



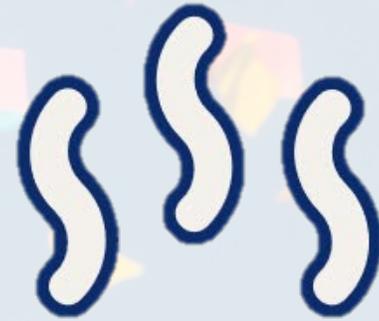
# Webside Chat with Jennie Stapp



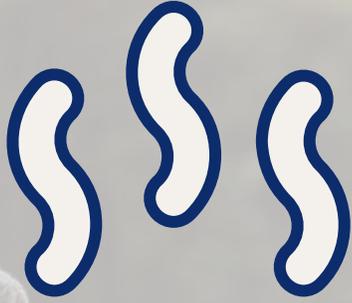
| February 13, 2026

# How We Gather

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



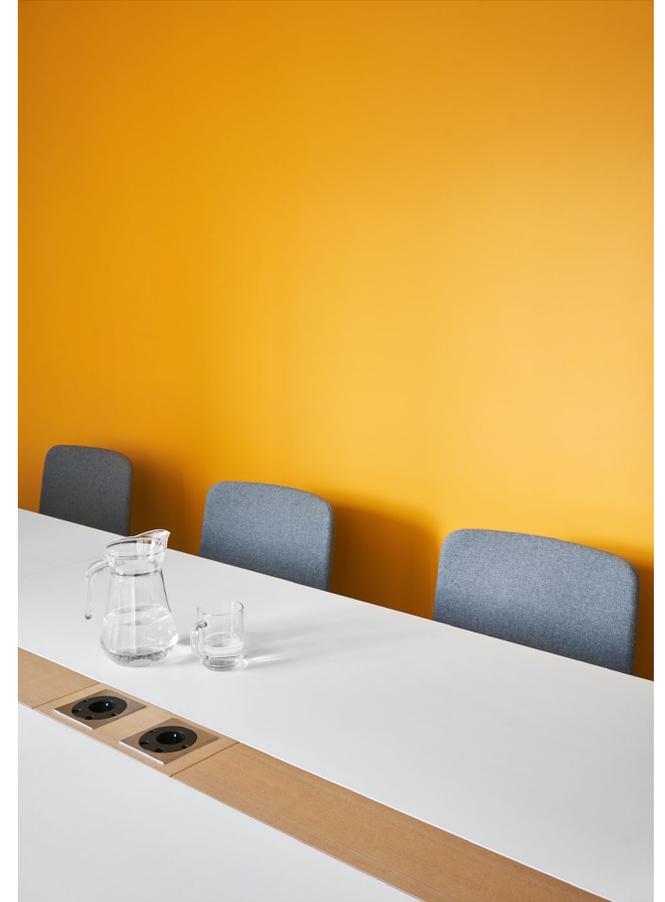
# Webside Chat



- 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

(1) The library is open during convenient hours. At a minimum, the library is open at least the following number of hours weekly:

Service Area Population	Minimum	Desirable
Fewer than 3,500	15 hours	25-40 hours
3,501 – 9,999	30 hours	40-50 hours
10,000 – 24,999	40 hours	50-60 hours
More than 25,000	50 hours	60+ hours

- (2) Everyone has safe, comfortable, and convenient access to the library and its services.
- (3) Everyone has access to updated and regularly maintained physical and digital library content and services.
- (4) Everyone can find library materials online.
- (5) Everyone has access to virtual and face-to-face programming.
- (6) Everyone has access to information about local community and government activities that assists them with understanding local community issues and allows them to engage civically in the community.
- (7) Children and caregivers have access to early literacy programming and materials either through the library or by being directed to another community organization that specializes in early literacy.
- (8) Everyone has access to information about library programs and services through internal and external marketing efforts of library staff.
- (9) Everyone has access to a library website or social media site.
- (10) Everyone can obtain materials and services from another library through interlibrary loan services.
- (11) Everyone has access to the Internet via wired and WIFI connections.
- (12) Reasonable accommodations are made so that people with disabilities have access to the library's services.

Authorizing statute(s): 22-1-103, MCA

- Review of ARM 10.102.1159 Serving the Community (2-12)
  - Current language is aspirational
  - Considering changes to make the language 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.

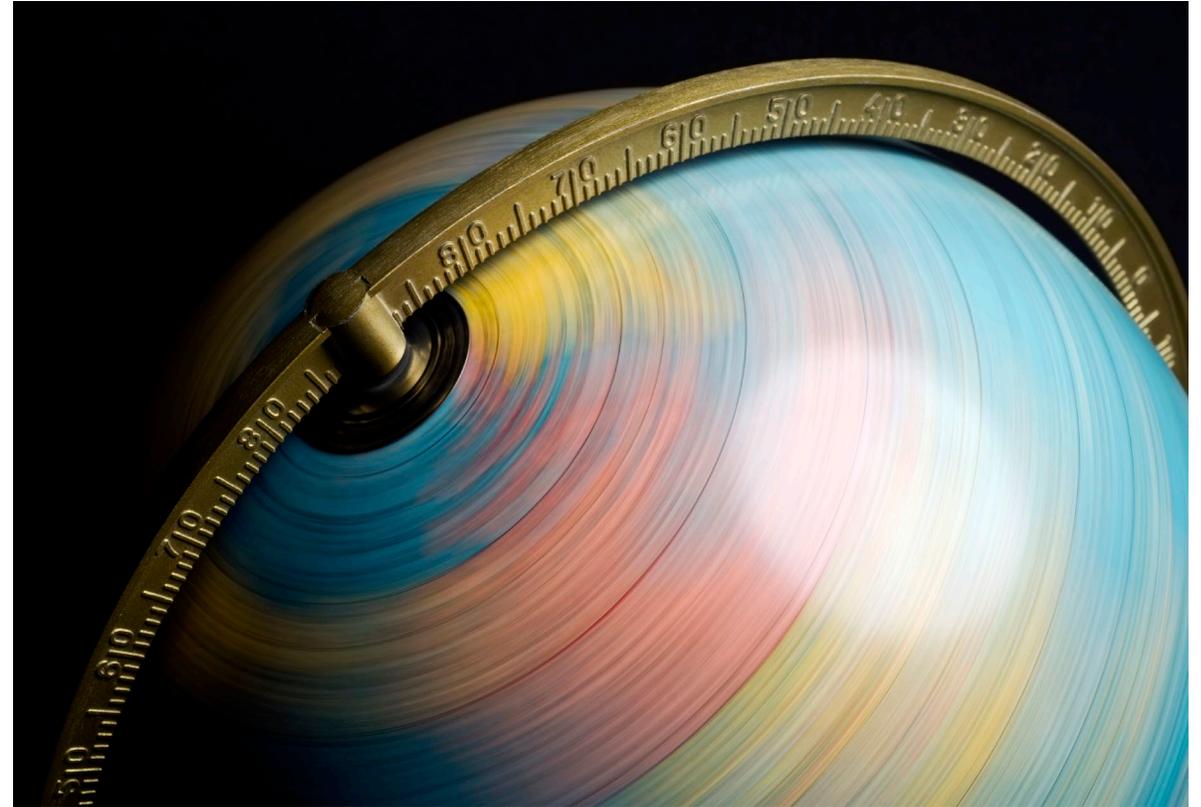


### Knowledge Transfer Infrastructure

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

- 3 tracks
  - Administrator
  - Staff
  - Trustee
- 4 credit categories
- Credits verified by employer/supervisor
- 60 credits in 4 years
- MLS counts towards certification

## Proposed Changes

- 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***

# 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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406-444-3115

Next Webside Chat  
Friday, March 13 @ Noon

