

LDAG Meeting
Minutes
April 5, 2006
Creston, BC

Attendance

Librarians: Liz Robinson – Invermere, Deb Thomas – Nelson, Joy Huebert – Trail, Ursula Brigl – Cranbrook, Diane Sharp – Fernie, Cheryl Stenstrom – PLSB, Dianne Kniss – Beaver Valley, Jim Bertoia – Sparwood, Judy Foucher – Greenwood, June Stockdale – Castlegar, Ann Day – Creston, Pat Rorick – Grand Forks, Marie Zettl – Salmo, Jane Jones – Radium,

KLF: Joanne Richards (Acting Director) – Castlegar, Luanne Warren

Minutes – Luanne Warren

Meeting called to order at 10:00am.

KLF General Business

- **Introductions**

Jane Jones from Radium was welcomed. Radium has joined the KLF.

- **Correspondence**

Joanne read a letter from Maureen Woods announcing the government's official approval of the Kootenay Library Federation, which includes an operating grant of \$106,000.

- **Hand-held Inventory Scanner**

Pat in Grand Forks would like an inventory scanner and wondered if other libraries would be interested in sharing the item and the cost. The KLF could buy a few in a cost sharing arrangement with the libraries. The cost is estimated to be, approximately \$1000 each. The scanners can read all barcodes. Joanne will investigate the cost of the scanners; it is possible that the KLF could share in the cost of providing two for the East and two for the West. Joanne will report back at the May Board meeting.

- **Photocopiers**

Do libraries want a photocopier agreement? IKON has not been very responsive to Joanne's inquiries. Lang Business Systems in Nelson has provided some rates for lease or purchase and maintenance of Sharp copiers. The lease rates offered by Lang are comparable to the rates of IKON, but the service agreement rates are better. Ursula stated that perhaps we should look at this again in a few years as many libraries are in the middle of lease agreements, which they do not want to break. Perhaps KLF libraries could slowly move over to another photocopier vendor.

- **Recorded Books**

June and Joanne suggested that consortium purchasing of recorded books may save money. Brian Messersmith from Recorded Books is interested in making an agreement with the KLF and says that Recorded Books (RB) will ship directly to individual libraries. Acting independently, each library would need to sign on to RB's program, purchase a core package selected from the NY Times bestseller list and then be eligible for a discount on other titles. If the KLF purchases the core package for the group, the libraries could then choose the titles they wanted at the discounted price. Joanne needs to know what each library's budget is for recorded books. Discussion ensued over whether ULS has better books and if they deliver the books in pre-packaged cases (Library Editions). Recorded Books does bring the books in ready to go. Brilliance (a Canadian company) will be looked at for cost and packaging options. S & B Books from Ontario is another option. It is decided that there is collective interest and Joanne requested that the libraries send her their budget and criteria and she will investigate further.

- **World Book Encyclopaedia**

The government is now looking after this.

- **Consortium Purchasing**

Some libraries need packing slips and some need P.O. numbers. Libraries need to let Joanne know if there are any problems with any of the bulk orders.

- **Author Tours**

Kathy Page, the author of "Alphabet" will be in the area from September 23 to October 1. There are five libraries interested. Let Joanne know of any other interest. CBAL has promised \$750 to help promote the tour as a tie-in with International Literacy Day.

Betty Keller, the author of a book on salmon farming, is coming at the request of the Kootenay School of Writing. Joanne is working on organizing this tour also and Selkirk College may be interested in this author's presentation.

Keller will visit Nelson and Castlegar between September 9 and 16. Other libraries need to let Joanne know if they are interested.

Barrie Press, the author of "Moxey's Arrow" is interested in promoting his book. It can be used as part of a tween/teen program as it is self-published and full of errors and could be used as a publishing or grammar exercise.

Perhaps "Writers in Libraries" would fund a writer's workshop.

Children's Entertainer Micki Haagenson from Castlegar is interested in visiting libraries. Her number is 304-8822.

Communications

Deb Thomas asked about communication between the Library Director's Advisory Group and the KLF Board of Directors. It is agreed that if an email is sent to one person it should not be forwarded on to the whole group. After a brief discussion it is decided that communication should be through Joanne. Cheryl Stenstrom pointed out that there should be a formal way of communicating (using InterLink as an example) and that perhaps there should be an LDAG chair that would be a representative of the group at the Board level. The list-serv would be

used for discussion and altered so that there is no overlap. One list-serv would be for the LDAG and the other for the Board. Only Joanne would have access to both.

Fernie and Sparwood are encouraged to persuade a Board member to attend KLF meetings as this is the only way those libraries have a vote. At a minimum, there should be someone on those boards that is prepared to receive email directed to the library boards.

June suggested that a Chair be nominated right away and nominated Deb. Deb declined due to potential commitments to BCLA. Joanne suggested Ursula, who is willing but uncertain as to what the role is. Ursula agreed to a one-year term and is voted in by acclamation. Pat suggested that the role of Chair goes back and forth between the East and West Kootenay.

Discovery Station Demonstration

A presentation by Duane Clemens was made on the Useful Discovery Stations including a comprehensive handout. Up to ten computers can run off one station (computer), but most libraries run between 4 and 8. Discovery Station is a stand-alone system. It can also be connected to the library's system. Patron Authentication was discussed. It does work with larger systems like Sirsi Dynix, TLC, and Polaris, but not L4U or Mandarin.

There is a proposal for KLF libraries on Page 18 of the handout. OPACs can be used within the system. The OPAC terminals would access the library's online catalogue via the internet. The stations can be set up so only very specific sites are accessed so that the OPAC terminals would not be used for general Internet access.

Userful could develop a software patch that would allow the DS to work with the Mandarin patron databases for patron authentication if libraries needed that.

The proposed volume discount is cumulative at the end of each year. There are approximately 80 public access computers in the KLF, so the discount could be considerable.

The stations do need to be within 15ft. of the hard drive. The components are not wireless, because of the potential of theft. Macintosh computers are not supported by this software.

The company is located in Calgary and has a sales office in Victoria.

There is a print control feature, which explains to the patron what the cost is and how many pages are about to be printed before printing actually begins. It can be integrated with a coin box system.

Visunet Agreement

Cheryl Stenstrom provided an overview of the Visunet Agreement. This agreement provides the libraries in the province with access to the CNIB collection for the visually and print impaired at no cost to the libraries. The

material is in the DAISY format which is the emerging international standard for blind audio production. The DAISY format is a compressed MP3 format with added features. To obtain full benefit from the material requires a DAISY reader. PLSB purchased a limited number of readers (18) for libraries in the province, primarily for demonstration purposes. The Kootenay Boundary region received 3 and 4 more were purchased by the KLF.

The CNIB supports service to its patrons at home or through the library. For CNIB service at home, the patron must qualify and register as a CNIB client. Libraries can service other print impaired individuals (includes physical and learning disability) at the library. Some CNIB patrons prefer library service. The library's role is to promote the program and to assist patrons in accessing Visucat.

Libraries can borrow material from CNIB in blocks for a 6 month period. Each registered library receives a CNIB barcode. Usually the block size is 100 titles, but a smaller number can be requested for libraries with space constraints. For circulation many libraries are using a quick catalogue process as with interlibrary loan material. The 6 month period includes shipping time. Material can be tailored to the needs of the client. The CNIB contact for the Visucat agreement is Faline Bobier. Contact information is as follows:

Faline Bobier
Coordinator, Visunet Canada Partners Program
CNIB Library for the Blind
1929 Bayview Ave
Toronto, ON M4G 3E8
Tel: 416-486-2500 Ext. 7475 / 1-800-268-8818 Fax: 416-480-7700
E-mail: faline.bobier@cnib.ca

Other services provided by the CNIB for registered clients include:

- DAISY books online
- Online services requiring special software including newspapers, databases, websites
- Described videos – can be requested by libraries.

DAISY readers can be purchased from the CNIB or from Humanware. (Contact Steven Phillips at steven.phillips@humanware.com). The province has a purchase agreement with Humanware for readers. Once the announcement of this program is made by the minister, the KLF will forward a letter to the Kelowna CNIB office to be mailed to all registered CNIB clients advising them of the service available to them at the libraries.

Common Integrated Library System

Cheryl spoke to the group about the interest the PLSB has in moving libraries in the province to a selected range of library systems. While the recently announced programs are not specifically about technology, they will be better

supported with systems that are robust enough to support the provincial vision of the One Card program, Virtual Reference, Provincial Gateway and the authentication of the core suite of databases. With one integrated system reciprocal borrowing is made much easier because the collections are integrated and there is fast and easy access to patron databases. One system also creates a situation where there can be better technical support for maintenance of the system. Systems that are known to meet the standards include Sirsi Dynix, Innovative Interfaces, VTLIS. There may be others.

To assist libraries around the province in making decisions about which system would best suit their needs, PLSB has hired Jacqueline Van Dyk as a consultant to the libraries. She will assist with determining the requirements for the systems, developing the proposal, negotiation of the contract and implementation of the system.

As well, the PLSB encourages the KLF to write a proposal to them for additional funding for this initiative. The proposal should include libraries that are part of the education system such as college or school libraries. Because the colleges already have experience in dealing with these types of systems they would be the logical contact for creating a partnership for this proposal. This model is already being implemented in the North Coast Library Federation in conjunction with the local college there. It should be recognized that the colleges already have I.T. departments and for this reason they may represent the best place to host the hardware and offer technical support for the system.

Marketing Your Library Services

Deb gave a presentation on marketing, which includes a handout summarising the main points. Examples of methods used to send out library information include:

- sending out newsletter with a utility bill so that every household is reached
- Nelson library uses the city newsletter.
- During the referendum campaign Cranbrook did mass mail outs, which also reached non-library users.
- Grand Forks uses volunteers at grocery stores, etc, to reach everyone in the community.
- Castlegar uses bookmarks to promote not only the library but also how to access the library website from home.

Deb reminded everyone that any information leaving the library or put up on your website is a marketing tool.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:45pm.