



Nunavut Library Association

Meeting Notes & Action Minutes
Thursday, November 2, 2017
NLA Fall Meeting Teleconference
3:00 pm EDT

Present on the call: Riel Gallant, Carol Rigby, Katharine Tagak-DeVries, Philippa Ootoowak
Regrets: Leigh Ann Cumming, Ron Knowling

Carol agreed to record notes and action minutes.

1. Agenda adopted as circulated
2. Library/member updates
 - Philippa: Covered activities at both the Rebecca P. Idlout Library and the Pond Inlet Archives. The library had a good summer program, run by Sherrie Earl and Mary Ipeelee. Sherrie left Pond Inlet in August for family reasons. Mary is the current local librarian, assisted by Cathy Marquis. They are running programs for kids after school. Not sure how long the current staffing situation will last. The Archives had a lot of visitors through the summer, with 15 cruise ships passing through town in addition to researchers. Work has been continuing on cataloguing the book items, focusing on completing the collection of educational materials produced in Inuktitut. She will be retiring at the end of 2017, possibly continuing on part-time through the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2018) to wrap up current project funding & do the necessary reporting. A successor has not been found yet, but she feels it is time for someone new with more technological skills. She would like to remain as an NLA member after retirement.
 - Katharine: Just returned from her annual visit to the Rankin Inlet campus library. She has just hired a new library assistant, Elizabeth Aglukark, who is in the Management Studies program and has also worked 25 practicum hours at the John Arnalukjuak High School library. The visit involved library tidy-up and training. Leigh Ann is still helping out in Cambridge Bay, though hours have been reduced to one night a week from two due to lack of use. The student library assistant at the Nunatta Campus library is Micah Inutiq, a nursing student returning from last year. She discussed her own current position, which is as the indeterminate full-time Library Technician, performing as Acting Manager, as the Manager position was a three-year term. It has been a busy month, as NTEP students were assigned a project to read 100 children's books each. This has significantly boosted book circulation figures. Construction work on the campus is limiting public access for insurance reasons, so there is less activity in that area.
 - Carol: As an independent cataloguer specializing in Inuit language and northern materials, has had two contracts on the go since the last meeting. Ongoing work with the Legislative Library involves cataloguing materials and doing cataloguing training with Sylvia. Hands-on training time together will be an important part of the current site visit. All the tabled documents are catalogued up to date. Also cataloguing for the Pond Inlet Archives, she is currently working through the



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reading and educational materials produced in Inuktitut by the Teaching and Learning Centre (under BDBE in the NWT days, and then GN Dept. of Education), hoping to get through as much as possible before Philippa retires. She also sits on the Canadian Committee for Metadata Exchange (CCM), which will have its next meeting in January, and has also been appointed to the newly-formed CFLA Cataloguing and Metadata Committee, which has held one meeting to date. In these committees she continues her advocacy for smaller systems and libraries, and for indigenous languages, in the library metadata world.

- Leigh Ann Cumming was unable to participate but sent in her update from Cambridge Bay:
 - Continuing to work at NAC as their part-time library assistant in Cambridge Bay
 - Been participating in a few webinars offered by OLA and OHLA (Ontario Health Library Association). Have to keep my skills honed.
 - Celebrated 10 years with the GN as of July 2017.
 - Organizing several training projects w/ Dept. of Health (5 projects on the go to date). Busy!
- Riel: Legislative Assembly is now busy with the election of a number of new MLAs (9 newbies and two returning with non-continuous service), providing orientation on their roles & responsibilities. Riel will be doing library tours and promoting the service. He has also been promoting service to GN employees and researchers, as the primary library collecting government documents. The Assembly's Director of IT & Broadcasting has left so the library is also assisting the Acting Director with website-related information access matters such as uploading documents (TDs, Hansard, Bills). Riel has also been providing some training to the A/Director and Sylvia on more advanced aspects of website management. The new Director when hired will be responsible for developing a new website for the Assembly and the library will have a strong voice in its design and ongoing maintenance, particularly with regard to distributing information to the general public. The library is currently exploring possibilities for a new ILS, as the current one is reaching the end of its life. Promising discussions underway with a Canadian ILS firm. Not practical to host an open-source system on the Assembly server; looking for a vendor-supported product. With the start of the 5th Assembly, library roles & responsibilities are being discussed with the Director; the library is pushing its e-document repository, and hoping to digitize the past collection of tabled documents, a possible summer project. The Leg is still having ongoing problems with connections dropping for cataloguing work. Busy work plan for Carol's site visit. Riel may be taking some leave in December and January as his wife is expecting their first child in mid-December.
- Ron sent in regrets as he was marooned in Winnipeg.

3. Partnership report

- Royalties – Riel has been established as the contact person for Partnership royalties cheques resulting from our participation in Education Institute programs and use of the Partnership job board. No new royalties have been received since the last meeting. Currently the only thing for which we use these funds is to pay a small fee to redirect our WordPress website to our NLA domain name, as agreed at previous meetings. As the website manager, Carol pays that fee online so is given funds in trust to cover that cost. Current balances are \$18.25 in trust with



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Carol and \$177.25 held by Riel, for a total balance of \$195.50. We currently do no other fund-raising as we are not a registered society.

- Partnership update from August meeting: No one was able to attend on behalf of NLA this year. Leigh Ann and Carol have been circulating materials coming out of that meeting as they are both on the distribution list. Leigh Ann is currently the primary Partnership communication distributor. Carol followed up with the Partnership Communications Committee on a request for information about our communications and media relations best practices.
- NLA Representative at Partnership winter meeting at OLA in January 2018: Katharine is planning to attend, and is awaiting word as to whether she can get support from the NAC PD committee instead of having to take it out of library budget. She volunteered to represent NLA this time around. Leigh Ann frequently attends OLA, as does Ron, so it is hoped that if for some reason Katharine can't go, they could serve as back-up attendees. Katharine expects word from the PD committee shortly.

ACTION: Katharine will follow up with the NAC PD committee for their decision, and will let Carol know if she will be attending so that she can be added to the Partnership distribution list for meeting information. If she can't attend, Carol will check with Ron and Leigh Ann as to whether either of them is going this year and is willing to be a back-up. **Follow-up note:** Leigh Ann will not be going this year. Katharine has obtained provisional approval and is confirming some details with the committee.

- Partnership Perks & Store-in-a-box—The Partnership's store, run through OLA, can help with association branding and has its "Store-in-a-box" option as an easy way to sell library "swag" (as Partnership president Su Cleyle always calls it) and promote individual associations with specific branding. Carol wondered if accessing this service might be a way to raise the profile of NLA, even if some of the funding came out of personal pockets. The matter of the funds balance held was raised, and the group concurred that the higher priority for the money might be to renew the association's domain name next year, but that if we had funds in excess after that, this might be a good use of the money to raise the profile of the association.
ACTION: deferred to next year, after the domain name renewal.
- Partnership's Cross-Canada Video project: Information about this project has been circulated from the Partnership this fall. All agreed that our numbers are too small and thinly stretched to participate in this activity at this time.

4. Website – Carol

- Update report circulated before the meeting. Not a lot of changes. The website serves as the association's repository for reports and minutes. Carol has still not been able to complete uploading the correspondence archive.
- Domain name is currently paid up until fall 2018 thanks to donation from Yvonne. We need to check on renewal date and determine if we will have the funds to renew without outside assistance
ACTION: Domain name renewal should be on the agenda for fall 2018.
- She and Riel have been discussing the website's management, and Riel has volunteered to take over the regular updating tasks, news blog etc. This would free Carol to work on the archive, and she would retain access for uploading meeting minutes and other documentation
ACTION: Later in the fall/winter Carol & Riel will work on a transfer of website responsibilities



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- Always looking for interesting material—forward news, photos etc. to cerigby@xplornet.com for now. Contact will be changed to Riel when the above transfer is worked out.
- We also still need to deal with getting the association's name translated into Inuit language. Should be in Inuktitut syllabics and roman orthography, and Inuinnaqtun.
ACTION: Ron had agreed to contact the translation bureau with regard to getting an official literal translation. Nothing received to date. Deferred to next meeting

5. Issues

- Revision of NLA Mission Statement (last done in 2007): As agreed at the last meeting, Carol drafted some material to update the NLA mission & vision statements and organization description, which was circulated to the NLA list earlier in June and again for this meeting. General reactions were positive. Some changes were discussed, including adding “library staff AND ADVOCATES” to the vision statement. Some discussion of goals and timing; there is still concern that trying to maintain status as a formally registered society is too challenging for the group in its present state, but there was agreement that leaving this in as a “long-term goal” would indicate that we have indeed considered the matter, should anyone new or outside the group inquire. Until libraries are more fully funded and enthusiastically supported by governing bodies, this will remain an aspirational goal. There was also discussion of whether CFLA should be mentioned specifically with regard to the goal of staying connected with our peers outside the territory. Given the fledgling state of CFLA as well, it was agreed the wording should remain less specific, only mentioning the Partnership by name as we have an ongoing working relationship with them
ACTION: Carol will incorporate suggested revisions to the whole for final review and comments, with revision and discussion by e-mail. The item will be returned to the spring meeting agenda for adoption.
- Inuit language names for NLA: Discussed under website already. Defer to Spring 2018 meeting.
- Library & Archives Canada, National Union Catalogue—OCLC implications for Nunavut libraries: LAC's old AMICUS catalogue, our national union catalogue, is in the process of being replaced by a union catalogue run through OCLC (WorldCat). However, the details of how this is going to work under a fee-based system are still being worked out.
 - Very little direct word coming out from LAC at the moment about implementation, although there is now a termination notice posted on AMICUS.
 - Riel indicated the parliamentary libraries (APLIC) also have concerns and are in the dark about how the fee-for-service approach of OCLC will affect legislative libraries, who don't appear to be covered by LAC's subscription cost subsidy for small libraries. This was on the agenda of the last APLIC meeting, and the executive is scheduled to meet with LAC but the meeting was recently postponed. The status of small college and government libraries who don't currently use OCLC is still unclear.**ACTION:** Our contacts with LAC's catalogue (Carol through CCM, Ron through the Stakeholders Committee & PTLDC; Riel through APLIC) will try to keep everyone informed of any news or developments encountered. Riel will check with the Court Library as to whether they use AMICUS for copy as well.



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- Report from Northern Libraries Working Group on participation in CFLA: The Canadian Federation of Library Associations is a fee-based association of associations; currently it's difficult for the territorial associations to participate through association membership because of the cost. They've set up an informal Northern Libraries Working Group to work with CFLA on national issues, which has been recognized by them in order to include the North. NLA reps on this working group are still Ron, Carol and Riel. NWTLA is currently representing the North on the CFLA Board (John Mutford, President). John's term is up in January and he is inquiring whether anyone from one of the other territorial associations would like to take a turn. The consensus from our group is that we're not ready. **ACTION:** Carol will so inform John.
- IFLA Global Vision workshops via OLA: NLA members were unable to participate in the Partnership's virtual workshops, due to lack of adequate bandwidth or systems/IT support to handle live streaming. In September Carol circulated a survey put out by IFLA in response to the visioning exercise, with follow-up information
- CRTC Call for Comments - push for better broadband in Nunavut was discussed at the last meeting. Riel used material provided by Ron to write a letter from NLA in response which was circulated to the list for comment and then sent in. No formal response was received.

6. Reports from Meetings / Conferences

- Riel missed attending APLIC this year but expects to be going next year, when it will be in Halifax, unless the Assembly is sitting at that time (September)
- There is a Nunavut Archives Council AGM coming up which will involve Riel and Philippa. Riel is planning to step down as council president and has been recruiting possible successors, as he is shifting focus to libraries rather than archives.
- Philippa has resigned from the Archives Advisory Group, a national body.
- No other conference activity reported.

7. Other business

- Confirming roles in NLA
 - Since he is resigning from the Archives Council, Riel is willing to serve as NLA President. Nominated by Carol, seconded by Katharine, support from Philippa. We hope all members of NLA will support him in this role, which will allow us to have a primary point of contact for outside groups and someone to provide some focus and direction for the association.
 - Carol is willing to serve as Secretary (meeting agendas, minutes) and website documentation manager.
 - Riel continues to be Treasurer, i.e. recipient of Partnership cheques and holder of funds.
 - Riel will take on website management.
 - **ACTION:** Leigh Ann will be contacted as to whether she wishes to continue as a Partnership correspondence contact.
- Recruitment of new members: those on the call discussed possible contacts who might be interested in NLA membership (e.g. librarian for current law school program, new librarian at ITK). Following up on a suggestion made by Martha Maktar at an earlier NLA meeting, the group also discussed participating in the Inuksuk high school's career day, usually held in the spring. NAC sometimes participates in this activity.



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ACTION: Riel will follow up with some of his new contacts about joining the NLA list. Riel and Katharine will check in the spring about having NLA represent library work as a career path at the next career day in Iqaluit.

- Other business: a brief discussion was also held about the need to support libraries and resource centres in schools, and the need for advocacy for school libraries. No specific action plan at this time.

8. Next meeting: Spring meeting date to be determined closer to the time.

Philippa left the call at 4:30. The call ended at 4:50.