

# Memo

**To:** Montana State Library Commission

**From:** Jennie Stapp, State Librarian

**Date:** March 19, 2018

**Re: Library Strategies Introduction**

On March 16 the Montana State Library and Library Strategies entered into an eighteen-month contract under which Library Strategies will lead the effort to form a nonprofit which will raise private funds for the Montana libraries and information community.

Library Strategies is uniquely qualified to do this work. They are a consulting group of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library in Minnesota. They have worked in 30 states, including Montana, to conduct strategic planning and to develop friends and foundations. Executive Director (ED) Stu Wilson has more than 25 years of fundraising experience and is the former ED of the Friends of the Hennepin County Library. Karen Rose has more than 15 years of fundraising experience. More information about Library Strategies is online at: <http://librarystrategiesconsulting.org/consultants/>. The timeline of work for the contract is included with Commission meeting materials.

Library Strategies was the successful respondent to a request for proposal (RFP) conducted by the State Library. We wish to acknowledge our appreciation for the RFP scoring committee members, Commissioner Kish, Tracy Cook, Evan Hammer, Jeannie Ferris, Whitehall Community Library, Leslie Modrow, Billings Public Library Foundation, and Amy Sullivan, Montana Community Foundation.