

MORE Administrator's Report

March 2025 – MORE Directors Council

New Text Message Notification Service

In February, a new text messaging service for materials due soon, overdue materials, and holds ready for pickup became available to patrons. This is a handy new way for patrons to track their checkouts, and allows for quick renewal requests as well. Please continue to report problems and questions via the IFLS help desk.

MORE Server Migration

On Tuesday, March 25, MORE's servers, which are currently hosted locally and maintained by IFLS staff, will be migrated to a service hosted by our primary software vendor. This migration was approved by MORE Directors Council as part of the 2025 MORE budget, having recently become an affordable option for MORE. The migration will relieve IFLS and LEANWI tech staff of server maintenance and upgrade responsibilities. Many MORE-member libraries plan to close to the public that day, as no automated circulation or database functions will be operational during the migration. Connected services like Libby will also be unavailable to patrons that day.

2025 Innovative Users Group (IUG) Conference

From March 13th to 15th, staff from IFLS, L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, and New Richmond Public Library attended the annual Innovative Users Group Conference in Denver. The IUG Conference is always a good opportunity to share ideas and news among library users of the automation software in use by MORE. Watch for more detailed conference reports in TWAM.

2026 MORE Budget Preparation

In the coming months, IFLS staff will be working on preparing a 2026 budget for consideration and approval by MORE Directors Council in July. Each year, the consortium considers existing and new products and services to enhance users' access to shared resources and the library experience generally. Feel free to begin sending ideas for the 2026 budget to me now, and watch for a "budget preview" at the May Directors Council meeting.