

## Ontario Public Library Guidelines Monitoring and Accreditation Council

Monday, September 25, 2023 – via Zoom

### Minutes

Present: (10)

Elise C. Cole [Chair] (OLA: OPLA)

Sabrina Redwing Saunders [Vice-Chair] (AMPLO)

Beth Rumble (ARUPLO)

Catherina Moskau (Francophone)

Caroline Goulding (Small Libraries-Northern)

Alicia Subnaik Kilgour (CELUPL)

Adam Haviaras (MTCS)

Cathy Fairbairn (Small Libraries-Southern)

Kelly Bernstein (AMPLO)

Peggy Malcolm (OLS)

Regrets (1): Jesse Roberts (OLS)

Absent (1): Feather Maracle (First Nation)

Vacant: (1) OLA: OLBA

#### 1. Call to order:

Elise Cole called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm. Elise welcomed Kelly Bernstein, CEO of Brant County Public Library, back to Council as the AMPLO representative, replacing outgoing Sabrina Redwing Saunders.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda:

**Motion 23-32** – It was moved by Alicia Subnaik Kilgour and seconded by Caroline Goulding that the agenda be approved. CARRIED.

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the August 9, 2023 meeting:

**Motion 23-33** - It was moved by Catherina Moskau and seconded by Beth Rumble that the minutes for the August 9, 2023 meeting, be approved with the correction that Cathy Fairbairn was not at the meeting. CARRIED.

#### 4. New Business

a) **Audit Reports** – Re-accreditation audit reports were received for Oxford County, Trent Lakes and Stirling-Rawdon and an accreditation audit report was received for Chatham-Kent Library. However, given the short turn-around, the review of these four (4) reports was deferred to the next meeting.

b) **Requests for extension to the audit process** - Correspondence was received from Six Nations Public Library to request an extension. Council members discussed the handling of those libraries who re-accreditations have not been completed within the past six (6) years. These include:

- Middlesex County (last audited in 2014)
- Leeds & 1000 Islands (last audited in 2015)
- Hastings Highlands (last audited in 2025) – *already removed*
- Brockville (last audited in 2016)
- Haldimand County (last audited in 2016)
- Six Nations (last audited in 2016)
- Lincoln (last audited in 2016) – *removed as it is now Lincoln-Pelham Library*

It was the consensus of the Board that, given the length of time since the last audit, these five (5) libraries be **removed** from the list of accredited libraries in our records and posted on the OPLG website, but invited to re-enter the re-accreditation process when they are ready.

**Motion 23-34** – It was moved by Sabrina Redwing Saunders and seconded by Cathy Fairbairn that the audit extension not be given to Six Nations, rather to offer the library the opportunity to request a new reaccreditation audit when the library is ready. CARRIED

It was also noted that the audit reports for Georgian Bay (last audited in 2017) as well as Pembroke and Schreiber (both due to be completed in 2023) should be available for the next council meeting. The remaining two (2) audits due in 2023 (Wainfleet and Lake of Bays) are in progress.

## 5. Business Arising from the Minutes

### a) Council Representative

**CELUPL (Chief Executives of Large Urban Public Libraries)** – Alicia worked with Elise to create a job description for the position, noting that it was agreed that the person could be a CEO or Senior Manager. Alicia agreed to continue with the Council until a replacement is appointed.

**AMPLO (Administrators of Medium-sized Public Libraries of Ontario)** – Kelly Bernstein has joined.

Sabrina will continue in a supporting role to ensure the 2024 edition is formatted in English and in French.

**OLBA (Ontario Library Boards Association)** – nothing to report

### b) Work on 2024 edition - In Areas 6 and 7 Site Observations

It was noted that the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the ARUPLO guidelines were approved by ARUPLO on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. These guidelines appear in the OPLG Resource materials along with the statistical information from the Annual Survey of Public Libraries (which needs to be updated to the 2022 ASPL numbers)

## Section 25 – Services

Over the editions, this section has been reworked to try to capture the work of a library with the general public, seniors, teens and children in the area of reference/information, readers advisory, programs and community information. The 2023 edition moved programs and services to the 2SLGBTQ+ community from the optional to the scored section (although not mandatory).

- The Council then discussed whether some of these guidelines should continue to be scored at the branch level, with the idea that a 12 branch library system might offer this programming and services but only at 3 of 12 locations. A single site library would not be affected by this challenge of offering services at multiple, but not all, locations.
- Another idea was to create a guideline with options such as the library would receive a Yes if they were doing any one or all of the following programs/services. This might allow a library to better tailor the programs and services offered to their local branch/local community. If this approach was used, the auditors notes would need to be enhanced to explain the scoring process
- It was also suggested that some of the programs and services be moved into Sections 10 or 12 to be scored at a system level (perhaps under “Planning for Programming”). The downside is that it is not planning for programming but **conducting** the program or service.

It was agreed that the debate on Section 25 Services would be re-examined at the next meeting.

## 5. Motion to adjourn

**Motion 23-35**– It was moved by Caroline Goulding that the meeting be adjourned at 331 pm. **CARRIED.**

**Next meeting** – October 11, 2023

**Remaining meetings** in 2023: Nov 8, Dec 13.