**TO:** PLA Board of Directors

**RE:** PLA Breakfast for Councilors at ALA Annual-Planning

**DATE:** March 6, 2019

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

Information

**BACKGROUND**

Survey results from the Council breakfast held at Midwinter are attached. As they indicate, the majority of Council respondents learned more about PLA and recommended we continue to host similar events in the future. The number one suggestion for improvement at future sessions was to provide more guidance on public library concerns in order to better advocate at Council.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD ACTION**

The Board may want to discuss and provide guidance on the structure for the next session, scheduled for Monday, June 24, 7:30-8:15 am. PLA staff discussed ideas and is providing this suggestion for the Board’s consideration.

Given we do not have a great deal of time, and that Council is interested in learning more about PLA concerns, what if we provided a brief overview and a takeaway handout and gave up the rest of the time to informal conversation and “mini-exhibits” of our major programs? The room would be set with tables around the edges with leaders and staff available to talk about or answers questions about the PLA priorities.

For example, under the EDISJ strategic goal we could have reps from our social worker task force, Inclusive Internship program, and Equity Starts with Us program. Other reps could focus on family engagement; digital access and literacy; health/opioids; leadership academy; and advocacy (Project Outcome; Census, etc.). This would allow us to engage Councilors on subjects near and dear to PLA and would give our very engaged members to share their expertise and network with Council members. Our overall introduction and handout would link to our strategic plan and the initiatives we focus on at the session.

We might also want to try this concept at our Saturday morning welcome breakfast. It would give our members an opportunity to learn directly about PLA’s work.