



CFLA NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024

GREETINGS FROM ANDREA CECCHETTO, CHAIR CFLA-FCAB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is my honour to be Chairing the CFLA-FCAB Board of Directors for 2024-25. I believe strongly in the role of CFLA-FCAB as a champion for Canadian libraries and the library sector, and I am thrilled to be able to announce a number of ambitious projects at the Federation. My colleagues and I on the Board are committed to focusing CFLA's energies and resources on areas where we can add value, and to that end will be rolling out our new **strategic plan**. To accomplish this work, we have identified, in discussion with key external and internal stakeholders, a number of transformational initiatives (which you will read about below) that will keep CFLA-FCAB vibrant, sustainable and effective in the years to come.

As part of this work, CFLA-FCAB will support international efforts in the library sector, including opportunities to position libraries as a critical success factor in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and global efforts in the areas of our strategic committee including intellectual freedom, copyright and more, and am so excited for what opportunities exist for cross-collaboration on shared goals.

More than anything, I am excited to create more opportunities for dialogue and collaboration between CFLA-FCAB and its member associations and industry stakeholders.

**OUR BOARD CHAIR GAVE AN
OUTSTANDING INTERVIEW FOR IFLA
THAT CAN BE READ HERE: [INTERVIEW
WITH THE NEW CHAIR OF CFLA-FCAB -
IFLA](#)**



UPDATE FROM THE CFLA BOARD

Welcome to the 2024-25 Board of Directors.

This year, the CFLA-FCAB Board will begin implementing the Federation's new Strategic Plan. This is an ambitious plan that seeks to refocus CFLA on how it can best provide value to its members and effectively champion the Canadian Library sector through increased advocacy and member engagement. .

The Executive Committee started the year with a series of stakeholder engagement meetings with CFLA-FCAB member associations, committee chairs, and other stakeholders.

The purpose of these meetings was to identify priorities for the year, to seek commitment and support as CFLA-FCAB works to address the strategic and fiscal viability of the Federation, and to identify areas of opportunity for ongoing stakeholder engagement. As a result of these discussions, the Board has identified three priority projects for 2024:

Communication and Member Engagement Strategy

Communication with stakeholders, as well as internal communications with committee members, is vital to CFLA-FCAB's success and member engagement. Based on feedback from stakeholders, CFLA-FCAB is pursuing the development of a Communications Strategy. This strategy will focus on getting CFLA-FCAB's messaging out clearly to its stakeholders, improving member engagement and raising the profile of the Federation. CFLA-FCAB is seeking professional support for this work and has an RFP up on its website.

Advocacy Strategy

CFLA-FCAB is using the occasion of its new Strategic Plan as an opportunity to refocus its advocacy efforts. The executive is working with Impact Public Affairs to craft an Advocacy Strategy to focus on key initiatives that CFLA-FCAB can proactively engage government and other national stakeholders with. As part of this process, CFLA-FCAB is developing new processes to allow members to clearly understand CFLA-FCAB's areas of advocacy and request engagement on issues.

Governance Review

Feedback from stakeholders indicate that there are opportunities to clarify CLA-FCAB's structure, policies and practices and look at how the Federation can evolve to better support its strategic priorities. CFLA-FCAB is almost 10 years old, and this is a great opportunity to review its operating and strategic mandate.

These projects are exciting and transformative. CFLA-FCAB is planning a series of consultations with stakeholders to ensure we are meeting your needs and expectations.

The dates of these Consultations include:

Thursday, April 11 - 1-3pm EST
Monday, April 15, 12-2pm EST
Tuesday, April 23, 3-5pm EST
Wednesday, May 1 12-2pm EST
Monday, May 6 - 1-3pm EST

Please reach out to Andrea Cecchetto, CFLA-FCAB Board Chair at chair@cfla-fcab.ca if you have any questions.

UPDATES FROM THE CFLA COMMITTEES

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

In January, the Intellectual Freedom Committee finalized an agreement with the Centre for Free Expression to combine library challenge databases to create the unified Canadian Library Challenge Database. The two organizations combined registered a record 188 reported challenges in the 2023 calendar year. At the Ontario Library Association Super Conference, IFC chair Wendy Wright awarded the 2023 Intellectual Freedom Award to James L. Turk of the Centre for Free Expression in recognition of his advocacy for intellectual freedom in libraries. Wendy Wright's term as chair ended in February, at which time vice chair Michael Nyby assumed the chair. Kelly Lauzon was subsequently elected vice chair by a unanimous vote.

The IFC is also recruiting new members. Interested individuals should send both a resume and statement of interest (500 words or less) to the current membership working group lead, Kelly Lauzon, at kelly.lauzon@airdriepubliclibrary.ca.

COPYRIGHT

There were two role changes in the committee, as Donald Taylor (BCLA) is the new chair and Ann Ludbrook (Subject Matter Specialist) is the new Vice-Chair.

The CFLA Copyright Committee's various working groups have been kept busy with a variety of issues. Highlights of the WGs include:

- CFLA's submission to the Federal Government's consultation on copyright and generative artificial intelligence;
- completion of a PLR Position Statement that also reflects the IFLA position that PLR should be separate from copyright legislation;
- ongoing collaborative work with a library and publisher stakeholder group on the guide *Accessible Content: A guide to the Canadian Copyright Act on Searching for Accessible Formats and Producing and Distributing Alternate Formats*;
- and members were key contributors to the Crown Copyright Code of Best Practices that will be available through CARL.

CATALOGUING & METADATA

The committee is extremely excited to begin work for the 2024 year. Their first meeting is scheduled for the spring and will have updates in our next newsletter.

CLIMATE ACTION

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations' (CFLA) Climate Action Committee is surveying the library community to better understand how CFLA can support climate action work in Canadian libraries. You can take the survey here:

Climate Action Survey

In September 2023, CFLA launched this Climate Action Committee in order to:

- Explore issues and identify climate crisis concerns and act as an information resource providing policy recommendations for the CFLA-FCAB Board on climate crisis issues;
- Support the Canadian library and information sector in responding collectively to the climate crisis;
- Focus on capacity building and work in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals relating to climate action; and
- Monitor ongoing progress in these areas.

Responses from this survey will be used to develop the CFLA Climate Action Committee's inaugural work plan. All members of the library community are invited to fill out this survey. Multiple responses from within the same institution are accepted. We project that this survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Survey closes on May 10.

INDIGENOUS MATTERS

The Indigenous Matters Committee is finalizing the follow up report on the CFLA-FCAB Truth and Reconciliation Committee that will be highlighting some examples of actions taken by endorsers as shared with the committee via responses to their survey. This report is planned to go to the board for approval soon and members can likely expect it by the summer.

COMMUNICATIONS

PCC Task Group survey request--working with Indigenous-related metadata:

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) has recently formed the Task Group for Metadata Related to Indigenous Peoples of the Americas which has been charged with identifying and evaluating vocabularies to describe Indigenous groups as alternatives to Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and promote their use. The group seeks to collaborate with groups working with library metadata related to Indigenous Peoples and to advise LC in its revision of Indigenous terminology.

The group has created a survey intended for metadata, cataloging, and library & archives professionals who are currently working on or have worked on projects that aim to evaluate and revise Indigenous-related metadata and subject headings. You don't have to be an expert—we want to hear lots of experiences! Feel free to answer any number of the questions as they apply to you. More responses to the survey make a more nuanced set of recommendations, so please share widely! The survey will remain open until June 2024.

Survey link: <https://forms.gle/iExuzVFq7hQJMcC76>

For more information on the Task Group, please click this link for the official PCC Task Group charge: <https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/taskgroup/Metadata-Related-to-Indigenous-Peoples-Americas-TG-charge.pdf>

If you have any questions and/or comments about this survey or the Task Group, please contact the co-chairs:
Brandon Castle (bcastle@amherst.edu) or
Katherine Witzig (katwitzig@gmail.com)

APLA Call for Proposals

Don't forget to submit your proposal for APLA 2024! This year's theme, "Looking Forward: Library Futures", will examine how libraries are adapting to societal, educational, and technological changes.

The deadline for proposals is April 15, 2024. Proposals can be submitted via our webform [here](#). If you have questions, please contact conference@apla.ca

Shelagh Neary Mikulak Memorial Scholarship

For students in any year of study at a Canadian Post-Secondary institution with a passion for the library science field. Studying in a Library and Information Science or Library Technician program (certificate, diploma or graduate degree). Two awards are available at approximately \$2000. Deadline is June 1st. For more information and to apply, contact calgaryfoundation.org

The Ex Libris' W. Kaye Lamb Award

The [Ex Libris Association](#) (ELA) is excited to announce the winner of the 2023 W. Kaye Lamb award was Innisfil Idea Lab and Library, and their program

ABQLA Conference

The theme of this year's ABQLA conference is "[Can You Hear Me?](#)" The conference is scheduled for May 10th, 2024. Any questions can be directed to conferenceabqla@gmail.com