

## OPL Board - Continuing Education Plan (2019)

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The OPL Board 2019 Continuing Education Plan includes three components: Board educationals, structured external learning (webinars / seminars, meetings / conferences), and internal ongoing learning (field opportunities).

### Board Educationals

OPL Board Educationals serve to provide Trustees with insights on OPL's programs, services, and activities. Educationals are offered at every second Board meeting (or five per year). These educationals are provided as presentations at the beginning of the regular Board meeting.

The 2019 Board Educational topics are:

<b>March</b>	Digital Content Issues and Advocacy Campaign
<b>April</b>	Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association: Mission and Support of OPL
<b>June</b>	Content Services
<b>October</b>	What we do for Literacy
<b>December</b>	OPL Programs: Update and Summary

### Structured External Learning – Webinars / Seminars, Meetings / Conferences

#### Webinars / Seminars

Throughout the year, various library groups (e.g. Southern Ontario Library Service, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries) and associations offer webinars and seminars on a variety of subjects including governance, library trends, and advocacy. Staff monitor these opportunities and share them with the Board via email to gauge interest and coordinate participation, where applicable. Two key opportunities for 2019 are:

#### 2019 Webinar: "Governance Hub"

The Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS) offers a suite of online learning geared to trustees regarding governance. This program is designed to help all Public Library Board Members in Ontario to understand the roles and responsibilities of their positions.

#### Parliamentary Procedure workshop

This parliamentary procedure course is based on Robert's Rules of Order. The course has ten modules (all done via email with a certified professional parliamentarian and teacher of parliamentary law), which can be completed at each Trustees' individual pace.

## **Meetings / Conferences**

Each year, Library Associations across Canada, the U.S., and the World hold meetings and conferences to help advance libraries into the future. Most associations include program offerings for all types of libraries, including public libraries. These opportunities will provide Trustees with access to best practices among larger public libraries globally.

The 2019 list of meetings / conferences which may be of interest to Trustees are:

### **AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA) ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Date: June 20 – 25, 2019

Location: Washington, DC

Attendees participate in events, hear inspiring speakers, and learn from thought leaders and colleagues at more than 500 programs and in-depth sessions. Topics covered include digital content, innovation, the library of the future, transformations, emerging trends, best practices, community engagement, leadership, and many more. You will also have an opportunity to visit more than 800 vendors in the world's largest library-focused exhibit hall, each highlighting new services, technologies, books, and products to improve your library and support your personal career development.

### **URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL (ULC) ANNUAL or PARTNER'S FORUM**

Date: October (TBD)

Location: (TBD - U.S.A.)

The Urban Libraries Council Annual Forum is an opportunity for library leaders from the United States and Canada to share and discuss ideas, strategies, and innovations that have energized the library field over the course of the last year.

Note: ULC recognized OPL as one of 10 Top Innovators during the 2018 ULC Annual Forum held September 5 to 7 in Baltimore, MD. OPL's Express eBooks won in the category of "Collections that demonstrate the value and impact of public library service" for being the first public library in Canada – and among the first in North America – to introduce an Express eBook service.

## **Internal Ongoing Learning – Field Opportunities**

### **Field Opportunities and Walkalongs with OPL Employees**

Every quarter, OPL will provide Board members with three monthly field/walkalong opportunities where board members will be able to “walk alongside” an OPL employee. These opportunities will provide Board members greater knowledge on the programs and services offered in the community.

Potential Field Opportunities for 2019 include:

- Ride along and assist with a mini-library with Homebound Services employees
- A half-day with Inter-Library Loans (ILL) employees
- Participate in an outreach event at an elementary or high school
- InfoService – take part in our contact centre
- Bike along with the Biblio-bike
- Participate in a Storytime or Babytime
- Help restock the kiosk (includes a ridealong)
- Deliver materials to branches (with materials delivery)
- A behind the scenes look at cataloguing and processing
- A behind the scenes look at materials selection and acquisition
- Participate in an outreach visit to local community organizations
- Learn how we sort and shelve materials
- Participate in a Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meeting or a TAG-initiated teen activity (a “TAG-along”)
- Attend an Aging by the Book program
- Be a “maker” in the Imagine Space
- Rove and assist in other “on the floor” activities in a branch
- Ride along and participate in an outreach activity with Bookmobile
- Take part in a conversation group with newcomers
- Start your family tree with a genealogy specialist
- Digitize your personal documents in the digitization lab
- Join our team on Homebound deliveries
- Learn how to make music at the music editing station