



Canadian Federation of Library Associations Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques

March 26, 2020 - Message from the Chair, CFLA-FCAB

What challenging times we are all experiencing across Canadian libraries and our CFLA-FCAB membership. It is my hope that the message below gives acknowledgement, some encouragement, support, and identifies a way for you to reach us if we can help in any way.

We see all our members currently doing their absolute best to work within their local, regional, provincial/territorial, and national jurisdictions, and in addition, the other levels of governance that are directing our association members and their members.

We are grateful for the attitude of support and understanding that our association members and their members are currently demonstrating.

Many of our regional and provincial conferences, as well as the National Forum have been postponed or cancelled. This is a tremendously stressful time for these associations and the work to unravel the plans around these events is demoralizing and heartbreaking for many. Our thoughts go out to everyone doing this work.

Our understanding of the growing potential economic impacts of COVID-19 is changing every day, and this effect is very unsettling for us all. Whether the impact is already known, or it looms, whether it is personal, or could affect our employees, colleagues, students, or our family and friends, it is a source of significant worry at this time. The stress created by this situation has the potential to be a risk of its own. CFLA-FCAB wants to acknowledge this and the effect on all members and the library workers they represent.

Our Strategic CFLA-FCAB Committees are hard at work to address challenges and questions that are flowing to them for CFLA-FCAB membership-wide support. If you have questions or issues that you would like the Board or our Strategic Committees to address, please send them to the following contacts:

- Julie McKenna, Chair CFLA-FCAB jmckenna@reginalibrary.ca
- Katherine McColgan, Executive Director CFLA-FCAB kmccolgan@cfla-fcab.ca
- Christopher Carr, Chair Cataloguing & Metadata Standards Committee christopher.carr@concordia.ca
- Victoria Owen, Chair Copyright Committee victoria.owen@utoronto.ca
- Stacy Allison-Cassin, Chair Indigenous Matters Committee sacassin@yorku.ca
- Richard Beaudry, Chair Intellectual Freedom Committee librarianlai@icloud.com

Most importantly, please take care of yourselves, of each other, and reach out if we can help in any way. Your health and safety are the most urgent issue at this time.

With best wishes,
Julie McKenna
Chair, CFLA-FCAB