

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

Present: Martha Maktar, Yvonne Earle, Riel Gallant, Katharine Tagak-Devries, Leigh Ann Cumming (by teleconference), Ron Knowling (by teleconference), and Carol Rigby (by teleconference)

1. Agenda

- CLA library month meeting & Participating in job/career fairs added to other business.

2. Library/Member Updates

Nunavut Public Library Services

- RFP for a new integrated library system is in the works with CGS.
- “Stealing” a booklet from the Manitoba Literacy Council to promote public library use across the territory which is aimed at young adults. This booklet will be published in all four official languages.
- Jeremy Clark is finishing the new Community Librarian Handbook that allows for the integration of video into the document. This will make the handbook more accessible to those who may have low literacy skills or other learning styles/needs.
- Getting ready for the summer reading program and has decided to go with British Columbia’s summer reading program this year. So far there has been high interest with seven libraries expressing interest in participating.
- Ron will be attending CLA next week.

NTI Library

- Riel Gallant has been in his position with NTI for 9 months and is still getting a feel for the job. Has been looking for ways to improve NTI’s website and to use it as a portal for a digital library.
- A lot of content has been digitized over the last three years. Riel has been doing an inventory and has discovered that some of the digitized documents could be improved as the document size is quite large and unmanageable for those with low internet speeds.
- Also trying to OCR some of the larger documents so that they are easier to discover and search through. Would like to put more content on the website.

Martha Maktar (Nunavut Arctic College)

- Since starting as the library assistant at NAC she has been observing and learning how to shelve, copy-catalogue, and search websites/databases. Has learned a lot by helping the students and public patron, and is still learning.

Nunavut Arctic College (Katharine Tagak-Devries)

- Martha Maktar has been working as a library assistant at Nunatta Campus since November, 2013. She has successfully interviewed for the position, and a job offer should be given to her next week.
- Currently working on hiring a casual staff member to work as library technician on a part-time basis at the Nunavut Research Institute library.

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

Was originally unable to staff the position using more formal methods, and has moved to hiring a CSA for the time being.

- Finished cataloguing the most recent donation from the American Shelf. Worked using a buddy system where Martha copied records from Amicus, and Katharine edited the records, and added them into Virtua.
- Attended the VTLS North American User Group meeting last week in Hamilton. Was a good learning experience, and was great to make physical contact with VTLS staff that we have all dealt with.

Carol Rigby

- Very busy with the Trustees Network at CLA.
- Still on contract with Yvonne and has been working on the electronic document repository. The repository continues to be populated, and close to 2000 documents have been digitized, loaded to the website, and catalogued in Virtua (and therefore is accessible from the OPAC).
- Will be attending the CLA conference in which she will be running the meeting for the Trustees Network, and attending technical services sessions.
- Went to OLA after the Partnership meeting, and was able to take a helpful course on cataloguing audiovisual materials using RDA.
- Currently developing protocols for cataloguing using RDA while maintaining the cataloguing guidelines for Inuktitut materials.
- Is working on an article that will be published in Cataloguing & Classification Quarterly on cataloguing in Inuktitut.
- Will be in Iqaluit at the end of June.

Leigh Ann

- March saw the end of her latest stint of book and DVD purchasing for position with the Department of Health. Now looking for the next funding opportunity to come her way.
- Finished her latest stint as Library Assistant with the Nunavut Arctic College in April.
- Was recognized by the Government of Nunavut and was awarded her 5 year long term service award.
- Chatting with Janice Linton at the University of Manitoba to see if any kind of partnership can be set up between them. Would like to tap into the resources at the University of Manitoba more than in the past.

Nunavut Legislative Library

- May marks Sylvia's second year with the Legislative Assembly, first as a casual and now as a full-time employee. Sylvia has started the library technician program with Mohawk College and is receiving financial support from the Legislative Assembly. She is also given mornings to work on her courses.
- Moving ahead with getting the Hansard bound, which is a project that is moving a little more quickly recently than it has in the past.

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

- Receiving more direct requests from MLA's with certain projects. The requests have been centered around older documents dealing with specific communities, which is more difficult to find.

3. Partnership Report

- a) Education Institute – Yvonne is still the representative for the Education Institute committee.
 - i. There was a royalties check in the amount of \$36 that is from NLA members taking courses from the Education Institute. Group decided to put the EI money towards web hosting which was originally paid for with previous royalties, but the full amount was not covered. Yvonne motioned that the money should go to Carol and Leigh Ann seconds the motion. Yvonne will give the money to Carol to cover her out of pocket fees.
 - ii. Concern has been expressed about some of the library associations not putting anything forward in the way of webinars and seminars for the Education Institute. Is there a webinar that somebody would like to present through the Education Institute? Yvonne would act as the liaison between the NLA and the EI.
 - iii. There hasn't been any NLA uptake in the webinars for the last six months or so. In fact, none of the territories have participated in the courses offered by the Education Institute recently. Yvonne was asked to find out if there was an issue with timing, content, and for any additional feedback as to why the NLA is not taking advantage of the EI courses.

Leigh Ann: No money in her budget for professional development.

Ron Knowling: Subscribes to similar notification services from the ALA and OCLC, both of which put more effort into their emails to make them more appealing/attractive.

Carol Rigby: Has not seen many topics of interest for anybody on the technical services side of the library. Not much relevant to what she is doing, but concedes that the programs offered are of interest to other parts of the library. She has attended EI sessions, but as a trustee, and as such the stats wouldn't show this. The majority of these programs are geared towards large libraries where you would have only one job day in and day out, not for the small staffed library where everybody does a bit of everything.

- b) January Partnership meeting report – Carol Rigby
 - The report written by Carol will be distributed via email.
 - Carol attended the Partnership meeting on behalf of the Nunavut Library Association in January, followed by the Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

- Stephen Abrams has been working on contract for the Ontario Library Association. He has been developing personas for workplace marketing (who your clients are and how you can characterize them).
 - The continuing education certificate has now finished its trial phase. You can now log-in and track which courses you have completed, and is similar to a portfolio, but doesn't go towards formal accreditation per se.
 - Nunavut was the only territory represented at the Partnership Meeting.
 - Most of the other library associations had reasonably positive reports, and libraries are on the upswing.
 - Funding for the Partnership meeting was discussed. Typically for the August retreat, the cost for two attendees (including accommodation) is covered, but an agreement was reached that the OLA will now only cover the cost for one attendee. Additional attendees will have their accommodation, etc. paid for by their respective library associations.
- c) Partnership summer retreat is taking place August 19th and 20th in Toronto. Will anybody be in Toronto around that time since the NLA does not have the funds available to send a person to the meeting?
- d) Ron Knowing is a reviewer for the Partnership Journal. His areas for peer review cover community development and rural libraries. He reviews grammar, ensures academic standards of writing are adhered to, the author's approach, and renders a verdict on whether the article is publishable as is, or if it needs revision.

4. Newsletter update, Leigh Ann Cumming.

- Defer to the fall for an issue since the only article received has been from Yvonne.

5. Website, Carol Rigby.

- Basic information for the NLA website has settled, and Carol has been able to add some pictures of the various libraries.
- The website is easy to maintain, and she checks the admin side of the site quarterly to remove spam comments, etc.
- Welcomes any additional material that could be added to the NLA site.
- Tries to keep the site up-to-date and has been posting blog items regarding advocacy in an effort to help the site remain current.
- The Partnership Store link should be updated, since there is already a link for the Partnership on the site.
- Could add social media links to the site such as Twitter, etc., but somebody else will have to take on the responsibility of this.

6. Issues

- a) Library and Archives Canada

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

- i. Library and Archives Canada has a new head, Guy Berthiaume, who will start at the end of June. He is neither a librarian nor archivist, but he comes from the position of CEO of BNAQ. Feeling in the library and archival community appears positive.
 - ii. Replacement National Union Catalogue for Amicus (Yvonne participated in the stakeholders meeting). There wasn't much movement until an announcement was in the Ottawa Citizen stating that there was going to be a move to OCLC. An April 16 stakeholders meeting was cancelled. Unsure whether the move towards OCLC is happening, or if everything is on hold until M. Berthiaume has settled in his position as head of LAC.
- b) RSC Expert Panel on Libraries and Archives in Canada
- There has been no word back on the RSC. Submission was received, but no summery report was ever put out.

7. Motion from Library Leaders Meetings

- NLA received a letter of invitation from the Canadian Association of Law Libraries. Yvonne attended by teleconference in the morning; sat in on the presentation by Wendy McCann.
- Put forth a positive message, try to build your relationships with the decision makers.
- Out of the meeting, there was a motion which was sent out to participating associations. Asks for NLA to vote on the motion, as to whether we wish to become a part of the advocacy mission. Motion for this meeting was sent to by email. Carol moved we discuss.
 - From Yvonne's perspective, we can't offer financial or staff support. We are a very small group, and of that small group, there is an even smaller number who respond to calls for support. We could not really support the mission, and would be a lame duck.
 - Leigh Ann agrees with Yvonne's statement that we wouldn't do any good if it we weren't fully able to commit.
 - As a GN employee, Ron felt that he has his hands tied in any direct advocacy role. The problems we face are quite different from those of the south. Any goals for the southern libraries might not be too effective up here.
 - Carol says there are useful things in the motion, and it would be good to be on a listserv to keep an eye on what's happening. Advocacy efforts are much more hands on and close up here in the north than in other areas. If agreeing to the motion means that this is a good idea, it might be the way to go, but if agreeing means we're running with it, it wouldn't be so great.
 - Yvonne – support of the motion means we would be expected to be an active participant.
 - We decide that we cannot be a full participant, but would be interested in being kept informed.

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

Yvonne will send our response.

8. Reports from Meetings/Conferences

a) VTLS North American User Group Meeting

- Katharine attended the VTLS North American User Group meeting that was held in Hamilton May 7-9.
- Unfortunately all the training and updates were based on the version of Virtua that most libraries are running, which are versions 2013.2 or 2014.1 while NLA is running on 2012.2.2.
- Vinod Chachra, founder of VTLS Inc. indicated that the company is moving towards Open Skies, which combines each of the various VTLS programs (Virtua, Vita, FasTrac, Chamo, MozGo). Open Skies will present a single system image that can:
 - i. Manage print, digital, e-books, and databases
 - ii. Support both XML and MARC data
 - iii. Mobile apps
 - iv. Support linked data
 - v. Support FRBR, RDA, and BibFrame.
- There are several new options available, especially regarding holds within the latest versions of Virtua.

b) Pre-CLA

- Carol has a pretty full agenda scheduled with her two sessions that she is hosting in addition to the sessions she plans on participating in.
- Carol is unsure whether she will attend the LAC sessions since their descriptions are quite similar to the sessions they offered at the OLA Super Conference.
- Ron's intentions are to focus on sessions involved with digitizing and programming.

9. Other business.

- CLA library month committee.
 - CLA has a library month committee, and they start in November planning the next year's library month. Ron has been sitting on it since he came up north 7 years ago. Has been thinking that somebody else might like to take it over. Involves one meeting a month. Nunavut representative's job includes the making of Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun poster and bookmarks translation. Nunavut Public Library Services is happy to continue paying for the translations, and distributing the posters and bookmarks.
- Participating in job and career fairs.
 - Yvonne has realized that there are all the Skills Canada and job fairs going on. We should participate, and show the young people that libraries are good places to work and that we have something to offer. Would the association like to get our name in there?

NLA Meeting – May 20, 2014

- Ron has been asked to participate in career days, and has indeed participated.
- Carol wonders if we could do up a generic NLA brochure that could be handed out during job fairs. Always good to have a take-away. There is a display that could show the media, technology, but the pamphlet could be a take away.
- Martha grew up hearing that libraries are boring, but when Martha got into the library she saw what all it had to offer, so people are misinformed.
- We need to promote the libraries, and get people interested. Yvonne believes this is a better use of our energy than advocacy groups.
- Carol thinks YouTube videos could be good in English, Inuktitut, etc., and she would be happy to make a pamphlet, and will try to have it completed by the spring.

10. Next meeting – October/November, 2014.