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Export date: Fri Mar 29 2:12:00 2024 / +0000 GMT

Top librarian at St. John Paul II

By Bill Rea

When it comes to running a library, Carmen Condotta certainly knows her stuff.

She is the teacher librarian at St. John Paul II?Elementary School in Bolton, and she was recently named Teacher Librarian of the Year by the Ontario School Library Association (OSLA).

She said she received the award Feb. 2 at the OSLA's annual general meeting. She added she learned she had been nominated in November, and that she had won early in December.

Condotta said she was nominated by Lori McCannell, a retired colleague. The two job shared in the library at St. John Paul for about five years.

Condotta has been at the school for 30 years, and has been in the library the last 18.

She was somewhat taken aback by the award.

?I was honoured, I was humbled, I was grateful,? she remarked.

She also recalled attending presentations of this award over the years, hearing about previous winners ?and the amazing things that they do.?

Condotta said these are not easy times for school libraries, and some of them are closing, so she was glad to see they are getting recognition too.

She said she became involved in the school's library simply because the position came up.

?I love libraries,? she commented. ?I love books.?

?It's definitely been a wonderful ride,? she added.



Carmen Condotta holds her Teacher Librarian of the Year award from OSLA.