

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Canadian Urban Libraries Council

I reported last month that it was likely that I would become Chair of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC). At its meeting on October 11, 2007, I was elected Chair of CULC. I've enclosed in the Board package a summary of CULC's recently adopted Strategic Plan so that you are aware of what the organization does on behalf of large urban public libraries. If you would like the more detailed plan, please let me know and I will send it to you.

Institute for Canadian Citizenship

While at the CULC Conference recently, I had the opportunity again to speak to both the Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson (who sends her greetings to the Board) and the CEO of the new organization that she co-chairs with John Ralston Saul. The Institute for Canadian Citizenship has asked about the possibility of holding a citizenship ceremony in the art gallery and will be in Regina in a couple of weeks to scout the location.

North Central Co-location Steering Committee

The North Central Co-location Steering Committee held some public information sessions and a meeting in early October to bring more information to the North Central area about progress on the planning process. The information sessions went well. The public meeting emphasized the need for a slightly different approach to engaging the community in the process and, while the Committee has not met since the public meeting, I expect a great deal of discussion on the topic.

SJSU Presentation

At the last Board meeting I reported that the San José State University MLIS program would be holding an informational reception at RPL at the end of September. The SJSU program can be completed, in whole or in part, online and may be a good fit for Saskatchewan students who would otherwise have to relocate to attend a graduate library school. The reception was exceptionally well attended as 54 people squeezed into the Board Room.

DAG Advisory Committee

At meetings earlier in the year, the Board had some discussions with the Friends of the DAG about the possibility of a DAG Advisory Board. At that time the Library Board declined to establish an Advisory Board for the DAG. Subsequent to that discussion, the Board's DAG Committee, the DAG Director, and the Library Director met with representatives of the FoDAG to investigate an operations-based advisory committee for the Gallery. It was agreed at that time that an operations-based advisory committee for the Dunlop Art Gallery may be helpful for the DAG Director. The DAG Director and Library Director have recently received a list of proposed Advisory Committee members and will be reviewing the list, establishing a mandate, and probably moving toward a first meeting in November.

100th Anniversary Activities

Further to a request at last month's meeting, the projects and activities proposed by the 100th Anniversary Committee have been summarized into a single sheet with ballpark costs and a total. The list includes items from last month's list that the committee rated as highly recommended (4 or 5) as well as some items that were discussed but not specifically listed.

The summary includes a column to show which items were outlined in last month's proposal. It also includes a column to indicate which items have a substantial amount of work that could be done in-house with existing resources. The budget column reflects, for most items, a very rough estimate of costs that are in addition to in-house work to be done. I will provide more detail on the estimates, as needed, at the Board meeting.

I have made a minor change to the list of projects by grouping together the proposed Centennial Publication and Traveling Displays under "Legacy Project". Although each has a somewhat different focus, the research behind them can be shared and it makes sense to combine them. The Anniversary Committee suggested that a person would be needed to co-ordinate the project, do research, and assist in developing the projects and activities. The Co-ordinator is listed on the summary as in-house and although a person to do the work is needed, it could be done within the confines of the current budget so no additional funds need to be allocated.

2009 Home Lottery

North Ridge has submitted a proposal for the 2009 Home Lottery and it is included in your package. You may recall that there were no tenders submitted and North Ridge was the only builder able to commit to providing a proposal. The Board previously approved \$450,000 for the purchase of a 2009 lottery house and this proposal represents what is currently available for that price. I have a few details to work through with North Ridge and will do so before signing but if the Board has any comments, please bring them to the Board meeting.

