

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

CELUPL's Report to the AGM: 2021 Activities

May 11, 2022

The CELUPL Group met three times in 2021 via Zoom. Key topics and activities from the meetings are noted below:

January 8, 2021

- Curbside service during shutdown including offering printing, faxing and scanning pick ups
- Fine free permanently
- *Library Materials Isolation Report* by Vaughan Public Libraries was discussed, many thanks to Margie Singleton and her team for preparing the report and advocating on this issue
- First OLS Board Assembly Meetings to start in Spring 2021
- OLS is updating COVID resources for libraries continually and posting online
- COVID's impact on the opioid crisis has led to the need for increased social supports in the community. Ryan Dowd's staff training is highly recommended.

April 9, 2021

- FOPL reported on advocating efforts for the Ontario Digital Library
- FOPL reported that advocacy efforts for broadband funding were successful
- Awaiting a Ministry response to the letter regarding materials isolation periods, thank you to the many libraries that supported the letter.
- CELA funding was reinstated for this year only. Those who wrote support letters were encouraged to write again, expressing thanks and advocating for long term funding.
- Wellness calls to seniors program
- Healthy communities grant, June is the next intake for applications. Using community partners has been one successful approach.

November 5, 2021

- FOPL's *Government Relations and Support for Ontario's Libraries* presentation was shared.
- FOPL's approach to government relations includes engagement, aligning advocacy priorities with government priorities and talking about fine free in terms of libraries supporting their communities.
- Recent advocacy success jointly with FOPL, OLS & OLA: \$4.8 million investment in public library broadband that will support upgrades for up to 50 libraries!
- OLS clarified proof of vaccination regulations: Board meetings and storytimes are not subject to POV.

- 4th COVID wave: capacity limits, putting furniture back on the floor as libraries reopen, hybrid work models, masking for staff and vaccination policies were topics
- The membership passed a motion to hold one virtual meeting and one in-person meeting annually to reduce meeting costs and travel time.

2022 Meeting dates:

- Fridays, April 1,2022 (virtual) and November 4, 2022 (in person)

The Chief Executives of the Large Urban Public Libraries that comprise the CELUPL Working Group are committed to serve as a strong voice on behalf of the Federation and look forward to continued collaboration and alignment this year and beyond.

This report is circulated on behalf of the current CELUPL Executive:

Helen Kelly	Idea Exchange	Chair
Lauren Jessop	Barrie Public Library	Vice-Chair
Rae-Lynne Aramburo	Brantford Public Library	Secretary