Is there a career path for library staff? Is there a professional development policy that can be followed to assist this? This paper will compare and contrast the career paths for all levels of staff employed in libraries in Australia and Canada. Librarians, library technicians, library assistants and library clerks can have career paths in libraries but there are many different ways this can be accomplished. These can include continuing professional development, in-house training and reading current literature. One of the most enjoyable ways is by networking both socially and professionally and this can be done by attending library related meetings, workshops and conferences.

The paper also mentions the differences and similarities between the library associations in Australia and Canada with regard to professional development. The author recently attended the Canadian Library Association Conference in Edmonton and will bring some highlights of the conference that deal with professional development and career development for library staff.