

MINUTES (Approved December 18th, 2008)

Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council Teleconference Meeting, September 30th, 2008, 2:00 PM

Present: Elise Cole (OLA), John Slater (OLS-N), Rod Sawyer (MCL), Shann Leighton (Small Libraries), Cindy Weir (AMPLO), Margaret Rule (ARUPLO), Peggy Malcolm (SOLS), Gay Kozak-Selby (FOPL), Nancy Leindecker (Northern Ontario),

Regrets: Leanne Clendening (Ex officio)

1. Welcome/Call to order

The meeting began at 2:08 PM.

The Chair welcomed two new members to the Council: Gay Kozak-Selby replaces Marzio Apolloni as representative of the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) and Cindy Weir replaces Margaret Williams as representative of Administrators of Medium Public Libraries (AMPLO).

Thanks go to Marzio and Margaret for past contributions to the work of Council. Congratulations go to Marzio on becoming FOPL Chair and to Margaret on her coming retirement. Letters of thanks will be sent by the Chair on behalf of Council.

2. Adoption of agenda

Motion 12-08: Shann Leighton / Cindy Weir

"That the draft agenda be adopted as read."

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the meeting of June 9th, 2008

Motion 13-08: Rod Sawyer / Shann Leighton

"That the minutes of June 9th, 2008 be approved as read."

CARRIED

4. Matters arising

a) Selection of officers

The two-year term for the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair expires this fall.

Stating her interest in running for a second term as Chair, Elise stepped down as Chair of this part of the meeting.

Motion 14-08: John Slater / Cindy Weir

"That Shann Leighton act as temporary Chair."

CARRIED

Nominations were opened for the position of Chair.

Motion 15-08: Elise Cole / Rod Sawyer

"That Elise Cole be nominated for the position of Chair of the Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council."

CARRIED

Motion 16-08: Gay Kozak-Selby / John Slater

"That, there being no further nominations for the position of Chair, nominations be closed."

CARRIED

Elise Cole was therefore acclaimed Chair of the Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council for a term of two years.

At this point, Shann stepped down as Chair of the meeting and Elise resumed her duties as Chair.

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice-Chair.

Motion 17-08: Gay Kozak-Selby / John Slater

"That Shann Leighton be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council."

CARRIED

Motion 18-08: Gay Kozak-Selby / Rod Sawyer

"That, there being no further nominations for the position of Vice-Chair, nominations be closed."

CARRIED

Shann Leighton was therefore acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council for a term of two years.

b) Guidelines and standards from other jurisdictions

Links to public library standards in Queensland, Australia, as well as new IFLA guidelines for service to children and young adults were sent out with the agenda. There was discussion about the importance of Council being aware of what is happening in other parts of the world in the area of public library guidelines and standards, as this can be an important source of fresh ideas and approaches for future editions of the Guidelines. Council members agreed to share information about other guidelines and standards.

Margaret Rule informed Council that the organization which she represents, ARUPLO, will be updating/revising their *Guidelines for Rural/Urban Public Library Systems*. Margaret agreed to act as liaison between Council and ARUPLO and to keep Council informed of developments. It was noted that the ARUPLO and OPL Guidelines are already closely linked. It was suggested that it might be advantageous to public library administrators and boards if the two documents were combined. It was agreed that Council should discuss this issue further at future meetings.

Rod proposed that Council consider guidelines for libraries operating in multi-use facilities in its next revision of the Guidelines.

5. Other Business

a) Technology standards proposal

OLS-North is considering a number of new projects in the coming months, one of which is to develop technology standards/guidelines for Ontario public libraries in response to client feedback on this subject.

OLS-North wanted to know if the OPL Guidelines Council would be interested in taking on such a project if it were offered to them. There would be some financial assistance.

Several Council members spoke to the importance and desirability of having technology guidelines or standards in place given the increasing importance of technology to library service. Guidelines or standards would help libraries in making their case to municipal council for support in acquiring and maintaining technology. It was generally agreed that this would be an excellent area for Council to move into.

The following comments and suggestions were made, should the project go ahead:

- that consultation with the library community would be essential
- that the standards be realistic and the costs of achieving the standards be kept in mind
- that the guidelines/standards not be too detailed (at least in their main body- possibly more detailed in an appendix) so as not to go out-of-date too quickly
- that a working group be set up, and that a representative of OLITA be invited to participate
- that someone be hired to develop a basic document and that Council provide feedback
- that the technology standards/guidelines be integrated with the OPL Guidelines

Motion 19-08: Shann Leighton / Nancy Leindecker

"That the OPL Guidelines Council would be interested in guiding the development of technology guidelines or standards for Ontario public libraries as per the proposal put forward by OLS-North."

CARRIED

b) Current accreditations/re-accreditations

Accreditations are coming due for the following libraries:

November – Bruce Mines (a re-accreditation peer audit date has been set for Nov. 9)

December – Englehart, Terrace Bay, Kenora, Fort Erie, Galway-Cavendish

January – St. Marys

April – Middlesex County

Council was informed that St. Marys has recently hired a new CEO and may therefore ask for an extension on their current accreditation in order to complete preparations for re-accreditation.

The Chair will send a letter to Middlesex County as a reminder of their coming due date. The other libraries listed have received reminders.

6. Next Meeting

The date and time for the next regular teleconference meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, December 18th at 10:00 AM.

7. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 3:14 PM.