

National Heritage Digitization Strategy Steering Committee

Minutes

Friday, April 24, 2020, 3 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time (ET)

Chair: Paul Takala

Present

- Clare Appavoo, Canadian Research Knowledge Network
- David Alexander, Royal BC Museum
- Jonathan Bengtson, Canadian Association of Research Libraries
- Ern Bieman, Canadian Heritage Information Network
- Paul Durand, Canadian Museum of History
- Loren Fantin, OurDigitalWorld Organization
- Émilie Fortin, Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval
- Geoffrey Harder, University of Alberta
- Christopher Hives, University of British Columbia Archives
- Allison Lennox, Toronto Public Library
- Andrea Mills, Internet Archive
- Lisa Miniaci, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec
- Rebecca Ross, Canadian Research Knowledge Network (observer)
- Paul Takala, Hamilton Public Library
- Leslie Weir, Library and Archives Canada
- Heather Wood, The Writers' Union of Canada

Regrets

- Loryl MacDonald, University of Toronto Libraries
- Katherine McColgan, Canadian Federation of Library Associations
- Michael Moosberger, Dalhousie University
- Kathryn Rose, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Kathryn Ruddock, University of Calgary
- Carole Urbain, Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation

Secretariat

- Caitlin Horrall, Library and Archives Canada

1. AGENDA AND MINUTES (Chair)

The Chair asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

The Chair then presented the minutes of the January 2020 meetings and asked for any comments. There were none, so the minutes were adopted as presented.

Moved by E. Bieman. Seconded by D. Alexander.

That the minutes from the January 2020 meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PROGRESS ON DISCUSSIONS RE: NHDS – THREE YEARS LATER (All)

The secretariat summarized previous discussions about NHDS accomplishments, focusing on: original ambitions; funding; governance; network; and, other initiatives.

The chair said he had been discussing with members to see how best to coordinate the NHDS.

L. Weir stated that digitization and the NHDS are critically important to LAC. She said now could be an opportunity to set new objectives, build momentum, seek other opportunities for funding, align with other initiatives and to work together to accomplish new objectives. She said conversations have been happening with CRKN and the chair to explore the option of having CRKN play a greater role in the NHDS.

C. Appavoo said CRKN would be willing to offer additional support, but they want to hear from the committee to ensure it agrees. She said CRKN could provide staff resources as an in-kind contribution, but would need the consent of the committee.

The chair opened the floor for discussion.

Members noted a change in secretariat to CRKN could provide more opportunities for funding, and that it appears to fit the strategic direction of the CRKN. They also saw there were new opportunities that did not exist when the NHDS began.

However, members wanted to ensure LAC continued to be involved, that public libraries were considered, that the NHDS would be adequately resourced at CRKN, that CRKN would continue to be able to apply for funding, and that a transition plan be developed.

One member said the Canada Council for the Arts has a Digital Strategy Fund that could be of interest to the NHDS.

Another member asked that those who are not on the call be provided with an opportunity to voice their opinions. CRKN and the secretariat agreed to work on a transition plan.

The chair asked for a motion that the committee supports in principle the investigation of a transition of the secretariat to CRKN.

Moved by E. Bieman. Seconded by L. Miniaci.

That the steering committee explore the possibility of a transition of the secretariat to CRKN.

3. METADATA SUMMIT (Secretariat)

The secretariat said the planning committee for the Metadata Summit had taken the decision to cancel the event because of COVID-19. Members talked about the possibility of hosting a virtual conference instead.

4. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS (All)

The secretariat said the RightsStatements consultation document would be posted on the website.

5. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND FURTHER BUSINESS (Secretariat)

Members agreed a meeting in a few months after some of the transition work has been prepared would make sense.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. ET.