

The Partnership Meeting Report
January 29, 2013
08:45 - 17:00 hours
OLA Headquarters, Toronto

Topics for the Day

- Introductions made around the table.
- Association updates:
 1. NLA - Fall meeting via teleconference
 - New website created on Word Press after being located on the National Adult Literacy Database website for the past couple of years
 - Fall newsletter completed late last year
 - Concerns over government limits on e-mail attachments, blocking of social media website and filtering. Letter to be drafted to address this concern on behalf of the Nunavut Library Association.
 2. OLA - Governance review to be done
 - Need to strengthen advocacy. A committee is being established to look at this.
 - There is a new OLA store.
 - Looking at strategic planning.
 - Debate over renovating their current association office space or moving. The current lease is up in July and the space is not functional.
 3. QLA - Association now able to offer "insurance deals" to members
 - Conducted professional development days on marketing libraries
 - There is a resolution in place to offer free membership to students
 - Annual conference is May 9, 2013
 - Updating by-laws
 - Creating job descriptions for board members
 4. APLA - Conducted a membership drive, increase of 20%
 - Concerns over member retention
 - Raised money for "Grow a library" in Ethiopia
 - Created a new advocacy group

- 2013 conference in Charlottetown in May; 2014 Conference in Moncton
 - 5. NSLA - Profitable conference in September 2012, but attendance down
 - Study underway - rural focus with an emphasis on public libraries
 - 6. SLA - May conference planned
 - Need to find a new executive director
 - Redoing by-laws
 - New website under development (?),
 - Saskatchewan Library Week a success
 - 7. LAA - New logo being designed
 - Restructuring their conference. They are no longer co-sponsoring with the trustee association (it is in flux).
 - 8. NLLA - Looking inward this year - looking at constitution and a strategic plan
 - Looking at joint membership with APLA
 - 9. MLA - Full board now
 - They have a prison library committee at Winnipeg Remand Centre; weekly open library; been contacted to assist with the development of a program at a women's prison
 - Looking at 'merged' association with all Manitoba library associations
 - 10. BCLA - Hired a new executive director
 - \$40,000 surplus for 2012-2013
 - Successful conference
 - Strategic document in place
 - May conference planned
 - New website underway
- Values and Your Library Association by Mike Ridley, University of Guelph

Mike spoke on several points regarding this issue. They included:

- An organization's values need to be defined and then used
- Values are "attitudinal" and "contextual"; they are revealed, not written
- Organizational values may differ from individual values; a person's values may have to be pushed aside

- Associations need to move from an advocacy role to an activism role
- Does your association budget support your values?
- Does your governance model reflect your values?

The second part of this presentation featured a break out session. Each of the four groups was given a "question" that challenged their association values. They were asked how they would respond to each situation. Groups reported back to the main group upon reassembly.

- Certification Pilot

- This pilot ran for two years in Alberta; based on an Australian model.
- A point system was developed. Participants in the pilot program would have three years to earn 120 points (various points attributed to each course).
- This pilot allowed people to track their continuing education.
- It is a lifelong learning support tool activity.
- It does not "certify" people.
- There needs to be a web based database created.
- There also needs to be "library" and "Partnership" somewhere in the branding.

- Education Institute

- Low attendance rates led to the decrease in cost to attend the sessions
- Decline in some provinces attendance rates
- Survey results indicated a need for more library technician courses
- CLA is now offering webinars, but this is a Partnership function. Some discussion with CLA may be needed to ask about their future plans to deliver webinars.

- CLA - Kelly Moore, from Ottawa

- Bylaws have been updated.
- New executive council started in January 2013. They participated on a "Hill Day" with MPs; discussed cuts to Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and copyright law.

- Questions about the cuts to LAC have been drafted for Dr. Caron (of LAC) to answer.
 - Feliciter is now on-line
 - Institutional membership rates have been revamped
 - Discounts for personal membership
 - Now offering webinars - this came from networks (special interest networks,) to meet their demands
 - CLA Conference is in Winnipeg; advocacy will be a large topic including a preconference "Advocacy Boot camp" session.
- Partnership Journal - David Fox
 - Two issues this year.
 - The University of Guelph hosts the Journal.
 - The Journal is close to a creating a licencing agreement with Gale for content.
 - There is concern over the lack of "French" content.
 - Recruitment for positions was underway. Interest for the Editor position from Barb Kelly of BC
 - There is a question around revenue generation - how to do this? Advertisement? Sponsorship? The business editor would have to develop a business plan.
- Partnership and Education Institute Web Presence - Shelagh Paterson & Sandra Dimock
 - Concerns about the website should be brought to back to the Partnership
 - Any events should be sent to Partnership. The "Calendar" feature can be used to browse for events.
 - It was suggested to colour code the calendar events.
- Job Board - Annette DeFaveri
 - Annette had submitted a report.
 - Only two part-time staff dedicated to the Job Board.
- Roundtable Discussion

- Children and Youth Services Committee, OLA, conducted a benchmarking survey - "Counting Opinions". There is a fee for accessing the survey. These may be of use to other provinces.
 - Affinity Cruise - This is an event/conference idea being held on a cruise ship; get guest speakers, a chance for like-minded people to get together. Would this be practical/workable? Any interest in this? Perhaps a survey needs to be conducted on this.
 - Summer OLA Retreat - The question of renovating or moving of the OLA HQ arises. There needs to be a venue located for the summer.
 - Winter OLA Retreat 2014 - The idea is to make the winter retreat two days and not have a summer one, but do a series of teleconferences instead to get the business of the Partnership done.
- Post-meeting gathering at "The Overdraught Pub" for cocktails and dinner.
 - Partnership members asked to attend the opening plenary on Wednesday evening as they will be introduced at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Cumming
March 3, 2013