

NEXT: A Library Futures Symposium

Edmonton Crowne Plaza Hotel – Chateau Lacombe
October 21 – 22, 2010



Help shape the future.

What will libraries of the future look like?

What are the current trends that are most likely to affect libraries? How can members of the library community think and act strategically to take advantage of emerging opportunities?

Join us for NEXT: A Library Futures Symposium, and help shape the future of libraries across Alberta.



NEXT is more than a passive learning experience. The symposium is designed to help you engage in meaningful inquiry

and conversation. Actively explore questions that matter with a diverse group of leading thinkers in the library community – from recent graduates to seasoned administrators and trustees.

Day one features five internationally-renowned speakers who will set the stage by focusing on the major cultural, demographic, social and economic shifts that are affecting libraries and communities in the 21st century.

Building on this information and analysis, day two is designed to engage community members in focused inquiry and deeper reflection, and ultimately to help come up with a viable roadmap for the future.

Day One: Setting the Stage

MICHAEL ADAMS

The Shape of Things to Come: Where We're Going and Why it Matters

Michael Adams, co-founder and President of Environics Research Group, offers insights and analysis on how current trends are likely to play out in the future, using up-to-the-moment polling data on issues such as health care, taxes and immigration. Adams' insightful and humorous take on Canada's enduring quirks and urgent dilemmas will include material from his upcoming book, *Stayin' Alive: How Canada's Baby Boomers Will Work, Play and Find Meaning in the Second Half of their Adult Lives*, to be published in November by Penguin.

THOMAS FREY

The Age of Enlightenment and the Library of the Future

Thomas Frey is the Executive Director of the DaVinci Institute, a non-profit think tank based in Colorado. His talks have inspired leaders in diverse organizations, including NASA, AT&T, IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Bell Canada, Visa, Ford Motor Company, Times of India and many more. Frey works with the DaVinci Institute's Senior Fellows and Board of Visionaries to develop original research studies, which enables him to speak on translating trends into opportunities.

MIKE D'ABRAMO

The Influence of Young Canadians

Mike D'Abramo is an internationally recognized expert on youth and technology trends and has assisted major corporations, government ministries and non-profit organizations with broadening their reach to the youth demographic. As Director of Youthography, a youth market research firm, D'Abramo consulted on market research, strategic planning, brand development and advertising. He is currently a strategist with Toronto-based research firm Fresh Squeezed Ideas.



Day One: Setting the Stage continued

PATRICIA GRAHAM

Crossing the Digital Divide: Exceeding Expectations in a 24/7 World

Patricia Graham is the Editor-in-Chief of the Vancouver Sun and has also held positions as reporter, columnist, copy editor and newsroom manager. During her career, she's seen the influence of technological innovations and provides her insights on the shift in mindset required for the digital age. Graham is also a television and radio commentator and a lecturer at the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of British Columbia.

R. DAVID LANKES

The Librarian Militant, The Librarian Triumphant

R. David Lankes is Director of the Information Institute of Syracuse University, an Associate Professor in the School of Information Studies, and Director of the Library Science program. Lankes is a passionate advocate for libraries and their essential role in today's society. He also seeks to understand how information approaches and technologies can be used to transform industries. An accomplished researcher, author and speaker, his recent work involves how participatory concepts can reshape libraries and credibility.

Day Two: Shaping the Future

Building on the inspiration, information and analysis of day one, day two is an opportunity for participants to address key issues in a small group discussion format that engages the collective intelligence of the community.

Conversations will link and build on each other as participants move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas and discover new insights into questions or issues that matter most to them.

The small group discussion format is designed to encourage contribution, connect diverse perspectives and build new understanding.

You will gain insights and ideas that will help to drive the strategic thinking and planning of your organization, and ultimately help create a viable roadmap for Alberta's library community.

Help shape the future.

Register now using the accompanying registration form.