



## SPECIAL BC ELN STEERING COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE

### MINUTES

#### In Attendance:

Melody Burton, University of British Columbia

Patty Gallilee, Simon Fraser University  
(Alternate)

Natalie Gick, *Simon Fraser University Officer*

Kim Isaac, University of the Fraser Valley,  
*Regional Universities (Vice Chair)*

Shirley Lew, Vancouver Community College,  
*Urban Colleges*

Scott Marsden, Alexander College, *Associate Members*

Brenda Mathenia, Thompson Rivers University,  
*Small Universities*

Lisa Petrachenko, University of Victoria

Shahida Rashid, College of the Rockies, *Rural Colleges*

Ministry of Advanced Education:  
Andrei Bondoreff

BC ELN Staff:

Anita Cocchia

Leigh Anne Palmer

Brandon Weigel (Recorder)

#### Regrets:

Jonathan Bengtson, University of Victoria

Gwen Bird, Simon Fraser University

Kate Cotie, Ministry of Advanced Education

Friday, February 10, 2017

11 am to 12 pm

#### 1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as distributed.

#### 2. Common Suite Facilitated Session Review

L. Palmer provided an overview of the outcomes from the November 21 Common Suite Facilitated Session, highlighting several key points:

- Partner libraries expressed conflicting thoughts about what they want and value in a common suite. Specifically, they voiced commitment to the equity that a common suite brings to the system, while also communicating a desire for flexibility to make autonomous decisions based on institutional priorities.

- Clarity emerged regarding criteria for a common suite. Criteria included: supports equity in the system; facilitates student transfer; value (in both content and cost) for individual libraries and for the system; transparent pricing and cost sharing models; includes more than one vendor; explores non-content options (including services and tools); incorporates flexibility and choice.
- Partner libraries agreed on how the investigation should proceed. The Office will perform the investigative work, with oversight and guidance from the Steering Committee. Expertise around questions of content, interoperability, etc., may be requested from partner libraries as needed. It was clear that partner libraries want to see multiple options for common suite possibilities, along with a recommendation from the Steering Committee.

The Facilitated Session Summary Report will provide more details.

When questioned about the feasibility of meeting all the criteria, L. Palmer expressed confidence that it will be possible to include equity, commonality, and choice in a set of options, but reminded the Committee that in the end partner libraries may decide not to move forward with a common suite.

**ACTION:** The BC ELN Office will distribute a draft Facilitated Session Summary Report to the Steering Committee in mid-February. A finalized report will be sent to all partner libraries afterward.

### **3. Investigation Update**

A. Cocchia provided an overview of the BC ELN Office's common suite investigation to date, which has included gathering information and ideas at a February 1 Consortia Canada meeting, as well as engaging in discussions with vendors at the Ontario Library Association Conference.

Further details of the meetings with EBSCO and ProQuest were provided and largely concerned the key criteria identified at the facilitated session. At the time of the meeting, EBSCO was also notified of BC ELN's interest in the third optional year of the current contract. This third year will provide time to develop alternate approaches before June 2018.

Further conversations with vendors will take place in March, providing vendors time to consider their offers, and providing the Office time to strategize. An action plan, including preliminary options will be brought to the May 25<sup>th</sup> virtual Steering Committee meeting for discussion. More concrete options, based on the Steering Committee's guidance, will then be brought to the in-person July meeting. The aim is for a decision to be made on how to proceed by the end of December 2017.

Questions around timing were raised. The proposed timeline provides six months between a decision by BC ELN partners and the end of the contract for the present common suite, which should allow sufficient time for libraries to implement any changes that may be necessary. Regardless of the decisions resulting from this process, the products licensed under the present common suite will remain available as BC ELN licenses.

### **4. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place by teleconference on May 25, 1:00-2:30 PM. Dates for the July and December meetings will be confirmed by the end of February.