



Nunavut Library Association

**Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2014
Nunavut Legislative Library
7:30 pm ET**

1. Opening

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 and the agenda was adopted. Participating:

- Yvonne Earle, NLA President & Chair, Nunavut Legislative Librarian
- Robert Rao, Records Manager, Qulliq Energy Corp.
- Carol Rigby, Contract Cataloguer
- Katharine Tagak-DeVries, Manager, Nunavut Arctic College Library
- Jenny Thornhill, Nunavut Court of Justice Law Librarian
- Leigh-Ann Cumming, Staff Development and Information Coordinator, Dept. of Health
- Ron Knowling, Manager, Nunavut Public Library Services (by teleconference)
- Helen Halbert, Resource Centre Librarian, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (by teleconference)
- Martha Maktar, Nunavut Arctic College library (could not remain for full meeting)

Carol agreed to record the minutes

2. Library/member updates

Leigh-Ann reported that she was back working part-time at the NAC campus library in Cambridge Bay for the eighth year. The library is not being used in the evenings but more students are using it during the day. The library is on the opposite side of the town from the student residence, and there are still some cultural obstacles to use.

At Health Services, the information services will have their official launch soon. She is also working on terminology training.

Katharine described summer projects at NAC Nunatta Campus Library. Martha went through their northern collection, ensuring consistent labelling and proper identification as part of the collection, shelf-reading and doing an inventory check. They found incorrectly shelved and missing material. A new outreach program is a monthly draw, using popular word-based games as prizes. Any borrowers get their name in a draw to win a game, and their names are posted on the library website. This appears to have more than doubled monthly circulation year to year. The college student dynamic is shifting to more younger students. Instructors make a significant difference in how the library is used. A big fall event was the launch on the 4th of William Lyall's biography, at the Ventures Co-op Store. A companion event was held at the library, and the NAC library obtained signed copies for all of its branches.

A position is now being posted for the library at the Nunavut Research Institute. It is a 3-year term, part-time.



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Helen introduced herself as the new librarian at the ITK resource centre in Ottawa. She is beginning work on setting up the resource centre, looking at space requirements, opportunities within existing, organization space, developing policies and procedures for sifting through boxes of material. She is doing a lot of background reading and research, talking to people about ILSs and cataloguing and classification principles for Inuit materials.

A special project is the ECE development collection, a project that has been building for a few years. There is a need for coordination of Inuit-specific child development materials, so ITK staff are working on finding resources and are looking at digital library systems. They hope eventually to be able to go into schools and digitize actual teachers' materials.

Jenny was welcomed back after a year on education leave. Her Masters of Law diploma has just arrived. She is working extensively with Clare Henderson, the executive legal officer, on content information for judges. A new website is being worked on for the Court Library, and they are in the process of verifying content before going live. She did a major inventory five years ago and it is now time to do another one. She is also working on a cataloguing backlog that goes back a number of years.

Robert started in mid-September as Records Manager at QEC; the position is currently casual and QEC is looking to turn it into an indeterminate position. There has been no records management function at QEC to date so he likened the job to trying to decide which bite of the elephant to take first. He is working on records inventory, an implementation plan, and a strategic plan, and has to determine how to implement the GN ARCS system, develop an operational records classification system, and serve as liaison with CGS who are responsible for GN records archiving. He also has to determine the legal requirements for records keeping, since QEC is a crown corporation and not a government department.

Ron reported for NPLS and also Iqaluit Centennial Library; Dan Galway in Iqaluit sent regrets. The new RFP for a new ILS for NPLS is now out, receiving bids and queries. They are looking for a general public license for the system (i.e. open source). Tenders close November 10, and then evaluation and negotiation will start. He is also negotiating a contract for an operational review of NPLS by the end of the fiscal year. This is particularly needed due to changes in technology and in library operations in recent years. In the new fiscal year, a new set of policies will be applied to the contribution agreements for community libraries, relaxing restrictions on the use of some funds so that they can also be used for programming and for capital assets, to maintain the quality of community library spaces. Ron still has only one clerk with him in Baker Lake. Jeremy, the recent community services librarian, has returned to Ontario and now has a baby girl, Greta, one month old.

Iqaluit Centennial is starting a project to RFID the book collection; they will be going to RFID checkout and self-checkout—the biggest new thing. They are also the proud owner of a 3D printer and 3D scanner. There will soon be staff turnover as current staff have found full-time work elsewhere. They are trying to obtain an increase in staffing level to meet increased demand for services. Circulation has tripled in the last few years. In the past year they also experienced challenges with unruly and violent patrons so are working with HR and Health and Safety to develop appropriate lockdown procedures and ensure staff support. More traffic in the library means more of both good and bad patrons. As a result they will also be rolling out new policies for all NPLS libraries, for example with regards to records checks.



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Carol reported that she is still working with the Legislative Library as their cataloguer, with a particular focus on the e-doc repository. She continues to make a few site visits each year, with the remainder of the work being done from her home office in Maberly, Ont. Under the direction of Yvonne she has also been working on developing RDA workforms for the Virtua system, and will be meeting with the Leg, NAC and Court librarians about adopting RDA as a cataloguing standard and sharing these workforms. She has also been contacted by the Pond Inlet Library and Archives Society to continue work on cataloguing their northern and Inuktitut collection, which will probably start later this year or early in 2015. She continues to be busy with volunteer activity as a Library Board member in Perth, as the moderator of the CLA Trustee Network, and as the NLA website maintainer. As well, she has had an article accepted for publication in Cataloguing and Classification Quarterly's special issue on indigenous cataloguing, describing Nunavut cataloguing standards for Inuit language materials. This is due to be published mid-2015

Yvonne noted that the Legislative Library is reducing its TD holdings from two copies to one for the First and Second Assemblies, to make more shelf space. The duplicate copies have been pulled and delinked by Sylvia but are being held in case a digitization project is initiated. The Assembly is considering moving to e-tabling of all documents in the future, Yvonne has been charged with working out systems for posting documents to the Assembly website and other tracking procedures, coordinating with the Clerk's office and EIA. The experience of other legislative libraries, e.g. in the NWT, is that once they move to e-tabling, public demand for documents is almost instant. She also indicated that the disks for the next upgrade for the Virtua ILS have not yet been received.

3. Partnership report

- Education Institute – Yvonne is still the Nunavut representative for EI. The big initiative now is to find mentors to participate in the Continuing Education Certificate program, being managed by Lou Duggan. She also noted that the CLA Digest is now carrying ads for EI courses.
- Partnership report (August) – There was no Nunavut representation at the August Partnership retreat this year. They are still working on ongoing financial sustainability for the collective.
- Partnership Meeting – The next meeting will be held January 27, 2015, before the OLA Super Conference. The President of CLA has also requested a half day meeting with The Partnership on January 31. We are looking for representation. **ACTION:** Ron indicated that he would likely be attending OLA and could represent.
- Journal – The Partnership Journal is looking for a new editor, on the retirement of David Fox. This is a substantial commitment.

4. Newsletter

Leigh Ann indicated that she only received a couple of submissions for the last newsletter call, so we have slipped a year. **ACTION:** A new appeal for material will go out with a target to publish in mid-January.

5. Website

Carol indicated that the status has not changed much since her last report. The website is working well, and descriptions of libraries are now fuller, but she is always looking for more



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material to post. Anyone who has anything to contribute is welcome to send it to her at cerigby@xplornet.com. Yvonne transferred the funds received as royalties from EI for this year to Carol to cover the WordPress hosting fees, as was previously agreed by NLA members.

ACTION: She will add the ITK resource centre to the website blogroll the next time she updates the site.

NLA's e-mail (Gmail account) is posted regularly to Yvonne and she acts on it as required.

6. Issues

- Library & Archives Canada
 - National Union Catalogue—there has been strong push-back from the library community about using OCLC to provide the NUC, particularly with regard to the ownership and sharing of records and the issue of cost. There has been a lot of discussion on the CLA Technical Services Network listserv about this and Carol forwards information when relevant to Nunavut concerns. LAC now appears to be listening more.
 - New Librarian and Archivist: Guy Berthiaume has been making a strong effort to reach out to the library and archives communities and other groups. He is encouraging LAC staff to be part of the professional network and communications from LAC have a much better tone. Helen indicated that colleagues of hers with contacts in LAC say it appears to moving in a much better direction.
- RSC Expert Panel on Libraries and Archives in Canada will be releasing its report on November 14th. We made a submission to the panel.
- Government of Canada Open Government and Open Data initiatives—CLA has responded to these, expressing concern about the loss of information from websites that have been taken down and with the quality of government data given the recent cuts to Statistics Canada.

7. Reports from Meetings / Conferences

- CLA: Carol, Ron and Rob all attended CLA in Victoria in May. Ron described a sense of doom pervading the conference, as CLA appears to be an association without a mandate. There were several discussions and sessions on the future of CLA. His take is that we need a national library organization to act as a voice for libraries and librarians across the country. It will have to be reinvented with more purpose and a strengthened mandate. There are lots of other co-op projects such as The Partnership, but that is OLA-heavy and is not an advocacy group. Yvonne noted that CLA is doing a better job in the last couple of years of keeping members informed about their work. Carol indicated that the CLA Networks are still finding their feet but are worthwhile for cross-country contact. Also, it appears that CLA will be changing its conference approach next year to be more of a convention, allowing for more networking opportunities. The network meetings and opportunities to discuss issues with peers are the most useful part of the conference in her view.
- APLIC-ABPAC – Yvonne attended APLIC in Regina this year, her first time to visit there. Discussion centred around the overwhelming amount of information they have to cope with, and how to target this effectively to lawmakers and their support staff. A repeated theme was that despite new technology and a proliferation of



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apps, personal contact with the client makes the most difference—it's very important to be a known and trusted source of information.

- CALL: Rob attended CALL on behalf of the Court Library while Jenny was on leave, and she attended as a student. Rob described the generally uncomfortable relationship between law librarians and vendors, particularly wondering why there could not be electronic subscriptions to law looseleaf materials, which involve high cost, low volume use and a lot of work to maintain. Jenny noted a conversation she was part of, discussing whether to drop the term “librarians” from the association name—this is an ongoing issue in the wider library world. The group discussed the importance of maintaining the concept of “library” and “librarian” in a world overwhelmed by data and “information managers” (which can mean almost anything).

8. Other business

- Books with no Bounds: Yvonne received an e-mail through the NLA from two sisters who have been collecting books to send places. They are very persistent, well organized, and have materials to send to Nunavut that are in good condition and appropriate for their targets, young children. They need a distribution point. **ACTION:** Ron will chat with Dan and see if Iqaluit Centennial can do something; they are planning to be networking with the daycares. Helen is also interested in mapping out potential partners. Katharine noted that the ECE program is running at NAC again.
- Translation of NLA name for website: Carol feels that the association needs to have at least its name translated into the Nunavut official languages for the website. She presented some translation options for Inuktitut and French. Inuinnaqtun is also needed. The general preference is for a name that refers to libraries, not librarians. Katharine indicated that Martha could review the Inuktitut options. **ACTION:** Carol will forward her list to Katharine to start the process. Ron will take the recommended Inuktitut and French names and have them reviewed by the translation bureau at Culture and Heritage, and get a Inuinnaqtun translation.
- New President for NLA: Yvonne is looking at retirement in the not-too-distant future, and is ready to hang up her hat as President. Chief responsibilities are to monitor e-mail, maintain the listserv, call meetings, and coordinate Partnership correspondence. The item was left on the table but she would like someone to come forward to allow for time to pass on information and have a smooth transition before she retires. It was generally agreed that it would be best to have a Nunavut resident as president.

9. Next meeting

Next meeting is tentatively planned for sometime in the spring.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20.