



Canadian Federation of Library Associations  
Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques

## CFLA-FCAB Executive Director's Report

### November 2019

The following is an overview of new developments in activities since my last report dated June 30, 2019.

### Advocacy

#### Meetings with Members of Parliament and Government Officials

#### Other Advocacy Developments

- On September 9, 2019, K. McColgan, S. Haigh, and N. Marrelli met with government officials from Canadian Heritage and Industry to discuss the Crown Copyright portfolio. Work is underway from all parties to gather more information related to the possible removal of Crown Copyright. A follow up meeting is being scheduled for December.
- As an Observer to the WIPO-SCCR, CFLA-FCAB signed on to two letters at this session's conference; "NGO letter to WIPO negotiators, regarding proposal to sidetrack WIPO work on copyright limitations and exceptions" <https://www.keionline.org/31873> and SCCR Secretariat bias in the conduct of the regional seminars and the international conference.
- CFLA-FCAB released a letter on October 23, 2019 in support of Toronto Public Library's rental of meeting space to a controversial third-party individual, Meghan Murphy. While the letter spoke to existing public statements from CFLA-FCAB, the letter also noted the current state of discourse on this matter, indicating that our goal for the 2020 National Forum is to offer the opportunity for the library community to come together for a much needed, open discussion on this topic.
- On October 11, 2019, CFLA-FCAB in partnership with CALL-ACBD held a webinar "Being an Intervener in a Court Case". The recording of the webinar and the PowerPoint presentation can be found on the CFLA-FCAB website at <http://cfla-fcab.ca/en/copyright/>.
- Our Elections Platforms Campaign was announced on September 30, 2019 and we provided tools for our members and our members' members to support discussions with candidates and government officials regarding, infrastructure funding, copyright, accessibility, and Indigenous languages. We are now working to prepare congratulatory letters to elected officials that will be made available for use through the [votelibraries.ca](http://votelibraries.ca) website.

### Activities

- September 19 & 20, 2019, K. McColgan attended the International G7 Summit on Science, Trust and Democracy in the Digital Age. Planned by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), in partnership with the University of Ottawa and the Embassy of France in Canada, this event featured scholars who examined the current state and possible future of challenges and opportunities on societal trust in science, and democratic institutions and practices in the Digital Age.
- October 7, 2019 –CFLA-FCAB issued a press release celebrating Canadian Library Month
- October 23 – 25, 2019, K. McColgan attended the CSAE 2019 Conference held in Vancouver. Although the conference was not a library-sector conference, she participated on a panel with two other association executives discussing sustainable development goals and what CFLA-FCAB is doing to create recognition of the work that libraries do in support of these goals.
- October 16 – 18, 2019, K. McColgan attended the CRKN Access to Knowledge Conference 2019 in Ottawa. The conference held several panels discussing various topics such as licensing, digital heritage, open access, and the decolonization of metadata to name a few.

## **Committee Updates**

- All committees have now prepared their work plans in support of our Strategic Directions. There are two that require final committee approval which will occur during the committee meetings this month
- CARL, CCA, and CFLA are partnering in a working group that is addressing Crown Copyright. We met with ISED and PCH in September and have scheduled a follow up meeting in December. We are working to meet with TBS and have been in discussions with LAC-BAC on the topic as well. We are working with Impact Public Affairs to organize meetings with Brian Masse, NDP MP, and other MPs that are particularly interested in the Crown Copyright portfolio.
- The CMSC released a statement entitled "A plain-language description of BIBFRAME and its potential impact on Canadian libraries".
- The Revenue Development Committee has begun meeting and have meetings scheduled every two weeks.

## **Administration & Outreach**

- I have been engaged in discussions with Valensiya Dresvyannikova, Policy and Research Officer, IFLA, on research they have been doing relating to broadband strategies, digital infrastructure and literacy, telecoms policies, etc. We are exploring the possibility of partnering on a national assessment of what Canada has been doing in this area.
- The Forum Planning Committee had been meeting weekly. This item will be discussed further in to our agenda.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine McColgan, October 31, 2019