

## **CLA e-Book Task Force Summary and Recommendations**

Chaired by Pilar Martinez, CLA's e-Book Task Force included the membership of thirteen individuals that represent a broad range of sectors and geographic regions, including public libraries, academic libraries, consortia, and publishers. CLA Executive Director, Valoree McKay, was an ex-officio member of this task force.

The terms of reference mandated that the CLA e-Book Task Force:

1. Identify, collect, analyse and share information on what is currently being done with respect to e-books, as defined by the task force;
2. Develop recommendations on which existing overarching principles could be adopted by CLA as well as recommend which overarching principles that CLA could/should be develop;
3. Identify and recommend potential advocacy roles and strategies related to the above and to the e-book issues that face the library and information community.

Between October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and February 3, 2015, the full group met via teleconference five times. Several cluster meetings including public library meetings, academic library meetings, meetings with Impact Affairs, and smaller group focused meetings to propose draft strategy and roles and responsibility documents were held throughout that same period.

The results of the Task Force's work are recommended for adoption and implementation of the following as attached:

- Key Library Priorities for e-Content
- Library e-Book Advocacy Initiatives
- Academic Library e-Content Public Awareness and Advocacy Plans
- Public Library e-Content Public Awareness and Advocacy Plans
- eBook Advocacy Campaign Academic Libraries Roles & Responsibilities – Phase One
- eBook Advocacy Campaign Public Libraries Roles & Responsibilities – Phase One

Furthermore, the Task Force recommended that CLA become a signatory to ReadersFirst, an initiative that is "dedicated to ensuring that library users have the same open, easy and free access to e-books that they have come to rely on with physical books." In collaboration with e-content distributors and library vendors, ReadersFirst works to streamline the process of accessing e-content to improve the end user experience. CLA is now a signatory to ReadersFirst.

Finally, the Task Force acknowledges the efforts and collaborative spirit demonstrated by Ottawa Public Library and Toronto Public Library, specifically Jennifer Stirling and Vickery

Bowles, who generously shared their advocacy strategies, letters and other resources to kick-start the work of the CLA task force.

Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude for the contributions and efforts of all task force members many of whom are exceptionally knowledgeable and passionate about the e-book landscape.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Martinez, CLA Past President

March 1, 2015