

# INTRODUCTION

## **THE SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM (1990)**

### PURPOSES OF THE *TEACHER-LIBRARIAN RESOURCE MANUAL*

In September 1990, the Calgary Board of Education *School Library Program (1990)* was introduced to teacher-librarians, teachers, principals, and administrators. This program document states that the purpose of the School Library Program is to assist individuals to become life-long learners, confident in their ability to personalize information, ideas, and expressions of the imagination. The School Library Program grows out of, and extends, the mission statement of the Calgary Board of Education which is, "To ensure individual student development through effective education. " The *School Library Program (1990)* is holistic and learner centered; reflecting an evolution that affirms, and builds upon, the promising practices occurring in our schools.

The *School Library Program (1990)* makes explicit the following beliefs:

- Learning is enhanced by a learner-centered School Library Program.
- The School Library Program is an integral part of learning.
- The School Library Program has its own integrity.
- Cooperative planning and teaching is the process through which the teacher and the teacher-librarian plan for the most effective use of resources based upon the needs of each learner.
- The teacher-librarian plays a key leadership role in developing and implementing a learner-centred School Library Program, one that enhances learning in all program areas.

The *School Library Program (1990)* is a conceptual overview which presents the nature and goals of a School Library Program. Therefore, the *Teacher-Librarian Resource Manual* has been written to assist school-based teacher-librarians and their colleagues develop and implement school-unique School Library Programs that reflect the unique needs of the learners, and learning programs, in their schools.

The *Teacher-Librarian Resource Manual* has the following purposes:

- To expand the concepts introduced in the *School Library Program (1990)*.
- To enhance understanding of the School Library Program.
- To provide a variety of strategies to assist teacher-librarians and teachers in the development and implementation of an effective learner-centered School Library Program. Calgary Board of Education