

CFLA-FCAB

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2024

Greetings from the Chair

This year, the Board's priority has been engaging with members and stakeholders, listening deeply, and collaborating with you on our future. As we move into the fall, CFLA-FCAB is excited to implement the recommendations identified through our engagement work.

We are dedicated to delivering on the CFLA-FCAB's mandate and goals, and we have heard your concerns about the need for improved communications, governance and greater accountability. Over the summer, the Governance Review Steering Committee developed recommendations to improve CFLA-FCAB's board and committee governance. You'll find more information about their findings below.

To ensure that we meet expectations on these and other strategic goals, we are developing a new semi-annual dashboard to track our strategic plan progress. This dashboard will be available on our website in the New Year.

National advocacy continues to be a priority. In this newsletter, you'll find information about our 2024 federal budget submission, our "Libraries as Social Infrastructure" national campaign, and our success in attracting new federal funding. We are collaborating with other associations, both nationally and internationally, to amplify voices in our sector and attract new support.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for engaging with us over the past several months. I look forward to meeting with you and continuing our conversations at our National Forum in the New Year.

Andrea Cecchetto
Chair, CFLA-FCAB Board of Directors

Save the Date!

National Forum is back in-person for 2025.

The CFLA-FCAB's National Forum is returning in 2025 at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference on **Wednesday, January 29, 2025**. We are partnering with IFLA's North American Regional Division Summit AND the Maggie Weaver Spark Forum to provide an incredible full day of programming for you and all super conference attendees. We look forward to seeing you and your members there!





National Advocacy News

Libraries as Social Infrastructure: CFLA-FCAB National Advocacy Campaign

As the chief funders of public libraries in Canada, municipal and provincial governments understand the critical role that libraries play in building communities and strengthening social infrastructure. At a time when the health and well-being of both rural and urban communities is a priority for every level of government, now is the time for the CFLA-FCAB to champion this message at the federal government level.

Over the spring and summer, the board worked with Impact Public Affairs to develop a national campaign to highlight libraries' critical role in the social infrastructure of communities, and to advocate for the sector's access to increased federal funding for libraries. Libraries are the only GLAM (galleries, libraries, archives, and museums) sector with no direct federal funding despite the broad social and economic benefits libraries bring to their communities. We have a powerful story to tell, and this new national advocacy campaign provides the tools we need to champion our work.

Throughout the fall and winter, the CFLA-FCAB executive team will begin the first phase of the national advocacy campaign by meetings with federal policy leaders and relevant members of parliament.

In the New Year, the second phase of the campaign will begin. The CFLA-FCAB Board will work with member associations to launch a grassroots advocacy campaign aimed at reaching members of parliament across the country.

2024 Federal Budget Submission

CFLA-FCAB prepares a federal budget submission each year. [This year's submission](#) reiterated and highlighted the messaging of our national advocacy campaign, with three pillars:

1. Increase funding to public libraries to support them as an essential part of the social infrastructure of our communities.
2. Increase investment in organizations that provide accessible reading services
3. Increase support for Indigenous libraries and Indigenous library workers.

Advocacy Training: Effective Meetings with MPs and other Stakeholders

CFLA-FCAB is hosting a 60-min session with [Impact Public Affairs](#), CFLA-FCAB's government relations and communications firm, on how to conduct effective meetings with government officials, policy staff and other key stakeholders. The session is open to all members of CFLA-FCAB member associations and committees.

Nov 14, 12:30 PM EST | Register [HERE](#)



National Advocacy News

New Federal Funding for Climate Education Campaign

The CFLA-FCAB is among eight Canadian organizations awarded environmental education funding by Environment and Climate Change Canada. With this foundational investment of \$23,000 from the federal government, the Climate Action Committee is developing a national climate education campaign for use in libraries with the goal of improving climate literacy across the country.

Since its launch in 2023, the CFLA-FCAB's Climate Action Committee has worked to deliver on two core elements of its mandate: to support Canadian libraries in their efforts to respond to the climate crisis and to build capacity for education and action in the communities they serve. Attracting the funding needed for this work was an important first step toward meeting our strategic goals.

The national climate education campaign will consist of two main programs: one, to educate library professionals and information workers on the role that libraries can play in combating the climate crisis; and two, to create educational content and tools that can be scaled for use in public, school, and academic libraries and adapted to the needs and abilities of their library users.

The Climate Action Committee is building on the work already underway by member organizations to increase climate literacy and action, such as BCLA's Climate Action Week. The committee looks forward to engaging with CFLA-FCAB members to create a useful and effective environmental education and advocacy primer and toolkit.

Contribute to the Canadian Library Challenges Database

The Canadian Library Challenges Database is a joint initiative of CFLA-FCAB and the Centre for Free Expression with the aim of enabling the exchange of information between libraries about the challenges they face and the methods they've employed to address them. Your continued participation is key; please remember to register any challenge you face on the website. CFLA-FCAB's Intellectual Freedom Committee is also in the process of contacting libraries who have previously reported challenges through the old Intellectual Freedom Challenges Survey to acquire consent to include past reports in the new public-facing Canadian Library Challenges Database.



Updates from the Board

Governance Review Complete, Recommendations Accepted

In response to feedback received in stakeholder consultations held last spring, the board launched a Governance Review Steering Committee. The Committee's mandate was to examine CFLA-FCAB's structure, policies and practices, and to propose recommendations to ensure that the federation is delivering on its strategic priorities. The committee focused on two clearly identified areas from the spring consultations:

- The composition and mandate of the CFLA-FCAB Board
- The structure and appointment process for Strategic Committees

In September 2024, the steering committee completed its review and reported to the Board of Directors. The following recommendations were accepted by the Board:

1. Clarify committee appointment processes and approvals.
2. Increase committee accountability and alignment with the board.
3. Enhance onboarding and learning opportunities for committee (and Board) members.
4. Clarify committee mandates and terms of reference.
5. Review and streamline the development of position statements (including the introduction of formal member consultation processes). Review current position statements.
6. Enhance Board Member recruitment.
7. Extend terms of CFLA-FCAB's Executive Officers of the Board to provide better continuity and move to elected executive positions.
8. Develop a new member engagement strategy and refine CFLA-FCAB's value proposition for current and prospective members.
9. Review resourcing for the organization.

The Executive Committee is developing project plans to manage the implementation of recommendations. Stay tuned for updates through the fall and winter.

News from our Members and Partners

From Ex Libris Association: [Ex Libris Association Board](#) is pleased to report that the [Indigenous Student Bursary](#), created in 2023, has been awarded to William Fayant, a student with an excellent GPA in his second year in the Library and Information Technician Program at RRC Polytechnic in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

From the International Association of School Librarianship:

The International Association of School Librarianship is hosting an upcoming virtual conference on October 26-28th, 2024. The theme for this year's conference is "Stronger Together: School Libraries in Community." More information may be found on their [website](#).



Updates from the Board

CFLA-FCAB Sub-committee Updates

Though most CFLA-FCAB sub-committees did not formally meet over the summer, several key projects and initiatives continued. In July, the Board approved a new CFLA-FCAB Statement prepared by our Intellectual Freedom Committee on [Libraries & the Intellectual Freedom of Children & Youth](#).

The Cataloguing and Metadata Standards Committee (CMSC) brought the [Cataloguing Code of Ethics](#) to the Board for endorsement, marking the culmination of a careful process of consultation and review. Completed in 2021, the Code of Ethics is a joint project of CFLA-FCAB, the American Library Association, and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (UK). It is jointly managed by members of the three associations through the Cataloguing Ethics Steering Committee. CFLA-FCAB is responsible for translating the original draft of the Cataloguing Code of Ethics into French and will assume responsibility for its maintenance. Thank you to Christine Smith (Concordia University), for chairing the steering committee and to all CMSC members for their work on this important project.

The Copyright Committee in partnership with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) completed the joint CARL-CFLA guide "[Navigating Copyright for Crown-Published Works A Code of Best Practices for Libraries](#)." Building and sharing expertise among the wider copyright community, members of the committee also presented at the ABC Copyright Conference in Halifax and attended the User Rights Network in Washington, DC.

The Climate Action Committee was busy analysing the data from their national survey, circulated in the spring, about climate action work in Canadian libraries. A report on key findings will be shared with the Board and member associations later this fall. The results will help inform the CFLA-FCAB Climate Education Campaign and future committee workplans.

News from our Members and Partners

From Sustainable Libraries Initiative and Association of Research Libraries:

The [Association of Research Libraries](#) (ARL) is partnering with the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) (SLI) to enable all ARL member institutions to become members of the SLI for 12 months and receive a discounted rate for joining the [Sustainable Library Certification Program](#). This partnership is in effect through December 31, 2025, and may be renewed to continue past that date. The [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) empowers library professionals to be leaders in triple-bottom-line sustainability (environmental stewardship, social equity, and economic feasibility) both within their organizations and in their communities