Webside Chat with Jennie Stapp
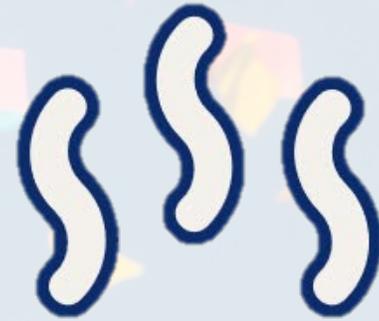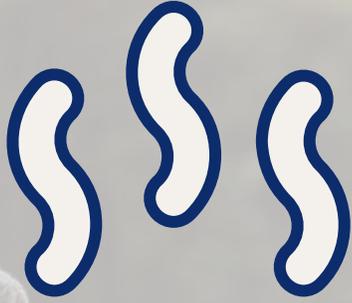
MONTANA
STATE LIBRARY
A GREATER STATE OF KNOWLEDGE

February 13, 2026

How We Gather

- Rename with Name and Library or Town
- Share Questions in Chat

Webside Chat

- MSL Updates
  - Commission Meeting Review
    - Upcoming meeting announcements
    - Review of ARM 10.102.1159 Serving the Community (2-12)
    - AI Presentation
    - The importance of objectivity in libraries
  - CE Program status updates
  - Other important asks
  - Other good news
- Q&A

February 11 Commission Meeting Review - Meetings

- Upcoming meeting changes:
  - Next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8.

  - October 14 meeting will be at the Miles City Public Library
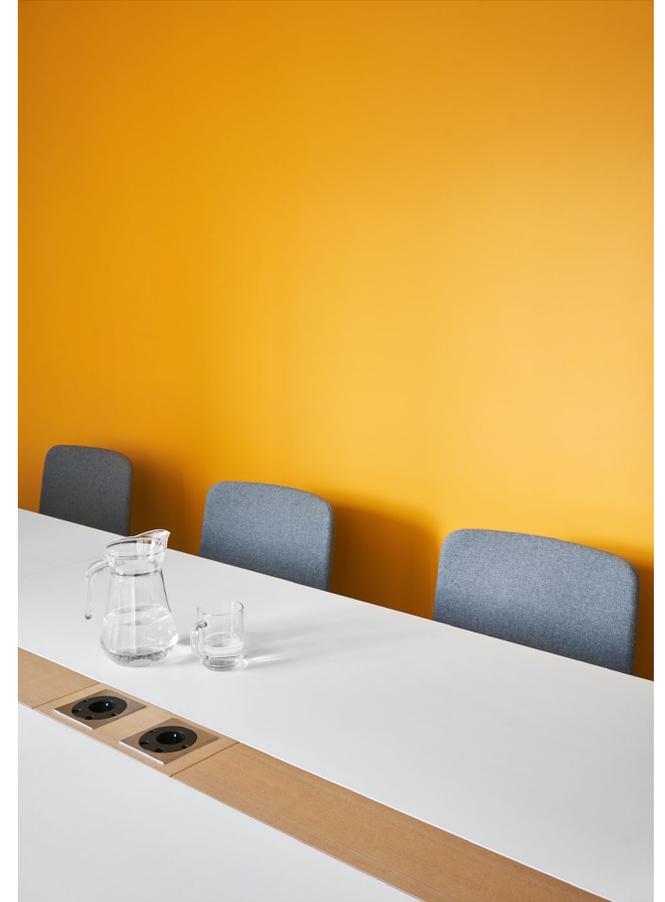
February 11 Commission Meeting Review

10.102.1159 SERVING THE COMMUNITY

- Review of ARM 10.102.1159 Serving the Community (2-12)
  - Current language is aspirational
  - Considering changes to make the langauge more library specific and demonstrable.
  - Opportunity to make the connection to founding library law more explicit
  - Opportunity call out the growing importance of artificial intelligence and libraries.
  - Except for consider AI, no intent to change the purpose or functional requirements
  - Commissioners Goss and Cuthbertson will draft language changes to consider later this spring

February 11 Commission Meeting Review – AI Presentation

- Chris Tarabochia, Montana Chief AI Officer

- [Listen to the conversation here](#)

Why Library Workers Are Primed for AI Enablement

Information Literacy → AI Literacy

You already teach people to evaluate information sources and understand how information systems work.

Trusted Community Anchors

Libraries are among the most trusted public institutions, serving everyone regardless of background.

Values-First Approach

Libraries prioritize access and public good that aligns perfectly with responsible AI adoption.

Knowledge Transfer Infrastructure

You already provide workshops, classes, and one-on-one help with proven scalability.

February 11 Commission Meeting Review - Discussion

- A discussion of neutrality vs. objectivity in libraries
  - Should we have no globes or all the globes?
  - Listen to the conversation
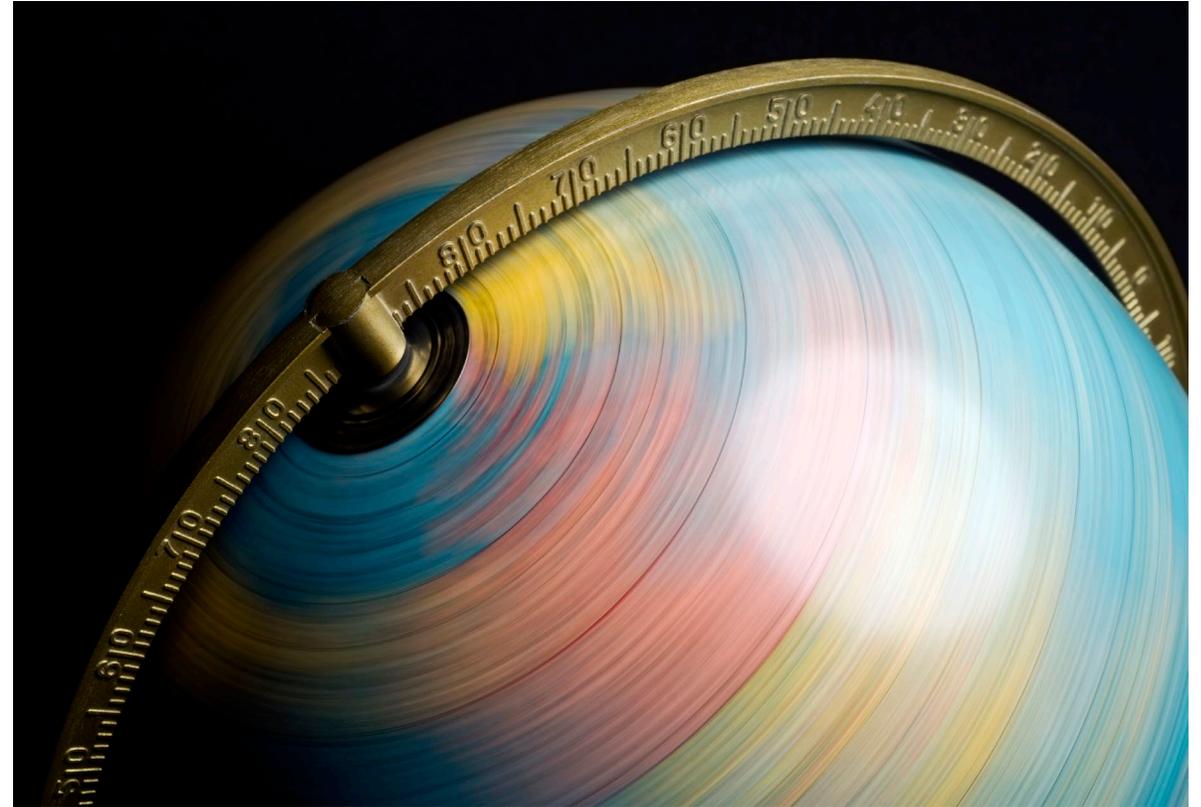
Certification: Timeline

February – April 2026

- Subcommittee completes policy review

April 2026

- Commission takes action to adopt new policy

June 2026

- Commission adopts initial course catalog

July 2026

- Effective date of rules and policy

MSL Certification Program

Current Program	Proposed Changes

• 3 tracks
  – Administrator
  – Staff
  – Trustee
 	
• 4 credit categories
• Credits verified by employer/supervisor
• 60 credits in 4 years
• MLS counts towards certification
	• 1 track
	• No categories
	  – program is based on foundational skills and knowledge
	• *Courses must be approved by Commission for credit to be awarded
	• First Certificate – 20 credits in two years
	  – Renewals – 60 credits in 5 years
	  – *MLS counts towards certification

Library director certification is required per ARM 10.102.1160

*Recent changes based on librarian feedback

MSL Certification Program – Approval Criteria

Proposed Changes

- Evaluation Rubric
  - Do the learning outcomes of the course fall under one or more of the competencies outlined in the course of study?
  - Does the presenter have expertise with the subject matter?
  - Do the learning outcomes address the needs of multiple libraries in Montana?
  - Does the learning support the library in meeting the public library standards?

Library director certification is required per ARM 10.102.1160

Education Interim Budget Committee Resource Sharing Study

Help MSL understand your resource sharing services priorities to inform this legislative study.

Library Resource Sharing Priorities

Please help us collect more information from schools.

- This brief survey will help MSL better understand how teacher librarians use statewide resource sharing services and identify gaps or areas for improvement.

- We need help from local libraries in Class B and Class C communities to reach out to their local school library to take the survey.

- School Library Resource Sharing Survey

- Thanks to Southeastern Montana- We have seen more schools in that region filling it out over the last two weeks.

Mark Your Calendar

February 20 – MSC Office Hours

February 24 – Access and Usability Webinar

February 26 - MSL Learn Webinar with Mazi Robinson

March 3 – MSC Office Hours

March 10 – Access and Usability Webinar

Check the ASPeN Event Calendar and watch for newsletter updates

And a few more key dates

February 18 @ 10:30 a.m. - Crate survey last call to ask questions and submit alternatives Crate survey

February 28 – FY 26 federation grant reporting begins

March 4 – Montana Library2Go Membership meeting

Questions?

MSL Evaluation Survey

https://forms.office.com/g/ffUuzbA8gn

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State Librarian
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Next Webside Chat
Friday, March 13 @ Noon

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