

Minitex Talking Points

regarding the
2017 MLA Legislative Platform

WHAT IS **MINITEX**?

- *Minitex is a publicly supported network of academic, public, state government, and special libraries working cooperatively to improve library service in Minnesota.*
- *Minitex is funded by the Minnesota Legislature through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (OHE) to serve Minnesota academic and state government libraries. Minitex is a joint program of OHE and the University of Minnesota.*
- *Minitex is also funded by State Library Services, a unit of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), to support Minnesota libraries and library users.*

WHY IS **MINITEX** VALUABLE TO MINNESOTA?

- *Minitex connects libraries and individuals with information, ideas, and experiences to enrich lives and strengthen our communities.*
- *Minitex enables Minnesota's library community to take advantage of economies of scale with regard to essential library functions: interlibrary loan and delivery, online resources, and purchasing.*
- *Minitex helps libraries anticipate the future and prepare for it by providing education and training and opportunities for connection.*
- *Minitex fosters and sustains a culture of collaboration among Minnesota's libraries.*

WHAT IS **MNLINK**?

- *MNLINK is a service of Minitex. The system and ILL services are funded by OHE and MDE.*
- *MNLINK is a statewide system that serves as a discovery and interlibrary loan interface for library patrons and staff.*

WHY IS **MNLINK** VALUABLE TO MINNESOTA?

- *Through MNLINK's participating libraries, patrons have easy access to browsing and borrowing from the catalogs of most libraries in Minnesota.*
- *In addition to the physical books held in these libraries, MNLINK provides access to electronic resources including journals, images, and ebooks.*

WHAT IS THE **ELECTRONIC LIBRARY FOR MINNESOTA (ELM)**?

- *ELM is a service of Minitex funded by OHE and MDE.*
- *ELM gives all Minnesota residents online access to magazine, journal, newspaper, and encyclopedia articles, ebooks, and other information resources.*

WHY IS ELM VALUABLE TO MINNESOTA?

- *ELM provides Minnesotans with the best possible access to information resources across the educational spectrum.*
- *Minnesotans searched ELM 61 million times in FY 2016.*

WHAT IS THE MINNESOTA DIGITAL LIBRARY (MDL)?

- *MDL is a service of Minitex supported by the Legacy Amendment via the Minnesota Historical Society.*

WHY IS MDL VALUABLE TO MINNESOTA?

- *MDL supports discovery and education through access to unique digital collections shared by cultural heritage organizations from across Minnesota. Contributors include libraries, historical societies, museums, and archives.*
- *MDL provides education and training opportunities concerning digitization best practices, metadata for digital collections, and digital preservation.*
- *MDL's primary online collection is Minnesota Reflections. The collection includes more than 50,000 digitized items from 185 contributing organizations.*

WHAT IS EBOOKS MINNESOTA?

- *Ebooks Minnesota is an online ebook collection made possible in part by funding from MDE through a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).*
- *Ebooks Minnesota is a joint project of Minitex and State Library Services.*

WHY IS EBOOKS MINNESOTA VALUABLE TO MINNESOTA?

- *Ebooks Minnesota makes ebooks available to readers in every corner of our state, including rural libraries and schools.*
- *Ebooks Minnesota is an online ebook collection for Minnesotans of all ages. Access to the collection is unlimited; there is no waiting for a book, no "returns," no charge.*
- *Ebooks Minnesota covers a wide variety of subjects, and features content from our state's independent publishers, including some of our best literature and nonfiction.*