



BC Electronic Library Network All Partner Meeting Summary December 2, 2011

In Attendance:

Gohar Ashoughian, University of Northern
British Columbia

Tim Atkinson, Vancouver Community College

Debbie Azaransky, Ministry of Advanced
Education

Janet Beavers, Northern Lights College

Marc Breschuk, Alexander College

Melody Burton, University of British Columbia

Anita Cocchia, BC Electronic Library Network

Rosie Croft, Royal Roads University

Megan Crouch, BC Electronic Library Network

Gregg Currie, Selkirk College

Charles Eckman, Simon Fraser University

Bob Foley, Vancouver Island University

Ted Goshulak, Trinity Western University

Mary Anne Guenther, North Island College
(chair)

April Haddad, Justice Institute of BC

Sybil Harrison, Camosun College

Kim Isaac, University of the Fraser Valley

Nancy Levesque, Thompson Rivers University

Cathy MacDonald, Kwantlen Polytechnic
University

Grace Makerewicz, Capilano University /
Langara College

Heather Morrison, BC Electronic Library
Network

Todd Mundle, Simon Fraser University

Sunni Nishimura, BC Electronic Library
Network

David Pepper, British Columbia Institute of
Technology

Kathy Plett, College of New Caledonia

David Porter, BCcampus

Shahida Rashid, College of the Rockies

James Rout, Emily Carr University of Art +
Design

Debbie Schachter, Douglas College

Reece Steinberg, BC Electronic Library
Network (recorder)

Rob Sutherland, Yukon College

Marnie Swanson, University of Victoria

Richard Thiessen, Columbia Bible College

Ross Tyner, Okanagan College

Venessa Wallsten, Quest University

Melanie Wilke, Northwest Community College

Regrets:

Yvonne de Souza, Columbia College

Don Vincent, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Opening Remarks:

M.A. Guenther, chair, welcomed everyone, introduced new attendees and led all attendees in a round table of introductions.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without additional items.

2. BCcampus Presentation

D. Porter, Executive Director of BCcampus gave a presentation focussing on collaboration, connectivity, and building new systems to reduce costs and create efficiencies .

D. Porter's slide presentation is available here:

http://www.sfu.ca/~davidp/BCcampus_ELN_partners.pdf

3. Items for Discussion

3.1 2011 – 2016 Strategic Plan: Further Articulating Strategies

H. Morrison facilitated the activity *Further Articulating Strategies: a future focused discussion*. The purpose of the activity was to further articulate the strategies developed at the April strategic planning meeting and endorsed by the BC ELN Steering Committee at the July meeting. The activity included three rounds of small – group discussions. The first two were on the participants' choices of 1 or 2 of five topics. The third discussion evaluated what all groups had shared about their discussions via Google Docs. The final part of the activity brought all participants back together. The Further Articulating Strategies document is available here: <http://www.eln.bc.ca/docs/view.php?id=718>

4. Items for Information

4.1 Ministry Update

D. Azaransky provided a brief update on ministry personnel changes. She highlighted the ministry's major focuses: international education and job creation, and how these themes relate to each other and BC ELN. She spoke briefly about Aboriginal post-secondary education strategic framework which has recently gone to cabinet, and added thanks for the Ebsco resources, newly available to the ministry through BC ELN.

4.2 AskAway Update

T. Mundle, AskAway Advisory Committee Chair, provided a report on AskAway.

AskAway traffic continued to steadily rise. All participating libraries are staffing their full commitment of staff hours. Ten libraries have voluntarily offered hours above their commitment, which helps meet the increasing traffic levels. Providing AskAway staff hours for the summer term continues to be a challenge for many institutions. The Advisory Committee is currently working on strategies to formalise summer staffing commitments, look for more communication around this in the New Year.

An Emerging Technologies subcommittee has been working to stay abreast of changes in reference technologies. The committee is keeping a close eye on several text message reference services that have started at BC institutions. The committee will continue to gather information from these services in order to inform discussions regarding the feasibility of a provincial approach to text message reference.

AskAway will be submitting the annual Year in Review document to BCcampus early in the New Year. This report incorporates an evaluation report on activity for the year, as well as a funding request for the next fiscal year.

4.3 Progress Report, April – September 2011

M. Crouch provided an update on the Electronic Health Library of BC (e-HLbc).

The e-HLbc Administrative Centre successfully completed negotiations with database vendors, and is finalizing the renewal of its core suite of databases. e-HLbc's Case for Renewal is also in progress. This document provides evidence of the benefits of collaborating to secure electronic resources. e-HLbc's Strategic Plan was endorsed by its Steering Committee, and will

go to the BC Academic Health Council (BCAHC) Board of Directors for ratification. The new website was launched in October, providing a more interactive forum for members. The website is a work in progress, and the Administrative Centre continues to improve the site.

S. Nishimura provided an update on the proposed online writing support service, WriteAway. WriteAway is a proposed online writing support service which will connect learners at BC college and universities to expanded, effective and convenient writing help. BC ELN's involvement in the past was limited to producing a brochure and hosting the website. In October, BC ELN was asked to take on a more formal role; BCcampus has hired BC ELN to assist with the launch of a WriteAway pilot, and with the development of the collaborative service model, process, policies and documentation.

Aim is to have the pilot up and running early in the new year, with a pilot evaluation done by May. This evaluation will inform the development of a broader service to begin September 2012.

H. Morrison provided an update on BC ELN learner resources. KnowBC successfully transitioned from subsidy to opt-in with 17 participants, which will help to ensure the continuity of this BC resource. Wilson and EBSCO have merged. BC ELN libraries continue to benefit from historically highly discounted pricing for the first year. Trials are currently underway for 3 new products:

- Films on Demand, the top ranked database in 2010/11 Ranking Survey;
- Academic Video Online, the second ranked database in the 2010/11 BC ELN Ranking Survey;
- The Project Muse University Press E-Book Collection offer came to us through the International Coalition of Library Consortia, ICOLC, and coordinated for Consortia Canadian by The Alberta Library.

A. Cocchia invited participants to discuss whether BC ELN should conduct a resources forum and ranking survey this year. The positive outcomes of pursuing these actions include compiling current information about the interest of members in specific electronic resources. The con is the expenditure of BC ELN resources conducting the forum and survey. One reason to consider not doing the survey and forum is that many libraries are facing financial situations which do not allow them to allocate additional funds to new electronic resources. Committee members discussed the value of conducting the survey and forum, and brought up the possibility of ranking the titles, then checking in with member libraries to see if they are interested in pursuing new resources. A committee member noted that even without additional funds for new resources, libraries may replace an existing resource with a new one. A. Cocchia conducted a straw poll about whether BC ELN should conduct a resources forum and ranking survey, checking in with libraries after the ranking survey. Most people were in favour.

5. New Business

There was no new business.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at around the same time (late fall) next year. Dates will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.