

Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Elise C. Cole / Oakville PL [Chair] (OLA: OPLA)
Sabrina Redwing Saunders [Vice-Chair] (AMPLO)
Caroline Goulding (OLA: OLBA)
Carole-Ann Demers (Northern)
Alicia Subnaik Kilgour (CELUPL)
Julie Latimer (Francophone)
Cathy Fairbairn (Southern)
Brian Masschaele (ARUPLO)
Feather Maracle (First Nation)
Steven Kraus (OLS-North)
Jesse Roberts (OLS-North)
Peggy Malcolm (SOLS)
Rob Lavery (MHSTCI)

1. Call to order:

Elise C. Cole called the meeting to order at 207pm. Quorum was achieved for the meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Elise asked that we address New Business between items 4c and 4d.

Motion 21-01 – It was moved by Alicia Subnaik Kilgour and seconded by Jesse Roberts that the Agenda be approved including the suggestion of placement of the New Business items. CARRIED.

3. Approval of the minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting:

Motion 21-02 – It was moved by Julie Latimer and seconded by Carole-Ann Demers that the minutes for the meeting of December 9, 2020 be approved. CARRIED.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Prince Edward County audit report – Deferred to February.

It was noted that there is an issue with the understanding of Guideline 2.3 Review – which is mandatory and reads: “The governing body has a fixed date of review for all policies set within a 4-year period for the purpose of reviewing and revising existing policies”. The question is whether ALL policies must actually be reviewed within the 4-year period. ACTION: For 2021 edition, confirm that a phrase be added to this guideline: “...and have been reviewed within that 4-year period”.

b) Finish on edits of 2021 Edition which is about to be posted on the OPLG website.

- i. **Guideline 14.7 – Local History Policy.** There is an italicized section at the end of the guideline which reads: “The above is recommended as a dedicated Local History Policy. The subject may also be addressed in other policies when the library is a local history partner and a First Nation, municipal or county archives is the main source of local history material”. It was agreed that this wording was

confusing and should be changed to: “This dedicated local history policy is not applicable if...(add appropriate examples and remove italics).

- ii. **Guideline 14.11** – Diversity and Inclusion. Over the past few meetings, Council members have considered wording which might be used in this new guideline, noting that it is found within the Services section of Area 3: Policy. In the current draft, some of the content and wording from 14.10 was used as a framework. Another suggestion was to reach out to OLBA’s IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility) Committee to receive feedback. With respect to the resources mentioned such as the CFLA Position Statement and the City of Oakville’s Inclusion Lens, it was felt that these might be better in the OPLG Definitions document to help someone trying to develop their own policy statement. The wording presenting stands at:

14.11 **Diversity and Inclusion** - The public library recognizes and embraces the diverse nature of every Ontario community. The Library’s governing body endorses a statement on diversity and includes: 1. The Library has assessed the barriers to accessing its services through an inclusion lens; 2. There is a collection development policy statement regarding the inclusion of diverse materials that enables a broad range of authors, content creators, and experiences to be included and highlighted; 3. The library actively promotes collections and services of a diverse nature. The above is recommended as a dedicated Diversity and Inclusion Policy. It can also be included in other policies.

ACTION: Add this information within *Definitions document* (the CFLA/Canadian Federation of Library Associations) position statement on diversity and inclusion, the Town of Oakville inclusion lens guide, and the Hamilton Public Library’s Diversity and Inclusion policy) and make it a Definitions and Resources sections.

5. New Business:

- a) **Correspondence from Ottawa Public Library re: 14.10 Indigenous Awareness and Reconciliation.** **Alexandra Yarrow wrote about their experience in considering this guideline, writing that** “when we (in partnership with the City) first broached this, what we heard from Elders was that relationship building was the first step, and this takes time. For them to be comfortable with us adding a statement, and for it to be meaningful, they felt that strong relationships should already be in place, at which point a statement must be developed jointly between OPL staff/Board and the Algonquin Anishinabe Nation.” After some discussion, the existing text within the guideline remained as it does consider consultation, but the text was divided differently to create emphasis.

ACTION: It was also agreed that resources should be added to the Definitions document to provide background - including the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)’s Guide to Acknowledging First Peoples & Traditional Territory, the work of OLA’s Indigenous Advisory Council (formerly Task Group), the work of Library & Archives Canada on subject headings and the FNMI Ontology, released through the National Indigenous Knowledge and Language Alliance (NIKLA) and with support of the CFLA

- 4c) **Supporting materials** - Discussion regarding the revision of supporting documents such as the General Introduction, Definitions and Auditor Information. Deferred to the February meeting.

4d) Election of Chair/Vice Chair – The position of Chair was passed to Jesse Roberts from OLSN.

Elise Cole nominated Sabrina Redwing Saunders to the position of Vice-Chair. The nomination was accepted. There were no further nominations. Nominations were closed.

Carole-Ann Demers nominated Elise Cole to the position of Chair. The nomination was accepted. There were no further nominations. Nominations were closed.

Motion 21-03 – It was moved by Brian Masschaele and seconded by Alicia Subnaik Kilgour that Sabrina Redwing Saunders be acclaimed for the position of Vice-Chair and that Elise Cole be acclaimed for the position of Chair. **CARRIED.**

6. Other Business/Future Work:

- a) OPLG website review – What’s missing and what else is needed.
- b) Finalization of the version to begin 2021 as well as supporting documents such as Definitions (and Resources), Aids to Measurement and General Introduction.
- c) Update on French translation of the current version.

7. Motion to adjourn:

Motion 21-04 – It was moved by Feather Maracle that the meeting be adjourned at 332PM. **CARRIED.**

Upcoming Meeting Dates: All set for 2 to 3:30 pm

- 2021: February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8