

**Ontario Library Service Informal Library Chat
Summary Notes
January 20, 2022**

OLS Updates

- **Next meeting** (Thursday, February 17 at 10am ET/9am CT) will be held in 4 weeks' time, instead of 2 weeks, because of OLA Super Conference.
- **Training Bulletin** was released today for the Winter session:
<https://mailchi.mp/olservice/learnhq-training-bulletin-winter-2022>
- **[The Annual Survey of Public Libraries](#)** is expected to be released this week. We encourage you to verify that you can access GO-SECURE.
 - REMINDERS:
 - For some of the financial responses, please use cash accounting numbers rather than accrued accounting numbers. There is no need to wait for the audited financial statements.
- **Recent topics of conversation in the CEO listserv (summary)**
 - Summer Student Job Grants
 - Curbside pickup
 - Credit Card policies

COVID-19 Snapshot of Library Services

- Those in attendance were polled on current service levels for their libraries
- This week's poll included a new question about staffing shortages related to COVID-19
- See the [COVID-19 Snapshot of Library Services](#) document for the poll results, as well as results from previous Informal Library Chat polls.
- Suggestions for revisions to the questions asked in this poll are welcomed and encouraged.

Discussion Topics

Masks and reasonable accommodations

- CEOs discussed reasonable accommodations for patrons unable to wear masks
- CEOs discussed policies, communication with health units, and communication with the public regarding public health rules.

Canada Post

- There was discussion about rumoured discontinuation of lower denominations of stamps and the effects on interlibrary loans shipping costs.
- The library shipping tool is managed by CULC, and CULC is aware of the rumoured change.

- OLS reimburses libraries \$2.00 per outgoing loan, which is more than the lowest shipping tool rate.

Contracting municipalities

- CEOs discussed contracting municipalities ending contracts and strategies to demonstrate the value of remaining in the contracts.
- Some municipalities are opting to reimburse non-resident fees rather than contracting with a neighbouring library board.

Composition of the Board and Governance

- CEOs discussed their experience with members of councils acting as library board chair.
- There was also the suggestion that OLS offer training for board chairs.

Sharing of administrative services with the municipality

- Several CEOs discussed the interest of municipalities in consolidating shared administrative services.
- [Memorandum of Understandings](#) between Library Boards and Municipalities were discussed.

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Connection details will be provided via the CEO distribution group.