

OPL Board - Continuing Education Plan (2020)

The OPL Board 2020 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 2020 Board Educational topics are:

February	Materials Delivery
May	Service OPL
September	Creating Leadership
December	Accessibility Services

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. The recommended opportunity for 2020 is:

“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.

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 2020 list of meetings / conferences which may be of interest to Trustees are:

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS (CFLA)

Date: April 8, 2020

Location: (Winnipeg, Manitoba) in partnership with the Manitoba Library Association

The National voice of Canada's library associations. The purpose is to advance library excellence in Canada, champion library values and the value of libraries, and influence national and international public policy impacting libraries and their communities. CFLA holds a national forum which is planned in partnership with a member association's annual conference. The forum brings together library leaders and stakeholders from Canada and beyond for the purposes of expanding knowledge, sparking ideas, building networks, and collaborating on issues that impact our sector. It is a full day event focusing on critical issues affecting Canadian public policy development while identifying priorities for CFLA. Active participation by members is an essential aspect of this event and in ensuring CFLA continues to be a member-driven, responsive organization.

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (OLA) SUPER CONFERENCE

Date: January 29 – February 1, 2020

Location: Toronto, Ontario

We shed light on learning and technology, and we fight for the right to information, literacy, and education for all. As knowledge and research experts, we venture to serve our communities, schools, and more. We forecast needs and provide services, spaces, and places that support everyone. We are entrusted with holding the facts and evidence upon which a just society is based. As our society transforms, so do we. We are Fearless by Design. Theme: Dream Here.

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (PLA)

Date: February 25 – 29, 2020

Location: Nashville, Tennessee

The 2020 Conference is sure to leave you with the knowledge, confidence, resources, support, and inspiration to bring change back to your library. Develop new skills and talk about how far our libraries have come – be a part of inventing what comes next. The theme for 2020 has yet to be released

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

Date: October

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 year.

Internal Ongoing Learning – Field Opportunities

Field Opportunities and Walkalongs with OPL Employees

Every quarter, OPL will provide Board members with two to 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.

*The Board will be invited to visit the Rosemount branch construction site in the spring.

Potential Field Opportunities for 2020 include:

- A half-day with Inter-Library Loans (ILL) employees
- InfoService – take part in our Contact Centre
- Attend a Science, Technology, Engineer, and Math (STEM) programming
- Participate in a Storytime or Babytime
- Help restock the kiosk
- Work on the sorter at Materials Handling
- Participate in a computer program (learn more about eBooks)
- Participate in a Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meeting or a TAG-initiated teen activity (a “TAG-along”)
- Attend an Aging by the Book program
- Start your family tree with a genealogy specialist
- Participate in an outreach event with the Indigenous Community
- Digitize your personal documents in the digitization lab
- Learn more from our Homebound deliveries team