



Winter 2016 Retreat Notes

Tuesday, January 26th

Meeting at OLA office, Toronto **8:30 – 4:30pm**

Wednesday, January 27th

Board Introductions at the **6:45pm Super Conference Keynote**

Attendees:

Chair, The Partnership, Susan Cleyle	scleyle@mun.ca
Chair, Education Committee, Lou Duggan	lou.duggan@smu.ca
Editor, The Partnership Journal, Robin Bergart	rbergart@uoguelph.ca
OLA Member Services, Beckie MacDonald	bmacdonald@accessola.com
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ABQLA Sonia Smith, President	Sonia.Smith@mcgill.ca
ABQLA Leticia Cuenca, Vice President	leticiacuenca@gmail.com
APLA Lynn Somers, President	somerslm@gov.ns.ca
APLA, Suzanne van den Hoogen, Vice President	svandenh@stfx.ca
BCLA Caroline Daniels, President	Caroline.Daniels@kpu.ca
BCLA Annette DeFaveri, Executive Director	execdir@bcla.bc.ca
LAA Peter Bailey, 1st Vice President	1stvicepresident@laa.ca
MLA Alix-Rae Stefanko, President	AStefanko@winnipeg.ca
NLLA Amanda Tiller-Hackett, President	atiller@mun.ca
NSLA Cindy Lelliot, President	president@nsla.ca
NSLA Ann-Marie Mathieu, Vice President	vice.president@nsla.ns.ca
NULA Leigh Ann Cumming, Newsletter Editor	LCumming@gov.nu.ca
NWTLA no representative	
OLA Shelagh Paterson Executive Director	spaterson@accessola.com
OLA Jane Hilton, President	janehilton.ca@gmail.com
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SLA Michael Shires, VP Membership and Pubs	michael.shires@uregina.ca
SLA Judy Nicholson, Executive Director	slaexdir@sasktel.net
YLA Mairi MacRae	mairi.macrae@gov.yk.ca
(Guest) CLA, Valoree McKay, Executive Director	vmckay@cla.ca
(Guest) CLA, Sandra Singh, President	Sandra.Singh@vpl.ca
(Guest) CELA, Michael Ciccone, Executive Director	Michael.Ciccone@celalibrary.ca
(Guest) Anita Brooks-Kirkland	anitabk@bythebrooks.ca

Introduction

- Susan Cleyle (Chair) welcomed everyone
- Quick introductions around the room
- Thanks to OLA for hosting
- Reviewed the agenda for the retreat
- Explained format for the Rapid Fire session

Rapid Fire Part 1 – Association Updates

- **YLA**
 - YLA is a very informal association with no membership fees. There are about 25 members, with more than ½ of those working in public libraries.
 - There are some new people involved in the association and there is an appetite for some new development.
 - There was a meeting held at Whitehorse public library in the spring of 2015. This was the first meeting in about 5 years. Hoping to meet 3 times a year moving forward.
 - Members have taken part in some events
 - At a comic book conference
 - Literacy Crawl during a fall conference that promoted much better collaboration between libraries.
 - Plans to present at a career fair, and to write a newsletter column
 - There is optimism as new librarians seem to be coming to the Yukon
- **NSLA**
 - 153 members, many joint members with APLA and NSALT (library techs). Also some students.
 - Joint conference was held in fall 2015 with libraries, archives, and museums (and library boards).
 - Halifax public library hosted the opening reception
 - 240 attendees.
 - Content was heavy on collaboration
 - This shared conference will not be annual, but will happen again.
 - 2 professional development projects will be funded this year by NSLA. One is a personal PD project and another is for development of a storytelling tour.
 - Solid financial position
 - 2016 conference will be in Pictou. Theme will be “A sense of place”. Focussing on the 5 senses and the concept of place.
 - Some trouble recruiting people for executive positions, specifically for continuing education.
 - Past president Trecia Schell worked on the CLA futures group.

- **APLA**

- 292 members / 52 student / 40 lifetime
- The 2016 conference that was in jeopardy has turned around.
 - Health Theme
 - 2 keynotes
 - Unique entertainment (hypnotist)
 - Partnership board offered a break on registration
- DNO insurance is moving ahead.
- Advertising the association and the conference at other conferences as much as possible (OLA, NSLA, Information Without Borders, etc.)
- Undergoing a review of grants, and of communications.
- Do Partnership associations have concerns about keeping membership databases on servers outside the country? APLA would like some feedback on this.
- CRA was asking APLA about its charitable status. Not sure why APLA got this as the paperwork seemed to be in order. CRA may have had internal communications issues?
- Advocacy committee has some concern over the recent LAC survey and its focus on print collections – with no mention of electronic.
 - Norman Charbaneau is at SC and might be approached on this subject

- **NLLA**

- 108 members / joint memberships with APLA, library techs / only one student
- Have been working on organizing recordkeeping
- 2015 did a joint conference with APLA and the LTAIG library tech conference was also held on adjoining days.
- 1 advocacy letter written re. Hiring non-MLS staff for librarian positions in NLPL.
- Conference planning is underway for 2016
- A large turnover in executive positions this year
 - Lib tech position was vacant but now is filled
 - Professional Development position is vacant
 - Krista Godfrey will take on the President role.

- **LAA**

- Christine Sheppard sends her regrets
- 825 members / mostly public libraries
- The big story in AB is the pace of change in the leadership positions
 - New CEO for both EPL and CPL
 - New UL and new Chair of the Library School at U. Alberta
 - New NDP Government at the provincial level and 4 Liberal MPs at the federal level. Overall the mood is optimistic.
 - Libraries moved to municipal affairs
- LAA is still trying to shift to a model with divisions like OLA. There has been resistance from the Trustees.

- Conference in Jasper theme this year is "Shake it Up". It's the 2nd biggest conference in Canada for libraries. Su Cleyle will be doing a pre-conference on coaching. Friday keynote will be "Choir! Choir! Choir!"
- **ABQLA**
 - 262 members / 130 are students
 - Sonia wants to write a paper on the benefit of student members
 - Advocacy
 - for school library cuts – 8 positions were reinstated!!
 - For government library cuts
 - PQ used to have a big conference shared by many associations but this year the normal revenue stream is not there. There was very low attendance and every association in PQ lost revenue.
 - 84th annual conference (will normally get 200 attendees) - "Libraries Moving Forward" May 4th in Montreal. Closing keynote will be Allister Chang, Executive Director of Libraries without borders.
- **SLA**
 - 149 individual members / 33 institutional
 - Lots of engagement in committee work and lots of interest in executive positions – even having elections!
 - Changes to membership fees that will be now based on salary. Some retirements caused a decrease in numbers, a membership drive will be coming this year.
 - Examining all programs and looking to take on new programming.
 - E.g. 1 book Sask although there is little funding to develop it
 - The book spine poetry contest was a big success with 1100 entries
 - Conference
 - Indigenization / creativity
 - Signing of an agreement of support for government support for libraries at the conference.
 - The 2017 conference will be the 75th anniversary
 - Price Waterhouse grant for leadership training for board members
 - Still working on a diversity plan, making progress
 - Refreshing the website.
- **MLA**
 - 57 members / 13 are institutional
 - Moved the AGM to the late fall
 - 2015 was a year of reflection - Looking at communications and member benefits
 - Manitoba Libraries Working Group
 - MLA / M School LA / Trustees / Technicians / Consortium
 - New model to bring them all together, and then to have divisions. Many people are on board. The province has been granting to each separately. Soliciting legal

advice as needed to work through legalities of dissolving individual associations and becoming one.

- Tourism and culture in the province are looking to modernize and increase arts, with mention of libraries. Requested a library sector member on the planning committee (will be WPL director).
- Conference will be May 4-6. 80th anniversary. Fred Penner and Sandra Hirsch will be keynotes.
- 2 scholarships offered totaling \$15K
- Still supporting "CM Reviews"
- Prison libraries community is still strong.
- **BCLA**
 - 900 members. Change within the numbers with an increase in mid-career academic librarians, but drop off in public library sector.
 - This makes the association change gears a bit to focus on how to get public library membership up again.
 - Seeing the polarization between traditional and non-traditional approaches to different issues. There is more voice on how people see the future. ¾ of the membership don't seem to like whatever you do.
 - Finances are good
 - 3 year strategic plan has been passed.
 - Advocacy has been a challenge. The education ministry is always hard because because in BC teachers tend to take up all the air time. The current deputy minister wants regular contact with libraries which is good. And having a consistent message and sticking to a strategic plan is difficult when an election is upcoming.
 - Conference in May with the theme "Disrupt and Transform"
 - Not a training-based program, more based on ideas, discussion and debate. The conference has done well like this so it will keep going. Harsha Walia will be a keynote.
 - A Provincial Digital library was announced by the Department of Transportation. The Post-secondary institutions had been leading the way, but they want to get public libraries involved. Not sure BCLA's way forward on this.
- **NULA**
 - 26 members / 10 active / government and public libraries and reps from 2 national Inuit organizations. No membership fees.
 - Yvonne Earle retired, creating a major gap in the network and corporate memory. Some people are stepping up to take on roles in the association.
 - Informal meetings in Iqaluit over dinner.
 - Rotating deputy ministers has been a challenge.
 - Only 10 communities of 25 have libraries, so it is hard to service everyone.
 - UofM has helped with library services and health information services.
- **OLA**

- 4850 members
- Focussing on advocacy
 - Looking at community hubs place din old schools and libraries.
 - Need an integrated planning process
- Provincial government is looking for 'bang for the buck' when distributing support for programming n cultural institutions, OLA spoke up for libraries there.
 - Focus on e-resources for all students because province needs a strategy to consortium purchase for school libraries.
 - Review of the public library act. OLA wants to keep it the same as it is.
- Internal review recommends keeping the governance and divisions the same.
- AGM 2017 will move to take place during SC rather than in June.
- Had a library day in Queen's Park in October
- Messaging libraries as 'critical infrastructure', and as cultural organizations.
- New task group for Inuit and metis services – OLA is looking for advice on running this and direction.
- **Rapid Fire wrap from the Chair**
 - 7680 members total across Canada that are represented around the table
 - There is a theme of calmness – a lot less anxiety over finances and membership numbers than previous years.
 - People are talking about new revenue streams while being responsive to members.
 - Conferences are hipper and better than ever
 - Associations are working together with other groups in their respective regions.

Library Marketplace

- Formerly the OLA Store – rebranded in December, 2015.
- More modern website
- More inclusive across the country – Not just OLA!
- A wide variety of products for sale
- Staff will work with Partnership Associations or any individual libraries to purchase items
 - Will help source swag for conferences and other branded items
 - Preferred rates, shipping discount, returns for remainders!
- Question: Can Associations sell at their conferences without an HST number?
 - Yes, if you sell less than \$30,000/year you are exempt from requiring an HST#
- Library Marketplace also offers generalized member pricing – 10% off for every membrr of Partnership Associations.
- A Perks program will be coming soon
- How should this member benefit be better communicated to the Associations and members?

Communications and Promotions Committee

- New document distributed "Welcome to the Partnership". Please take the time to orient your new executive members to the Partnership. This new document is not meant to replace the backgrounder, which has more detail. Perhaps the title should be "Fact Sheet".
- Terms of Reference
 - Mandate to ensure regular and consistent messages
 - Identifying needs and resources
- How are people communicating now? Some are using the listserv, some newsletters, and other vehicles in their associations.
- This is now an official committee.
 - For now the communications will continue via the Partnership listserv.
 - Next this committee will work on processes for outgoing communications
 - ACTIVITY: List in 2 minutes the things you would like this committee to do
 - Calendar for events
 - Work with associations to help promotions to individual members
 - Inventory of skill sets
 - Check on branding regularly
 - Establish workflows for communications
 - Kit creation for consistency
 - One place to look for promotions stuff
 - Use social media e.g. facebook
 - Scanning internal communications plans
 - Between meetings there is a lack of communications.
 - Brand the email listserv better in the subject line

Loan stars

- Michael Ciccone bringing the message of this CULC initiative
- It is like a "Library Reads" program for Canada.
- Digital copies will come pre-publication for librarians so they can read ahead for time and use the reviews and recommendations for reader's advisory.
- Booknet Canada is doing the infrastructure.
- CULC can get the larger libraries, but the Partnership is being asked to get the medium to small libraries to join the initiative.
- Will have a booth at the SC.
- Pre-pubs would be delivered through library app
- "Showcase" for readers' advisory skills of librarians.
- QUESTION: doesn't this primarily help publishers promote while draining work from libraries. What is the benefit for libraries?
 - Very positive for small libraries
 - Positive for collections librarians

PERKOPOLIS

- New rate for goodlife fitness for all library association members.

CLA Update

- Valoree McCay and Marie DeYoung (Sandra Singh sends her regrets).
- CLA members please attend the special general meeting at SC. Members of stakeholders groups should be there too.
- Bittersweet to be taking about the potential demise of a national association, but exciting to talk about what the future could hold.
- Hoping for lots of discussion at the meeting.
- CLA members must register to vote. And the vote must pass in each membership category.
- Depending on the vote result CLA will either dissolve in June or keep going as best they can.
- There will be an event in Ottawa in June 1-3.
 - Curated sessions around policy topics
 - Aim to help new federation move forward.
- 10% needed for quorum
- Need to wrap up business of the association, especially charitable assets before it can dissolve. Charitable funds need to be transferred with awards to somewhere else.. The destinations are unsure at this point. Also need to stop any potential revenue streams.
- A few programs like RDA, the shipping tool, etc. Will need to be transferred – maybe to the new federation and maybe elsewhere.
 - What about LAC? - there are certain things they cannot take on as a government entity, like advocacy.
 - If there is dissolution a new board would be put in place by the working group.
- Question from CLA to the Partnership: Will the partnership associations be there moving forward?
 - BCLA – Yes. People expressed sadness in the demise of CLA but seem excited for new ideas and opportunities.
 - Q did BC need approval of its members? No, but others may need that. It should be defined by the bylaws of each association.
 - It is not necessary that all associations be in from the start, however that is when decisions will be made.
 - Final governance questions (like shared regional seats, may need to be worked out.
 - Associations will retain autonomy and send the representative they want.
 - OLA got an indication from their members that they should join.
 - SLA feedback is a Yes.
 - The northern associations may see this as an opportunity to make one larger northern association.
- Most worrisome things:
 - CLA existing programs can't fall through the cracks.
 - If the vote is positive for dissolution then no more new work can be started until the federation begins. There will be a gap.

- Website be passed on? Yes at least for the short-term.
- The payoff for individuals is good – as individual members used to pay \$200 each to CLA.
- If the vote is negative for dissolution then a new executive will be required for CLA
- Other associations could join the federation, but probably would not achieve a board seat. Anyone can be a member but only multitype associations can get a board seat?
- Being on the board could potentially be a lot of work, especially in the first 3 years.
- All of these governance issues are not official. What would the term be? Would board members need to be executive members of the associations or could they be a separate person nominated to fill this role?

National School Library Association

- A paper was circulated prior to the meeting
- The school library group hasn't responded yet to the paper.
- The issue is that the new federation of CLA would not allow for a seat for groups like the school librarians (not multitype association).
- Historically the school librarians have had a national group and need a home for existing programs like treasure mountain etc..
- Individuals in school libraries are often tied to unions or government and therefore can't advocate without conflict.
- No decisions were made on this topic.

Job Board

- A report was circulated.
- someone approached the job board asking for 10 years of data. BCLA said no. It is a service and a tool but not an archive or analysis tool.
- The new website caused a drop in subscribers, but numbers are coming back.
- Time consuming to run this service.
- Possibly needs more communications.
- July-Sep 2015 was the peak activity of all time on the job board.

Journal

- Report distributed
- 10th anniversary so a special issue is coming up in July. Related to the history and future of libraries.
- Cover design contest coming.
- EBLIP is doing a history piece (advised to get Jennifer Richard to help with this).
- Poster session fridat at SC.
- There will be a survey as part of a research project on the value of library-related journals.
- Kudos for getting DOIs and Orchid IDs!
- Moving to scholars portal.

EI / CEC

- Report distributed
- How long do recorded sessions stay up? Guaranteed a year, possibly longer.
- Please put the word "library" on the CEC certificate
 - FOLLOW UP: This is done.
- "Bright Young Minds" series of EI talks – please help recruit good young speakers. Students and new grads.

New Ideas?

- Shared costs on things we all purchase
 - e.g Lanyards for our conferences. Could we Partnership brand these kinds of things and share the cost via the Library marketplace? Or possibly work together to get a vendor to supply?
 - ACTION: Lou and Annette will look in to this idea
- Get a big name speaker and send them on tour?
- If associations are making resources to support refugees please share!

Wrap up from the Chair and Adjournment

- Next retreat date should be August 16-17th.
 - OLA will fund accommodations and transportation for one rep (with a limit for the northern travellers.)
 - Associations are encouraged to send another rep if possible.
 - There will be some kind of professional development opportunity.
- Thanks to OLA!