



INFORMCANADA
Minutes

Sept 17, 2020-by Teleconference

Present: Jerilyn Dressler (chair), Philip Wolfart, John Hoyles, Pam Hillier, Corinne Gallois (note taker), Sherry Fahim, Marcus Logan, Cathy Cummings, Robyn Romano

Regrets: n/a

Jerilyn began the meeting at 1:05pm Eastern Time.

Roundtable

Philip: Continue to work from home, no plans to return in the foreseeable future. 211 phone launching in Manitoba early October, soft launch next week, as much data updated as possible; new staff starting Tuesday, live Wednesday

Sherry: Director of Technology & Communications at Hamilton Public Library; HPL inherited Red Book, supporting 211 system; 100% data up to date; developed new database solution, working with 211/FIS to create API for iCarol exchange; hoping to launch in next two months; shifted to remote work for Covid; opened up branches 2 months ago; looking at improving hours for next month

Marcus: Manager Community Development & Engagement - Oakville Public Library; launched new version of directory for newcomers; engaged with 211 and local government to provide navigation tools; starting social prescribing initiative

Robyn: Director of Operations at Distress Centre Calgary; recently launched provincial 211 service; developing hybrid model of on site and remote work; keep expanding partnering and relationships

Pam: Executive Director at Community Connections, 211 provider in Ontario; 33 years in sector; 19 projects on the go; new opportunities from Covid; attended AIRS AGM, 600 attendants; moved to new office space, built for remote work, some staff designated remote workers; no new change planned for next month

John: Executive Director at Ottawa Community Information Centre (to be renamed Community Navigation of Eastern Ontario?); new to sector; used to run Canadian Bar Association; no return to the office before January; will set up for occasional on site work; lots of concern about next 5-7 months; UW federal funding, got new staff

Corinne: Coordinator French Services at Findhelp Information Services; 211 provider for Central region Ontario; many projects, national expansion in NB, NL, partnerships and relationships development; now managing data in iCarol system; no plan to return to the office immediately, preparing for second wave

Cathy: ED of International Alliance of ALS/MND Associations, association of associations working with ALS community; based out of England, but working in Toronto; background in organizational development; certified Project Manager; CBA; worked on merger ALS Ontario/ALS Canada, 2010-12; will work on project plan for IO/IC partnership project

Approval of the Agenda - Jerilyn

- John didn't receive the package, will leave meeting at 2pm
- Jerilyn: adding item for anti-racism module in Training Manual, time allowing
- Jerilyn: adding item for Findhelp contract re Taxonomy, time allowing

- ❖ Motion to approve the Agenda by Pam, seconded by Marcus. All in favour. **CARRIED**

Approval of minutes of May 21st, 2020 - Jerilyn

- ❖ Motion to approve the Minutes by John, seconded by Sherry. All in favour. **CARRIED**

Business Arising & Updates

- **InformCanada Merger/Partnership Opportunities and Welcome to Cathy Cummings (Jerilyn, Cathy)**
 - Background (Marcus, John, Jerilyn): IO approached IC for partnership; trying to leverage each other's resources, facing the same risks; how can we create more value for members and attract new members by joining forces; exploration stage of what partnership can look like, merger being one possible option. What could be the potential next steps?
 - Cathy: be clear about what you want to achieve and what strengths can be leveraged; merger is not the only solution; explore further, more discussion necessary with the two boards, then consider structure that best support objectives and strategies; create a small group from both boards to make recommendations and project plan; don't consult membership without being clear on objectives/strategy
 - Marcus: IO discussing possible options; mostly new board members, considering bringing a past-president or member with more experience; reservations due to past history, risk of layoff with merger; relationship needs to be repaired
 - Next steps: keep listening to understand barriers; Cathy to meet with Marcus and attend an IO meeting; set up small group to act as steering committee to design objectives/strategies
- ❖ Next steps: Cathy will organize online survey for both boards
- ❖ Jerilyn will send Doodle Pool for next meeting early October, answer survey ahead of meeting and be ready for discussion

Financial update and review of the financial statements (John)

- 211 Canada Leadership Group under Liability: IC holding money, to be used by MOU group
- Gap in assets because of payable not paid at the same time
- AIRS expenses not paid yet
- Projecting a similar situation with small decrease in reserve continuing
- Some budget not spent (AIRS conference)
- ❖ Motion to file this financial update with the board, by John, seconded by Marcus. All in favour. **CARRIED**

Subcommittee Updates (Chairs)

n/a

Other items

- Jerilyn will send materials for Taxonomy/Findhelp contract approval by email

Adjournment and Next Meeting

- ❖ Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Sherry.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm. (next meeting TBD)