

**2019-2020 ALA Memorial #4
2020 ALA Midwinter Meeting**

A Memorial Resolution Honoring Bill Ptacek

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) lost a forward-thinking leader, member, and advocate on October 15, 2019, with the death of Bill Ptacek;

Whereas Bill was a long-term member of the Association, and an appreciated contributor and supporter of LLAMA, PLA, and IRRRT;

Whereas Bill was the Director of the King County Library System in western Washington State, where he led King County to become the 2011 Library Journal "Library of the Year," and the Calgary Public Library, where he became the CEO in 2014, which was awarded a "Library of the Year" Special Mention in 2019;

Whereas Bill was an active member of the Seattle community, being involved in the Bellevue Rotary and Cascade Bicycle Club, as well as having served on advisory boards for the University of Washington Information School, University of Washington Bothell, Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry, and as a committee member for Seafair, Seattle's annual summer festival;

Whereas Bill's belief in community relationships led him to oversee and develop partnerships between the Calgary Public Library system, the municipal government, and the Calgary school boards, growing the Library's reach through the introduction of new early literacy initiatives, two new library locations and the opening of Calgary's new Central Library on November 1, 2018; and

Whereas he himself was the recipient of several awards, including: the Charlie Robinson Award, recognizing a public library director for being a risk taker, an innovator and/or a change agent in a public library over a period of seven years in 2000; the Urban Libraries Council Executive Board Award in 2019, and the Citizen of the Year in Calgary in 2018; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. honors and is grateful to Bill Ptacek for his many contributions to the library profession, and for his service to the Association; and
2. sends a copy of this resolution to the Calgary Public Library Board to express its sincere sympathy to his family, and his many other beloved family and friends in Calgary.

Mover: Steven Bailey, Washington Chapter Councilor

Seconder: Stephanie Chase, PLA Division Councilor

Final Version: 6: 00am 1/23/2020