

Minutes

Nunavut Library Association (NLA) Meeting May 25, 2010

Present:

Rae-Lynne Aramburo
Carol Rigby
Jenny Thornhill
Carolyn Mallory
Katharine Tagak-Devries
Catherine Hoyt
Qingyi Su

Regrets:

Yvonne Earle
Philippa Ootoowak

1. The meeting started at approximately 7:40 with everyone agreeing on the Agenda as it was presented.
2. Library/member updates:

Justice library – Jenny’s summer student quit after one week of work – she is not expecting to hire another one. Summer project is inventory. The court will have a new website in the near future.

Coalition of libraries – Everything is up and running as it should be. The website catalogue is functional but NWMB, where the catalogue is hosted, is looking at redoing their website and this will include a revamping of the NWRCC website as well. Dates and costs yet to be determined.

Friends of Iqaluit Centennial Library – Catherine had many wonderful things to share. Friends are working closely with Ken and things are going well. AGM is tomorrow night (May 26, 2010). The Friends have a lot of volunteers and are running many programs for children and families. Storytime is doing particularly well with an increase in attendance. They have two summer students to run a summer reading program for children and it looks like it will be an exciting one! There is a book sale this Saturday in Iqaluit for those of you needing reading material.

Legislative Library – Carol is keeping things under control while Yvonne is on leave. She is looking forward to a challenging couple of weeks once the Leg is sitting. The technician position at the Legislative Library has been filled and the new tech arrives at the end of June. Carol is hoping to get some funding to do more cataloguing in Pond Inlet.

Nunavut Arctic College, Nunatta Campus Library – It’s quiet now that the students are done for the summer. The library will be closing on June 18th for the summer

although Rae-Lynne and Katharine will still be hard at work. They have hired a summer student to tackle a few jobs (digitization, map section, catalogue clean-up). Rae-Lynne is working on a report to see how the NAC library can better serve the Nunavut Research Institute once the new building is up and running. She is mostly looking at staffing options.

Iqaluit Centennial Library – Ken reiterated that things are working really well with the Friends of the library group. He emphasized the summer reading program. He also expressed his dismay that the acquisitions mode of Virtua has not been working well, and as a result, Baker Lake is not making any purchases for the foreseeable future. He is buying books when he can with locally raised funds.

3. Partnership update – Katharine participated in a meeting when she was in Ontario for OLA Conference. Issues such as the CNIB, the job board, and the Education Institute sessions were discussed. The same topics seem to come up time and time again at these meetings with no progress. Someone has agreed to take on the meetings for the next 3 years to see if this can be changed. The next Partnership meeting is in mid-August if anyone would like to attend. The trip is paid for. Carol sat in on a conference call re the Education Institute.

4. Newsletter –deadline was end of April. Rae-Lynne to verify with Leigh-Ann to see if any articles were submitted.

5. Website – Ken is updating the website with our minutes, etc. as he gets them. The email from the website goes to Ken and he redistributes questions and queries at his discretion. Thanks Ken!

6. Issues – Unicode and Amicus – Letter was sent and we received a reply thanking us for our concerns. Apparently the National Library and Archives Canada is well aware of the importance of Unicode to libraries and is taking it into consideration as it plans for the future.

- CNIB – letter was sent out with our concerns – no reply yet.

7. Meetings and conferences – Katharine was at OLA and found it quite large and not what she needed. The talks were not hands on or concrete enough. She preferred the Alberta Library Association meetings that she attended in the past. Rae-Lynne attended the Workshop on Instruction in Library Use. It was a small conference that offered some tips and suggestions that she will find useful when teaching classes for the college students. The rest of us stayed home!!

8. NLA President – Big title, few responsibilities. Yes, the title is up for grabs again as our fearless leader Rae-Lynne is expecting her second child in late September. There was no immediate action taken by those of us present because we wanted to give all the members in Nunavut a chance to step up and show their leadership skills! If you

want to become more involved, to lead the show in fact, please submit your name to Rae-Lynne.

9. Other business – RDA toolkit – Jenny wanted to know if any of the members were aware of costs of the new RDA toolkit and whether or not there were any training plans being made. A roundtable of the members present at the meeting lead us to the conclusion that there is not much information about prices or training yet. More to come in the near future, I'm sure!

- Unconference – Carol came across an article about “unconferences”, and will forward it on for the group’s consideration. While a formal, full-scale library conference is likely out of our reach as an association, perhaps a model for a smaller, flexible, and casual event, focused on topics of local interest/concern, could be considered for the NLA.

10. Next meeting – as per our usual casual decision making, we decided that our next meeting would be in the fall, with the new president setting the date and confirming with the group closer to that time.