

OLS Updates

- The **Annual Survey of Public Libraries** was launched on January 26. All CEOs should have received an email announcing the launch, along with supporting documents.
 - o Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2022
 - o Annual Survey page of the OLS website includes an FAQ, and the Section C stats for electronic resources (OLS OverDrive Consortium, OLS Cantook Consortium, and electronic resources purchased through OLS licensing)
 - o Annual Survey page on the OLS website: <https://www.olservice.ca/funding-grants/annual-survey>
 - o In GO-Secure, you can find a few more Help documents, including the Blank Survey and the Definitions document
- **CEO Salary Survey** is underway and today (March 31) is the last day for submissions
 - o Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CEOSalarySurvey2022>
 - o Mailchimp message: <https://mailchi.mp/olservice/ceo-salary-survey-annual-survey-of-public-libraries>
- **Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit – Steering Committee Applications** are open and today (March 31) is the last day to submit an application
 - o Application link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LVTK2022>
 - o Mailchimp message: <https://mailchi.mp/olservice/valuing-ontario-libraries-toolkit-steering-committee-application-invite?e=da820d8d27>
- **Upcoming Networking:** Board Assembly meetings are starting next week (first week of April) and the CEO Networking Meetings will be held in May (registration for both is open on LearnHQ)
 - o Meetings page of the OLS website: <https://www.olservice.ca/networking-meetings>
- **Municipal Election Policy:** OLS has developed a Trillium Public Library sample policy to address elements around the library and municipal elections. By May 1st, local boards (including library boards) need to set rules for the use of board resources during the campaign period. Thank you to FOPL and OLA for their recent advocacy work, website and guides can be accessed via the OLS website:
<https://resources.olservice.ca/succession-planning/elections>

Recent topics of conversation in the CEO discussion group (summary):

- o Wi-fi hotspots
- o Courier vans
- o Incident report templates
- o Library furniture

- Memorandums of Understanding
- Political elections and the use of library resources

COVID-19 Snapshot of Library Services

- Those in attendance were polled on current service levels for their libraries
- This week's poll included new questions about physical barriers within the library space, changes to masking requirements for staff and patrons, the return of volunteers to the library, and changes to COVID-related policies.
- 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

Friends of the Library Groups

- CEOs discussed fundraising strategies for Friends of the Library groups, including various options (book sales, game nights, etc.) and other volunteer opportunities outside of fundraising (membership drives)

Meeting Room Rental Policies

- As the provincial public health measures (masking, distancing) no longer apply to library buildings, there was discussion regarding how meeting room rentals are handled. Most CEOs who participated in the discussion stated that the person/organization renting the room may determine if public health measures should apply to their gathering.

Staff Masking and Close Interactions with Customers/Patrons

- Many staff members continue to wear masks. Some employ strategic masking strategies, such as wearing masks while moving through the library, but not when behind barriers (such as plexiglass at the circulation desk).
- CEOs discussed strategies to engage customers in conversation for staff members that may be apprehensive to come into close contact with members of the public. Strategies include asking customers to leave some space while interacting with staff.

Return to In-Person Board Meetings

- Several CEOs are investigating best ways forward with hybrid meeting options.

Staff morale

- CEOs discussed various options and resources related to staff morale.