

Library Directors Advisory Group Meeting Minutes October 14, 2011

Salmo Public Library
106 4th St, Salmo

Attending: Eva Kelemen, Kaslo; Ursula Brigl, Cranbrook; June Stockdale, Nelson; Judy Foucher, Greenwood; Stephanie Boltz, Midway; Heather Buzzell, Grand Forks; Emma Dressler, Fernie; Sabina Iseli-Otto, Nakusp; Jim Bertoia, Sparwood; Karin von Wittgenstein, Kimberley; Indira Wick, Rossland; Jane Jones, Radium; Sandra Smith, Castlegar; Marie Onyett, Beaver Valley; Marianne Hansen, Salmo

KLF – Joanne Richards, Helen Graham (11:00 am arrival)

Special guest – Ben Hyman, BC Libraries Co-operative (11:00 am arrival)

Call to order –10:30 am

- 1.** Additions to/Approval of Agenda Motion to approve, Indira; second, Jim
- 2.** Approval of Minutes – June 2011 Motion to approve, Ursula; second June
- 3.** New vice-chair for LDAG – Sabina Iseli-Otto cheerfully accepts the position
- 4.** KLF Budget 2012 – suggestions, direction and spending initiatives
 - a. Discussion of Draft KLF Budget 2012, especially how the Budget complies with the reporting procedures and requirements as outlined in the letter from the Ministry of Education, dated July 29, 2011. Recommendation to incorporate language from the Ministry letter. No significant changes or concerns.
- 5.** **Ben Hyman**, Executive Director of the BC Libraries Co-op gave a presentation on the Co-op's initiatives and plans. Report Attached.
- 6. Updates:**
 - a. Barcode labels**
 - i. Uptake by libraries has been good; Labels order through preferred vendor, Dynamic Imaging Solutions –already hit \$300,000 mark;
 - ii. we should be able to get a even better pricing next time
 - b. Stock Layouts**
 - i. Not used by most libraries and found cumbersome by those who do – won't renew
 - c. KLF Playaways**

- i. Currently in Nakusp until the New Year will go to Kaslo for Jan. to June 2012
- d. OBOK**
 - i. Tour underway
- e. Books for Babies**
 - i. KSCU have indicated that grants are not usually renewed, so Joanne will be making application to other funders.
 - ii. Joanne will talk to Books for Babies committee (Jim Looney) to see where they are headed.
- f. Book Club Sets**
 - i. consist of newly published books that are not usually available through the ILL process
 - ii. Only available to participating Federations' Libraries
 - iii. The books will be up-dated in the new year, if the KLF agrees to continue funding
 - iv. funding is included in provisional budget
- g. Children's library card**
 - i. There is likely interest from libraries in other federations to create a provincial children's library card
 - ii. Process requires that participating libraries agree to artwork and wording and only the barcode different on the back of the cards. This will give the lowest price per 1000.
 - iii. The cheapest option is to piggyback with InterLink's order, which is in March or April
 - iv. Sabina, Karin, and Nancy will work on the artwork and language, which must be agreed on by all participating libraries.
 - v. Minimum order may be 1000 cards
- h. e-book readers**
 - i. many libraries are already circulating e-books readers.
 - ii. KLF is providing 3 basic Kobo readers for libraries to borrow for trial in their communities
 - iii. Available through ILL from Castlegar. KLF pays for shipping to the library, library pays to ship back to Castlegar
 - iv. Suggested loan period – not less than 3 months; 6 months may be better
- i. ILL Mailbags**
 - i. Joanne will put out an e-mail requesting orders for ILL mailbags
 - ii. She will order 10" X 12" bags from Best Cap & Sportswear
 - iii. They will have the KLF logo on them, but not individual library's names & addresses
 - iv. KLF paid for 30% of the cost last time we ordered.
 - v. If we put the order in soon we might be able to piggyback with a library in Alberta

j. Author tours

- i. CC grants applications for Rachelle Delaney, Gillian Richardson and Sylvia Olsen;
- ii. There is interest in having Rita Moir tour with her book “The Third Crop”
- iii. Grant Lawrence
 1. April 23 to 28- so far Fernie Invermere & Nelson will be hosting him
 2. An e-mail will go out to see who else is interested
- iv. Arin Fay
 1. Kaslo artist who has done the Beyond Batholith series of portraits of Kootenay, women authors
 2. Tour will include hanging some, or all, of the portrait in your library for 3 weeks to a month and hosting one of the depicted authors
 3. Watch for an e-mail about how you can participate in the spring 2012 tour
- v. Darcee O’Hearn
 1. Rossland author of “Leonard the Larch” would like to do a tour in the spring
- vi. Mike Deas, Illustrator
 1. Heard about KLF tours through Kate Walker connections
 2. Only way we can do this tour is if there is funding from his publisher
 3. Please let Kate Walker know that funding from publishers makes author tours more likely.

Question from June Stockdale, Nelson:

What is going on with literacy in BC? It appears that the libraries’ role in providing literacy support services is being ignored. Literacy outreach and support services in the Kootenays started in libraries. Libraries are still the principle partners for resources and support of CBAL in the region.

There was an email from Edel Toner-Rogala (Oct. 6, 2011) which raised the issue of Raise-a-Reader funding going through Decoda and that Decoda is contacting mayors and councils across BC. What is happening?

Joanne: Decoda is very proactive in promoting its role in literacy service delivery. Recently, mayors and city councils all across the province received a letter from Brenda LeClair, CEO of Decoda, explaining how Decoda is the co-ordinating organization and funds manager for literacy support in their communities. The Board of Decoda is composed of some very well connected people: Chair, Donna Wilson, (Vice President Industry Services & Sustainability, Work Safe BC), Pamela Martin, Dr. Greg Lee, Pommasha Noel-Bentley and Catherine Roome.

At this time, it seems that all Raise a Reader (RaR) funding will be distributed to Post-media communities (Hope to Whistler). Since Black Press serves the Kootenays, KLF libraries are not eligible to apply to Decoda for RaR funding. This applies to CBAL as well, so CBAL started ‘Reach a Reader’ fundraiser with Black Press. It seems that KLF libraries involvement and sharing proceeds from the ‘Reach a Reader’ fundraising is neither clear nor consistent. What should be

the libraries' response to these developments? For more information about Decoda, please call Annette DeFaveri at LLB.

7. Round table – what's new at your library?

Stephanie Blotz, Midway – The 2nd annual John Boltz Run was held July 16, 2011, with money going to libraries (\$3,200) and cancer research (\$9,600). 132 people came to Midway for the run.

Marie Onyett, Beaver Valley; Just implemented SITKA – steep learning curve. Beaver Valley was the 50th SITKA library and received a book from Co-op marking the occasion. Ursula Brigl did a 'How-to' on strategic planning for the Board on Oct. 13. We have been told there is no plans in the foreseeable future for a new library, therefore we are continuing with internal upgrades to the current facility.

Marianne Hansen, Salmo: Board is still looking for library director. 50th anniversary of the Salmo Public Library next weekend (Oct. 22) – everyone invited to come and participate in the festivities. Using the 50th for inspiration the Board came up with the campaign "50 dollars for 50 years" to raise money for expansion. Library recently purchased a children's early literacy station. I would like to thank Marie for all her help since Amy left.

Eva Kelemen, Kaslo: This year Kaslo hired their first SRC student. This allowed them to expand the program to include 3 age groups. It was a very successful summer. Hosted a book launch for Debra Barrett, who created a local history book of the area, featuring life stories of area residents, both past and present. The Board did a presentation to Regional District requesting a \$0.02 increase. Eva, Annie, the Kaslo Board, and volunteers survived 2 library moves this year – the second one was very well planned and went very smoothly. Everyone is really happy with the improvements to the library such as new lighting, higher ceilings, fresh paint, new office, and accessible washroom. Kaslo is going to participate in Reading Link Challenge this year.

Ursula Brigl, Cranbrook: Cranbrook started a new version of story time in response to full day kindergarten. It runs in the evening for 5 to 9 year olds. It's working quite well and the library now has year round programming spanning 18 months to 18 years. Partnering with CBAL to provide senior computer training, combined with another successful program, 'Make Friends with a Book' Cranbrook Public Library Senior Tea. Participants enjoyed both and would like a repeat. Launched e-book readers in the Library in October with 5 KOBOs. Finished policy manual review, now it's up for final board approval. We changed the format of our Board meetings to a consent agenda. With the extra time we added a Board Development session. Each month one aspect of Library Boards is discussed.

Jane Jones, Radium: The Radium Public Library participated in Music on Main and Market with weekly Book Sales. Partnered with the school to do a Teddy Bears' Picnic. School also does artwork about books students for display in the library. A reader and writers club meets at the library. One of the things they did was a Mystery Night at the Library.

Emma Dressler, Fernie : Continuing work on advocacy. Involved with talks on revamping municipal plan. Reno of children's section is complete. Phase one of garden also completed. "Great Gatsby Gala" a fundraising events hosted by the Library and the Arts' Station every two years. The event raised \$19,500 for each organization (\$38,000 total). Emma will send more information on the event to the group. The library frequently collaborates with the Fernie Writer's Conference Society, therefore lot of programming going, with an author event at least once month. Senior programming includes film and book discussion group and taking story time to seniors' facilities. Both programs have been successful.

June Stockdale, Nelson: The Library has a new logo. The design reflects the 3 main goals of the strategic plan– discover, connect, imagine-. In partnership with Touchstones Museum, they are preparing for the big fundraiser on October 29th – "Storytellers' Saloon", which is sold out! Library staff is working hard and more efficiently. Documented changes to improve efficiencies have resulted in savings of about 3 FTE of work. Monthly circulation is 20,000 items out of a 40,000 collection. Referendum resulted in 14% increased funding which has been matched by a 14% increase in usage, so staff is still very busy and there is little opportunity to increase the collection.

Heather Buzzell, Grand Forks: Christina Lake outreach service is very popular with patrons, but it is a small group. The community at large is hard to reach and doesn't seem to value library services. Story time will start next week by request from members. Boardroom has been painted and artwork will be added. The Board chair resigned in summer, but now things have settled down, with key board members taking up the slack. The Board is asking for a significant increase in funding, Christina Lake rep said she wasn't going to threaten funding, have 3 budgets ready to go – a dream budget, an okay budget and one with no increase.

Sabina Iseli-Otto, Nakusp: Budget next week. Found some accounting irregularities, which means the Library is not in as good shape financially as previously thought. The library receive a \$140,000 endowment which will be invested for 10 yr. Library will receive the interest, but must wait 10 years before we can spend the principle. This will have a positive impact on the budget for the next several years. A person, directed to the library by Katrine Conroy, made this donation. Sabina would like Joanne to help her with a letter to Katrine.

Judy Foucher, Greenwood: Made \$2,098 on the annual quilt draw for the Library. Library secured two grants, for collaborating with literacy – for computer, math and other literacy skills. They are participating in Reading Link Challenge for the third year. The library has sorted out a long time heating bill problem, which may result in reduced costs.

KLF will pay for Reading Link Challenge books for participating libraries that do not receive the books free from Reading Link Challenge.

Next meeting - TBA

Adjourn – 3:22 pm (PDT)