



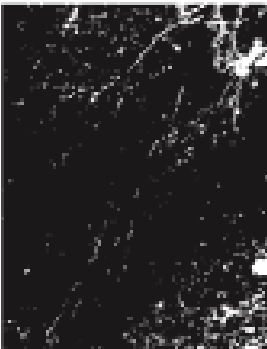
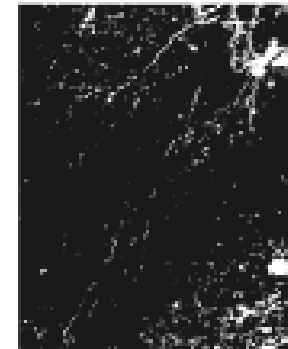
# **Forgotten Patrons**

## *Building Library Services for Regina's Incarcerated Population*

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Marika Hunter  
Alan Kilpatrick  
May 8, 2025

**PLSC**  
**PRISON LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE**



# The Right to Read

## Right to Read Position Statement

- Endorsed by CFLA-FCAB
- Updated 2024

## Legislation

- *Corrections and Conditional Release Act*
- *Commissioners Directive 720*

## Similar Organizations

- Books 2 Prisoners
- Open Door Books
- MLA Prison Library Committee
- GELA Prison Libraries Project



Library for inmates at former Kingston Penitentiary in 2015.

# Incarceration in Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's incarceration rate higher than national average

- 222.5 per 100k vs 71.5 per 100k

19 correctional facilities in SK

- 4 federal and 14 provincial

2,121 incarcerated individuals

- 74 incarcerated youth

Indigenous overrepresentation

- federally and provincially



# SLA Prison Library Sub-Committee

Founded in September 2021

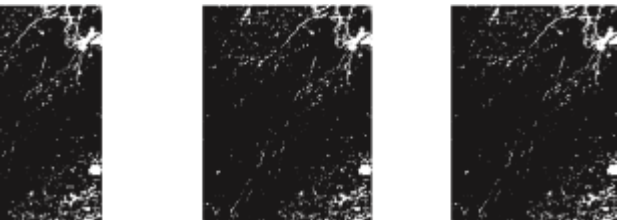
- MLA Prison Library Committee

Subcommittee of the Advocacy Committee

Membership: volunteers from public, special, academic libraries

Our Mission: Improve access to library services and materials for incarcerated youth and adults in Saskatchewan

- Beginning in Regina



# Our Work

Partnerships: Regina Correctional Centre,  
Paul Dojack Youth Centre, White Birch Remand Centre

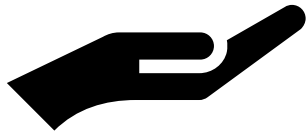
Primary activity is providing books:

- Collecting
- Purchasing
- Sorting (!)
- Packing
- Delivering

Parameters and considerations re. content and format



# Our Impact



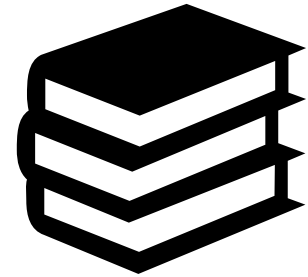
30+ Community  
Donors



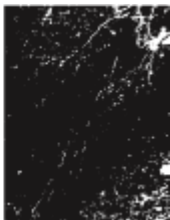
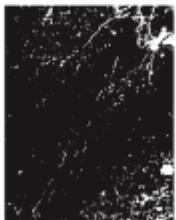
13 Completed  
Deliveries



205 Books  
Purchased



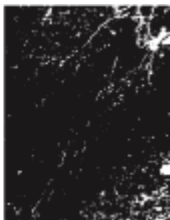
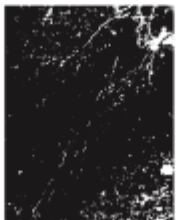
7500+ Books  
Donated



# What's Next

RCC physical library  
Regina Reintegration  
Request form/services

Growth = in terms of service delivery and geographically/number of patrons



# How to get involved

## 1. Donate

- Books and/or money

## 2. Volunteer

- Committee member
- On-call volunteer work

## 3. Inform

- Follow @sasklibrary on social media for updates / Books Behind Bars
- Spread the word
- Stop by our booth

*SK Libraries,  
do you have a  
carceral institution  
in your region that  
needs library  
services?*

*Let's talk!*



**Thank you!**

**Questions?**



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