in this fund. Moneys in the fund are to be used pursuant to legislative appropriation for provision of services under this chapter.

54-24-08. Library contracts for library services.

The state library is hereby authorized and empowered to cooperate with, and to contract with, cities, governmental subdivisions, and agencies of the state of North Dakota and other states of the United States, in the extension of library services.

54-24-09. Distribution of certain state publications for certain libraries required.

The office of management and budget shall arrange to deposit with the state library eight copies of all publications issued by all executive, legislative, and judicial agencies of state government intended for general public distribution. These publications must be provided to the state library without charge. If expense and limited supply of state publications, particularly audiovisual items, make compliance with the depository requirement impossible, the state library shall accept as many copies as an agency can afford to provide. However, each agency shall provide no less than two copies to the state library. State publications refer to any informational materials regardless of format, method of reproduction, or source, originating in or produced with the imprint of, by the authority of, or at the total or partial expense of, any state agency. The definition incorporates those publications that may or may not be financed by state funds but are released by private bodies such as research and consultant firms under contract with or supervision of any state agency. In circumstances not directly involving the office of management and budget, a state agency shall comply with the depository requirement by arranging with the necessary parties for the printing and deposit of eight copies of any state publication issued. State publications are specifically defined as public documents appearing as reports, directories, statistical compendiums, bibliographies, laws or bills, rules, regulations, newsletters, bulletins, state plans, brochures, periodicals, committee minutes, transcripts of public hearings, other printed matter, audiotapes, videotapes, films, filmstrips, or slides, but not Page No. 2 those administrative or training materials used only within the issuing agency. As the document acquisition and distribution agency, the state library shall retain for its document collection two copies of every state document received and transmit the remaining copies to the depository libraries. These are the libraries of the state historical society, the university of North Dakota, North Dakota state university, library of Congress, and two others to be designated by the state library. All nondepository North Dakota libraries may receive state documents under an optional selection program developed by the state library. The state library shall catalog state publications and arrange for their conversion to microfilm or to optical disk storage prescribed by the state records administrator and shall make available for distribution the same to the designated depository libraries.

Organization's purpose

The mission of the North Dakota State Library is creating pathways to information and innovation for North Dakota libraries, state government and residents. Our three constituency groups are the North Dakota library community, state agencies and North Dakota citizens. Any North Dakotan can obtain a library card to access our materials and online resources.

Our guiding principles are to provide leadership to the library community; enhance the value of libraries; deliver access to and assistance with credible information sources; enrich the lives of the people we serve and foster a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

Our agency goals are to expand statewide outreach opportunities; promote the value of North Dakota's libraries; maintain and promote awareness of technologies for libraries and patrons; advocate for and administer grant opportunities for libraries; curate a well-developed collection that advances the State Library's mission; and to serve as one of the primary information resources for state government.

NDSL has four divisions: Administrative and Fiscal Services, Library Services, Patron Services, and Technology Services.

- Administrative and Fiscal Services division: includes fiscal, human resources, marketing, and outreach for the agency. Our Marketing and Outreach Specialists provide services agency-wide as well as to the library community.
- Library Services Division: provides direct support to the library community through the Library Development and Cataloging departments. In addition to cataloging materials for over twenty-five school and public libraries, our cataloging department also catalogs the physical items in the State Library's collection as well as providing cataloging services to eight state agencies.
- Patron Services Division: provides direct service to library patrons. The Information Services Department provides InterLibrary Loan, Reference, Circulation, and Reader's Advisory; and the Talking Books department provides materials to patrons that are unable to read traditional physical books due to a visual or physical disability.
- Technology Services Division includes IT and Digital Initiatives. In addition to coordinating the agency technology needs, we provide IT support to public libraries and to patrons. Our Digital Initiatives Department oversees the digitization of historical state documents as well as provides support to libraries that have or are starting digitization programs.

I've included a one-page overview of our strategic plan. Following that is our organizational chart on page 7.

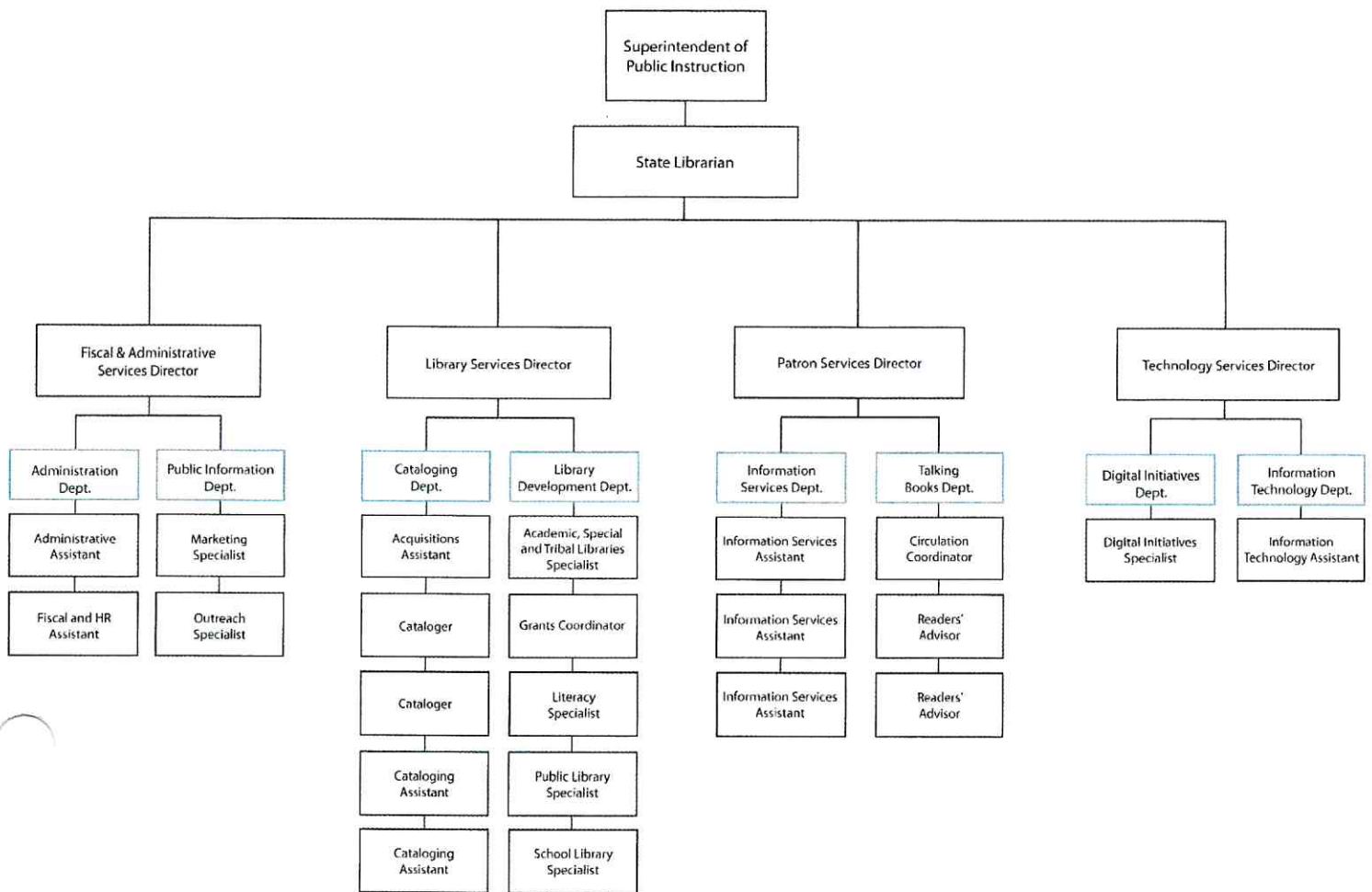
Strategic Plan 2021-2024

North Dakota State Library



Our Guiding Principles: As North Dakota's State Library, we strive to...

- Provide leadership to the library community
- Enhance the value to and assistance with credible information sources
- Deliver access to and assistance with credible information sources
- Enrich the lives of the people we serve
- Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment for all



Pictured with State Librarian Mary Soucie are IT Director Ryan Kroh, celebrating 10 years of service, and Library Services Director Carmen Redding, celebrating 5 years of service



Audit:

We did not have any audit findings in our most recent audit.

Biennial accomplishments:

In February of 2020, the State Library implemented a new organizational structure. During the 2021-23 biennium, we have focused on refining and improving the structure and updating processes to create efficiencies and improve our services to our constituents.

- The State Library awarded 53 Library Vision grants totaling \$170,000. The State Library's Advisory Board, the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC), awards the grants. We also updated our grant templates and rubric.
 - Collection Development- 22
 - Local History- 11
 - Marketing Plan- 4
 - Library of Things- 16
 - We currently have two grant rounds open
 - Collection Development- 8 submitted
 - Laptop and Tablet grants- 5 submitted
- Reorganized Patron Services Division to provide better customer service by removing barriers and inefficiencies within department workflows and cross training all staff so they have the flexibility to better support each other as daily workflows shift according to demand. The Patron Services Director is building working relationships with other state agencies and national organizations to ensure collaboration and provide leadership.
- We revised a vacant position to create a Grants Coordinator. This position is responsible for providing grant assistance to North Dakota libraries, to assist with NDSL federal and general grants. The position also serves as the Statewide Data Coordinator and oversees the Annual Public Library Survey which all public libraries are required to complete in order to be eligible for State Aid.
- Our cataloging department eliminated a significant backlog of items. They also added 370 STEM, bookclub, outdoor and historical display kits to our Integrated Library System (ILS) from an external, separate product. This created efficiencies for both patrons and staff by having all library materials available in a single catalog.

- The IT Department provides outreach services to public libraries throughout the state. Through support, hands-on training, and technical assistance, our IT department assists library directors, staff, and boards in meeting the technology needs of the library and community. During the 2021-2023 biennium, the IT Department traveled 5149 miles statewide and visited 31 libraries.
- Digital Initiatives has uploaded over 800 items to NDSL's various collections on Digital Horizons, which is a regional digital library consortium committed to sharing the history and cultural heritage of the Northern Plains.
- NDSL's collections on Digital Horizons contain 4,800 items and has received over 1.5 million web hits this biennium. Digital Initiatives digitized over 650 items. Many of these items contain multiple pages, so these 650+ items contain over 8,000 pages.
- Utilizing ARPA dollars that the State Library received from IMLS, our agency has purchased ten book vending machines to place in counties throughout North Dakota that don't currently have countywide public library service. In four of the counties, there are no public libraries. The other six counties have a city library or libraries but there are residents within the county that don't have access to a local public library. The counties that we are partnering with include Benson, Burke, McHenry, Oliver, Sargent, Sheridan, Slope, Sioux and Traill. We are the first state to implement the book vending machines statewide.
- Our agency used additional ARPA dollars to create an e-book consortium for academic libraries. Eleven academic libraries have joined. We paid for the licensing fees for the first two years for each of the institutions as well as provided the funding for an "opening day collection" of materials. This consortium will help the academic libraries provide materials to meet the leisure reading needs of their students.
- The State Library in partnership with the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) automated three public libraries and added them to the statewide consortium. The patrons of these libraries will be able to search the collection and place holds from any computer or device regardless of whether the library is open.
- We utilized ARPA dollars to pay one year of licensing fees for all North Dakota libraries for the Online Library Resources that are purchased jointly with Minnesota and South Dakota allowing the libraries to utilize the funds normally spent on these resources at the local level.

Biennial challenges:

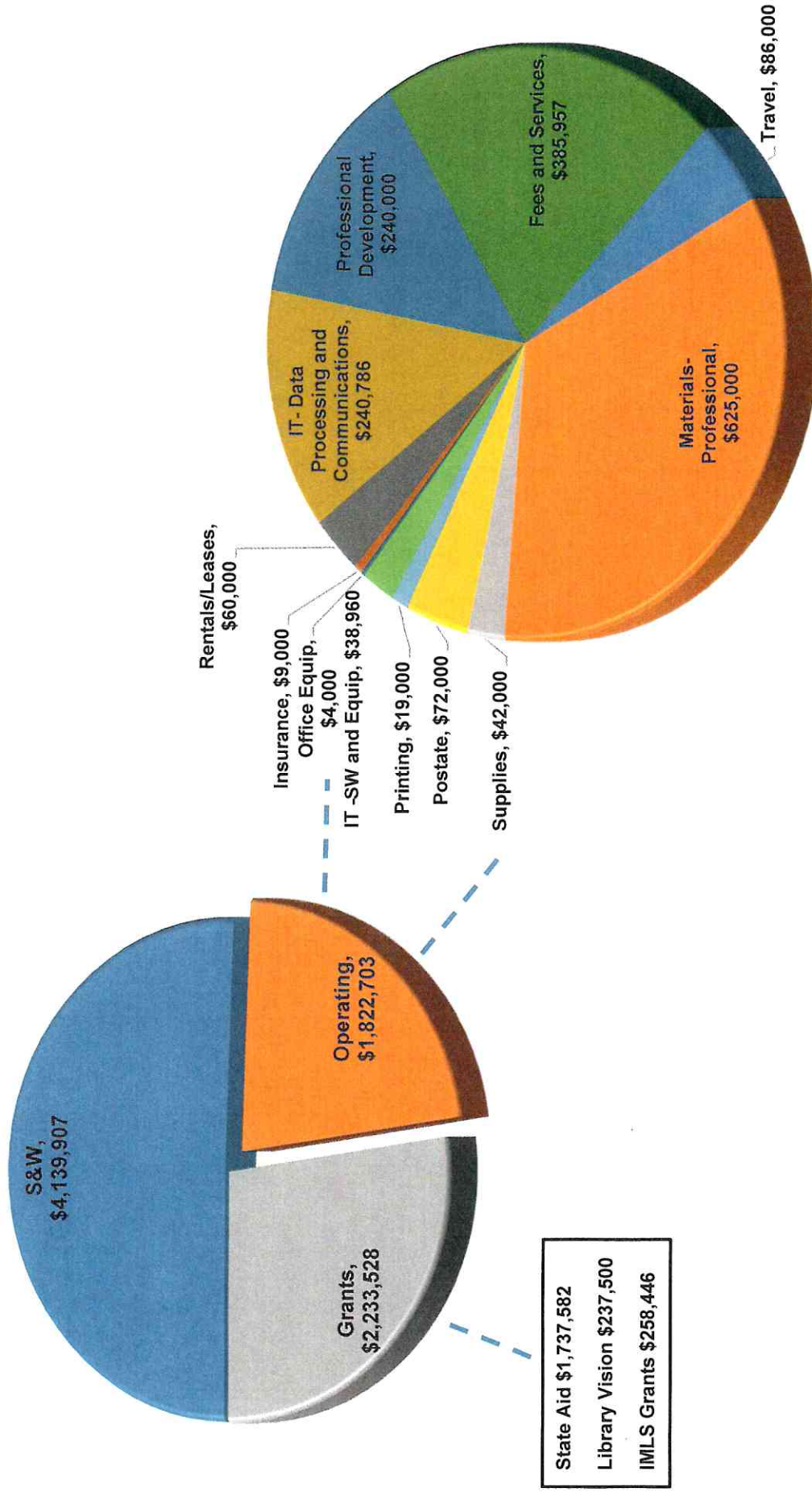
Our challenges during the last biennium are similar to other agencies.

- NDSL experienced a 42% turnover this biennium which is much higher than in previous years
 - Loss of institutional knowledge
 - Hard to fill positions
 - Creation of new processes and efficiencies created due to long-term staff was both a challenge and accomplishment
- Supply chain issues
 - Library materials
 - Equipment



Budget:

23-25 Base Budget \$8,196,138



Changes from 23-25 Base Level to Agency Request

	Salary and Wages	Operating	Grants	Total	General	Federal	Special	Total	FTE
2023-25 Base Level	4,139,907.00	1,822,703.00	2,233,528.00	8,196,138.00	5,831,721.00	2,277,158.00	87,259.00	8,196,138.00	26.75
Base Level Request									
Salary and Wages Changes									
Cost to continue S&W	34,451.00	-	-	34,451.00	23,424.00	11,027.00	-	34,451.00	
Reduction of Temp	(63,960.00)	-	-	(63,960.00)	-	(63,960.00)	-	(63,960.00)	
Operating Changes									
NDIT rate change	-	7,440.00	-	7,440.00	7,440.00	-	-	7,440.00	
Operating Changes	-	13,771.00	-	13,771.00	-	34,210.00	(20,439.00)	13,771.00	
MOE Operating Decrease	-	(228,635.00)	-	(228,635.00)	-	(228,635.00)	-	(228,635.00)	
Subtotal Agency Base Level Request	(29,509.00)	(207,424.00)	-	(236,933.00)	30,864.00	(247,358.00)	(20,439.00)	(236,933.00)	-
Optional Requests									
Salary and Wages Changes									
Compensation Package	591,040.00	-	-	591,040.00	591,040.00	-	-	591,040.00	
One-Time Funding - Retirement Payouts	40,000.00	-	-	40,000.00	40,000.00	-	-	40,000.00	
Operating Changes									
OMB rent model	-	264,635.00	-	264,635.00	264,635.00	-	-	264,635.00	
Additional Operating	-	65,559.00	-	65,559.00	65,559.00	-	-	65,559.00	
One-time Funding - Maintenance of Effort	-	228,635.00	-	228,635.00	228,635.00	-	-	228,635.00	
One-time Funding - IT request	-	43,000.00	-	43,000.00	43,000.00	-	-	43,000.00	
Grant Changes									
Library Vision -Tribal	-	-	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	-	-	50,000.00	
Extraordinary Repairs									
One-time funding Library Building	-	300,000.00	-	300,000.00	300,000.00	-	-	300,000.00	
Subtotal Optional Requests	631,040.00	901,829.00	50,000.00	1,582,869.00	1,582,869.00	-	-	1,582,869.00	-
Total Changes	601,531.00	694,405.00	50,000.00	1,345,936.00	1,613,733.00	(247,358.00)	(20,439.00)	1,345,936.00	-
2023-25 Total Agency Request	4,741,438.00	2,517,108.00	2,283,528.00	9,542,074.00	7,445,454.00	2,029,800.00	66,820.00	9,542,074.00	26.75

Base budget

Our base budget for the 2021-23 biennium was \$8,196,138 and includes salaries and wages, grants to libraries and our operating expenses. Operating funds are used for online library resources, continuing education and technical support to libraries, library materials, equipment, and office supplies.

Our requested budget for the 2023-25 biennium is \$9,542,074, which includes cost to continue of \$971,234 and one-time funding of \$611,635.

The State Library has 26.75 FTE positions. During the current biennium, the State Library has been analyzing our wages and we have learned that we are lowest paying state agency which has impacted our ability to retain staff and fill vacant positions. NDSL has experienced a 46% turnover this last year; many of our positions had to be listed multiple times before we were able to fill them. Several candidates that declined extended offers or withdrew from the application process cited our pay rate as the factor. NDSL is requesting an increase to fund a salary and wage compensation package of \$591,040 general funds. This amount is inclusive of \$180,000 in general funds for equity.

NDSL is requesting an increase in operating expenses totaling \$330,194 in general funds, of which \$264,635 is to support the new Capitol space rent model. The remaining \$65,559 is attributed to travel for statewide support to libraries, inflation of online resources and subscription services that directly support libraries, state agencies and patrons.

Our State Aid to Public Libraries and the Library Vision funds are pass-through grants that go directly to support library service and programs in the state. The State Aid for Public Libraries is \$1,737,582 in general fund for the biennium and the Library Vision grants are \$237,500 in general fund for the biennium.

The libraries use the funds to purchase materials, increase the type and number of programs and to add or improve technology including equipment, software, and programs. The formula for State Aid to Public Libraries is in §54-24.2. The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council and the State Library create the Library Vision grant opportunities two to three times per year. We are requesting an additional \$50,000 in general funds for the Library Vision grants to be used specifically for tribal libraries.

The five tribal libraries are all located in community colleges. Four of them have been designated as the public library by the tribal nation. They are not eligible for State Aid

since they do not meet the definition of a legally established library as outlined in §40-38. NDSL wants to support the tribal libraries in meeting the needs of their communities since they would classify as unserved. Serving the unserved is one of our agency priorities. We would include the tribal libraries in grant opportunities that are open to all publicly funded libraries such as collection development grants as well as create grant opportunities that are unique to the tribal libraries based on discussions that we will have with them.

One-time funding

NDSL did not have any one-time state funding for the current biennium. NDSL did receive \$2.1M of ARPA funding from the IMLS as mentioned earlier. The projects that the funding was used for are included as agency accomplishments on page 10.

The State Library has four one-time funding requests for the 2023-35 biennium. We are requesting \$228,635 to replace the funds that we will lose due to not meeting our Maintenance of Effort for the LSTA Grants to States program. The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants to States program from IMLS is our federal grant program. During the Federal FY19, we did not meet our Maintenance of Effort requirements, primarily due to the staff vacancies. We submitted a waiver appeal which was denied. Our next LSTA distribution will be lowered by 20%, the amount of the MOE that we did not meet. We have requested \$228,635 as one-time funding in our 2023-25 request to replace the dollars we will lose from LSTA funding.

During our testimony in front of the full appropriations committee, we were asked about the IMLS waiver process. Here is some additional information from IMLS about the MOE requirement and when IMLS is legally allowed to provide a waiver to the requirement. When a Federal funding program includes a "maintenance of effort" (MOE) provision, a State is required, as a condition of eligibility, to maintain its financial contribution to a program at not less than the amount of its contribution for some prior time period. The IMLS MOE formula ensures that Federal assistance results in an increased level of library-related activity and that a State does not replace State dollars with Federal dollars over time. In combination with State funding, the IMLS Grants to States program assistance increases the overall amount of financial resources available to support critical library objectives. In order to receive full IMLS funding, a State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) must comply with the MOE requirements found in 20 U.S.C. Chapter 72. The basic MOE provision is as follows: "The amount otherwise payable to a State for a fiscal year pursuant to an allotment . . . shall be reduced if the level of State expenditures . . . for the previous fiscal year is less than the average of the total of such expenditures for the 3 fiscal years preceding that previous fiscal

year..." 20 U.S.C. § 9133(c)(1)(A). The "level of State expenditures" referred to above includes: "...all State dollars expended by the State library administrative agency for library programs that are consistent with the purposes of this subchapter. All funds included in the maintenance of effort calculation... shall be expended during the fiscal year for which the determination is made, and shall not include capital expenditures, special one-time project costs, or similar windfalls." 20 U.S.C. § 9133(c)(2). IMLS may waive a SLAA's MOE requirements under the following circumstances: "The Director may waive the requirements of paragraph (1) if the Director determines that such a waiver would be equitable due to exceptional or uncontrollable circumstances such as a natural disaster or a precipitous and unforeseen decline in the financial resources of the State." 20 U.S.C § 9133(c)(3) (emphasis added). As noted above, the MOE requirement is used to ensure that Federal assistance results in an increased level of library-related activity and that a State does not replace State dollars with Federal dollars over time. If a State does not meet its MOE requirements and is not granted an MOE waiver by IMLS, the amount of IMLS funding available to that State will be reduced. NDSL was unable to demonstrate exceptional or uncontrollable circumstances.

NDSL is requesting \$40,000 to be able to meet the statutorily required retirement liability. We do not currently have funds in our budget to meet the requirements when eligible employees retire.

NDSL is requesting \$43,000 for technology equipment. Prior to 2020, we only had one staff that telecommuted in our IT department. Currently, all but four positions are telecommute-capable. We need to provide staff with the necessary technology to be able to telecommute. We are also requesting funds for FileNet so that we can transition our fiscal records from paper to digital to increase efficiencies and improve workflows.

NDSL has also requested \$300K for extraordinary repairs to the State Library space in the Liberty Memorial Budget; the Executive Recommendation includes \$150K for this request. The dollars would be used to renovate the information desk and workspace in order to create space that is more flexible and allow staff to work together more efficiently by allowing for cross-training and easier access to provide services to patrons and state employees that come into the building. We would remove bookshelves and add glass walls to create an emerging technologies lab for state agencies and North Dakota libraries to utilize. Additionally, we plan to replace the 40-year-old carpeting in the NDSL offices throughout the building and replace the blinds of the same age. A portion of the funding would be utilized to hire an architect to help us plan the construction. We will need to utilize Facilities Management to assist us with the renovation of the spaces. Existing staff will work with Facilities Management and the architect to execute the project.

Agency Collections

NDSL collects the fees listed below. The fees are deposited into our special funds.

- interlibrary loan replacement fees from borrowing libraries and patrons
- copier fees
- reimbursements for cataloging services
- professional development exchanges and reimbursements

NDSL anticipates collecting \$66,820 in 2023-25 which is \$20,439 less than the 2021-23 appropriations. NDSL previously received monies from the Grand Forks Air Force Base to purchase STEM Kits. We also collected fees for providing cataloging services to assist a public library with eliminating their backlog. We do not anticipate collecting fees for cataloging or additional STEM Kit monies in the next biennium.

Other sections

NDSL requests that language be added to our appropriation bill that would give us the authority to transfer funds from our salary to our operating funds without having to go before the Emergency Commission. We are not requesting to be able to transfer from our operating to our salaries. A portion of our Maintenance of Effort and March for the Grants to State program is met through salaries. It would enable us to ensure that we can meet the Maintenance of Effort and Match requirements.

Other Bills and potential fiscal impact

SB2042:

This bill was introduced by the Senate State and Local Government committee. The bill addresses several elements of the procurement process. The bill as amended would allow NDSL to use the same process to purchase all library materials, regardless of format. There is not an anticipated fiscal impact for this bill.

SB2050:

The State Library pre-filed SB2050. The changes requested are to clarify processes for local libraries, the State Library and the Library Coordinating Council. There is no anticipated fiscal impact for this bill.

Section 3 of SB2050 creates the ability for a public library to appeal the eligibility determination and allows NDSL to recalculate and include any payment differences to the next applicable grant payment. This should result in a net increase and decrease to eligible public libraries and therefore has no fiscal impact. Section 7 of SB2050 eliminates the eligibility requirement of a public library's maintenance of local effort as required by Chapter§54-24.2-02.2. Repealing. §54-24.2-02.2 will increase the number of eligible public library who apply to receive state aid. State aid to public libraries is currently limited to the appropriation in SB2013 of \$1,737,582. This limitation currently

holds an underfunding of \$269,633 if all public libraries were determined to be eligible to receive state aid.

SB2360:

This bill was introduced by Senators Boehm, Beard, Hogue, Paulson, Wobbema and Representative Kasper. It is relating to required safety practices and technology measures. Section 5 of the bill requires a school district, state agency, public library or university that provides digital or online library database resources (aka Online Library Resources or OLRs) to verify that the resources comply with safety measures that prohibit and prevent access to materials that constitute child sexual abuse material, an obscene performance, or pornography.

The potential fiscal impact would be a restriction of the OLRs that the State Library is able to subscribe to. The ability to access our OLRs varies depending on if they were purchased individually by NDSL or in cooperation with Minnesota and South Dakota. The ones purchased individually by NDSL are available to anyone with a library card from NDSL or a ND public library. The exception to this would be Ancestry and Encyclopedia Britannica which are available to all libraries. The ones that are purchased in collaboration with the other two states are open to patrons of libraries that participate in the purchase through a small fee that is based on number of students in the high school, per capita for the public libraries and FTE for academic libraries.

HB1397 and SB2307:

The house bill was introduced by Representative Klemin and the Senate bill was introduced by Senator Bekkedahl. They provide an appropriation for OMB for the purpose of renovating the Liberty Memorial Building for use by the Justice Department. The total fiscal impact of this bill is not known. The appropriation is for \$55M for the renovation of the space. There will have to be an additional appropriation to relocate the State Library to a different facility. The estimated cost to construct a new library building that is approximately the same size as the amount of space we currently occupy in the Liberty Memorial Building is \$15M. The State Library collection includes over 301,000 physical items and the proper load bearing requirements for books will need to be implemented at any space that is identified to move us into.

The State Library delivers library materials to the capitol daily for state employees to utilize for work and personal purposes. State agencies send their documents to us via interoffice mail. We retrieve the items that need to be cataloged for state agencies from the capitol. If the agency is moved from the Capitol grounds, additional funds will be needed to provide for the delivery of these materials either by utilizing a state fleet car or USPS. Currently, when we have materials that cannot be delivered on foot, we utilize the state fleet car that is maintained by the State Historical Society; that vehicle is also used for the thrice weekly delivery of materials between NDSL and the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library and the rest of the Central Dakota Library Network

(CDLN). This saves both NDSL and the members libraries money on postage as CDLN operates its own delivery service. If NDSL were to move off the complex, we would want to explore delivery options such as CDLN is utilizing for our in-town deliveries.

NDSL's preference would be to remain in the Liberty Memorial building, where we have been since the building first opened in 1924, except for a brief period of 12 years. We returned to the building after it was renovated for the purpose of the State Library moving back into the building in 1981. When the Liberty Memorial Building was first opened, it housed the State Library, the State Historical Society Museum, the Adjutant General and the Supreme Court. The State Library has shared the Liberty Memorial Building with a variety of agencies over the year.

Changes to 2023-25 Executive Request

	Salary and Wages	Operating	Grants	Total	General	Federal	Special	Total	FTE
2023-25 Executive Recommendation	4,546,867.00	2,356,108.00	2,283,528.00	9,186,503.00	7,033,588.00	2,086,095.00	66,820.00	9,186,503.00	26.75
<i>Salary and Wages</i>									
Compensation Package	14,571.00	-	-	14,571.00	70,866.00	(56,295.00)	-	14,571.00	
Equity	180,000.00	-	-	180,000.00	180,000.00	-	-	180,000.00	
<i>Operating</i>									
Increase in Travel for Vending Machine	-	11,000.00	-	11,000.00	11,000.00	-	-	11,000.00	
<i>Extraordinary Repairs</i>									
One-time Funding - Library Building	-	150,000.00	-	150,000.00	150,000.00	-	-	150,000.00	
Total Changes	194,571.00	161,000.00	-	355,571.00	411,866.00	(56,295.00)	-	355,571.00	-
2023-25 Total Agency Request	4,741,438.00	2,517,108.00	2,283,528.00	9,542,074.00	7,445,454.00	2,029,800.00	66,820.00	9,542,074.00	26.75

Major Request Comparison

Request	Executive Recommendation	Agency Request	Difference
Maintenance of Effort	228,635.00	228,635.00	-
Compensation Package	396,469.00	591,040.00	194,571.00
Retirement Payout	40,000.00	40,000.00	-
Cost to Continue	54,559.00	65,559.00	11,000.00
Rent Model	264,635.00	264,635.00	-
Library Vision- Tribal Grant	50,000.00	50,000.00	-
IT	43,000.00	43,000.00	-
Extraordinary Repairs	150,000.00	300,000.00	150,000.00
Total			355,571.00

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Funding

NDSL did not have any federal state fiscal recovery funds appropriated to us. We received \$2.1M in ARPA funding as previously outlined in my testimony directly from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Those funds need to be expended by the end of January. We have an extension request in due to some unforeseen costs associated with the installation of the book vending machines.

2023-25 Federal Funding

NDSL anticipates receiving Library Services and Technology Act funding of \$2,029,800 from IMLS. \$607,598 will be spent on salary and wages, \$1,163,756 will be spent on operating expenses, and \$258,446 will be spent on grants.

The purposes and priorities outlined in the Library Services and Technology Act are reflected in the Five-Year Plans submitted by each State Library Administrative Agency and in the over 1,500 annual projects that are supported through the Grants to States program.

NDSL evaluated the 2018-22 plan and developed the 2023-27 plan in 2022. Virtual and in-person focus groups were held to solicit input from the library community on the success of the last plan and goals for the new plan. NDSL has three goals in the 2023 - 27 Five-year plan.

1. Information Access
2. Institutional Capacity
3. Lifelong Learning

Purpose of LSTA (20 U.S.C. § 9121)

1. Enhance coordination among Federal programs that relate to library, education, and information services;
2. Promote continuous improvement in library services in all types of libraries in order to better serve the people of the United States;
3. Facilitate access to resources in all types of libraries for the purpose of cultivating an educated and informed citizenry;
4. Encourage resource sharing among all types of libraries for the purpose of achieving economical and efficient delivery of library services to the public;
5. Promote literacy, education, and lifelong learning, including by building learning partnerships with school libraries in our Nation's schools, including tribal schools, and developing resources, capabilities, and programs in support of State, tribal, and local efforts to offer a well-rounded educational experience to all students;

6. Enable libraries to develop services that meet the needs of communities throughout the Nation, including people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, individuals with disabilities, residents of rural and urban areas, Native Americans, military families, veterans, and caregivers;
7. Enable libraries to serve as anchor institutions to support community revitalization through enhancing and expanding the services and resources provided by libraries, including those services and resources relating to workforce development, economic and business development, critical thinking skills, health information, digital literacy skills, financial literacy and other types of literacy skills, and new and emerging technology;
8. Enhance the skills of the current library workforce and recruit future professionals, including those from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, to the field of library and information services;
9. Ensure the preservation of knowledge and library collections in all formats and enable libraries to serve their communities during disasters;
10. Enhance the role of libraries within the information infrastructure of the United States in order to support research, education, and innovation;
11. Promote library services that provide users with access to information through national, State, local, regional, and international collaborations and networks; and
12. Encourage, support, and disseminate model programs of library and museum collaboration.

Grants to States (20 U.S.C. § 9141)

1. Expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats (including new and emerging technology), in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such individuals' needs for education, lifelong learning, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy and other types of literacy skills;
2. Establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries and entities, as described in 20 U.S.C. § 9134(b)(6), for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services;
3.
 - (A) Provide training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, and advance the delivery of library and information services; and
 - (B) Enhance efforts to recruit future professionals, including those from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, to the field of library and information services;

4. Develop public and private partnerships with other agencies, tribes, and community-based organizations;
5. Target library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills;
6. Target library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 9902(2) of title 42) applicable to a family of the size involved;
7. Develop library services that provide all users access to information through local, State, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks; and
8. Carry out other activities consistent with the purposes set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 9121, as described in the State library administrative agency's plan.

Additional information:

Included on page 23 is a one-page overview of who our agency serves and the unique ways we do it.

NDSL provides services to the North Dakota Library community. We have specialists dedicated to each library type- school, public and academic/special/tribal libraries. We collect data each year from the public libraries through the Annual Public Library Survey. Below is a snapshot of North Dakota public libraries in 2021.

The next page is a snapshot of North Dakota academic libraries in 2021. The data is provided by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).



NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY

The North Dakota State Library mission is to provide pathways to information and innovation to North Dakota's libraries, State Government and North Dakota residents.

We are the only state library that mails items directly to patrons homes. We are also the only state library that catalogs for public and school libraries that are not part of the statewide consortium. We are the first state to offer Book Vending Machines on a statewide level.

What sets us apart as a state agency is our professional librarians. We have ten professional librarians on staff. We have two additional professionals from the education field.

Our physical collection in our building includes over 250,000 items. We have copies of all documents created by any state agency for the public; our State Documents collection has items that go back to the Dakota Territory. We also provide access to e-materials in a variety of formats in collaboration with over 40 participating public libraries. The e-books owned by NDSL circulated 298,543 times in 2022 to patrons from all across the state.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE CAN'T DO OUR JOB...

Result 1

Library patrons across the state would have access to 20,000 less items through the InterLibrary Loan program that we coordinate for patrons and libraries



Result 2

Librarians and staff would not receive continuing education, technical assistance, cataloging assistance, and digitization support



Result 3

Residents across the state would not have access to online library resources for their educational, informational and leisure needs



CURRENT AGENCY TEAM MEMBER STATS

26.75

full-time team members

3

number of vacancies

9

staff with less than 2 years of service

7.45

average years of service

4

retirement-eligible

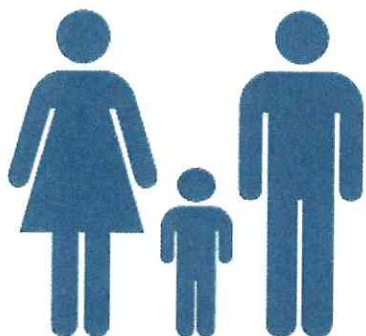
NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC LIBRARIES BY THE NUMBERS



777,934
NORTH DAKOTA
POPULATION

246,085

REGISTERED PATRONS



1 IN 3 ND CITIZENS
HAS A LIBRARY CARD

Visits to North Dakota Libraries (2021)

1,190,794

Attendance At All Vikings Games (2021)

1,118,294

Visitors to Theodore Roosevelt National Park (2021)

796,085

Attendance At The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally (2021)

525,768

Attendance At All NDSU Football Games (2021)

215,647

179,467

USES OF PUBLIC
COMPUTERS



1,663,412

WIRELESS (WI-FI) SESSIONS

194,443

LIBRARY PROGRAM
ATTENDEES

\$28.41

AVERAGE COST TO
TAXPAYERS

\$0.91

MATERIALS
EXPENDITURES PER
CIRCULATION

2,920,286

TOTAL NUMBER OF
CIRCULATIONS



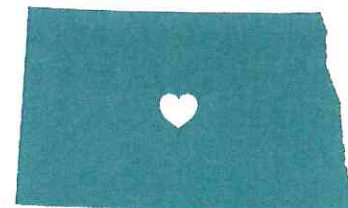
THAT'S ALMOST 4
CIRCULATIONS
PER RESIDENT

720,916

TOTAL NUMBER OF
ELECTRONIC MATERIALS
CIRCULATION

STATISTICS WERE PULLED FROM THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC LIBRARY 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

NORTH DAKOTA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES BY THE NUMBERS



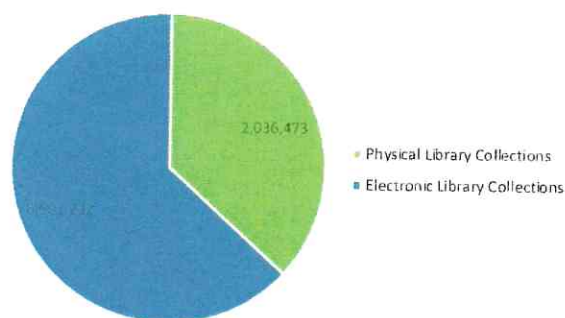
201.41

LIBRARY FTE STAFF



5,537,705

TOTAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



15,780

INTERLIBRARY LOANS AND
DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO
OTHER LIBRARIES

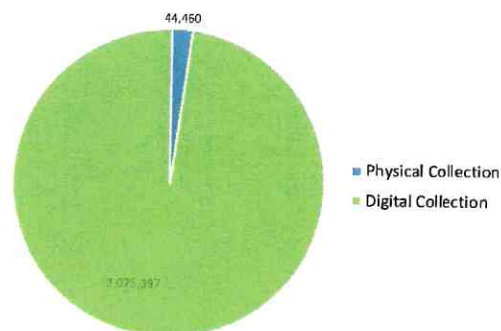


23,523

INTERLIBRARY LOANS AND
DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FROM
OTHER LIBRARIES

2,119,857

TOTAL LIBRARY CIRCULATIONS



STATISTICS WERE PULLED FROM THE 2021 INTEGRATED POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION DATA SYSTEM (IPEDS)

Chairman Sorvaag and members of the committee, this concludes my testimony. Thank you for your time and for your support of North Dakota libraries including the State Library. I would be happy to answer any questions the committee has.