

Library Groups Involved in E-Book Advocacy

Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC)

www.culc.ca

CULC was early to launch an advocacy initiative in November 2010 with its position document entitled, *Vision Statement for Public Library Access to Downloadable and Portable E-Content*. Meetings with publishers and their representatives to discuss the Vision Statement and the need for more content especially more Canadian content, had concrete results and led to the CULC/eBound pilot project for a new lending e-content platform. A task group was established for the project.

TPL provided leadership in developing CULC's advocacy initiative, participated in meetings with publishers; staff have been actively engaged on the task group for the pilot project.

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

www.ifla.org

IFLA's digital content plan includes working collaboratively to build a framework that will allow libraries to play a major role in collecting, preserving, and offering wide access to all types of content. IFLA established a working group to investigate the issues with the result that its *Background E-Lending Paper* (see attachment 2) was released in spring 2012. IFLA held an e-book summit with library representatives in November 2012 to further develop an understanding of the issues facing libraries and start to shape IFLA's policy direction on digital content.

TPL monitors IFLA's activities and resources. Current and former CULC members participate in meetings and discussions, making connections to other initiatives such as ReadersFirst.

ReadersFirst Initiative

www.readersfirst.org

A coalition of more than 220 library systems, ReadersFirst was introduced by New York Public Library in June 2012 to advocate with vendors for improved discoverability and integration of e-content for library websites. Discussions with vendors are underway and a compilation of technical requirements has been completed.

TPL has participated in all meetings. CULC issued a press release in June 2012 to support the ReadersFirst initiative and identify the libraries that have signed on to the initiative, including TPL.

Urban Libraries Council (ULC)

www.urbanlibraries.org

ULC is assisting its members educate the public on the current challenges faced by libraries in accessing e-books. ULC's advocacy approach focuses on preserving the freedom to read and the fundamental role that libraries play in ensuring people's freedom to read. ULC has drafted two op-ed pieces for libraries to use if they want to get the message out through their local media channels.

TPL monitors ULC's activities and resources.

American Library Association

www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/ebooks-digital-content

ALA is providing leadership by meeting with publishers, launching a public education campaign and in establishing the Digital Content & Libraries Working Group.

A website has been established to provide resources to help libraries in the transformation from print to digital content and includes advocacy resources

TPL monitors ALA's activities and resources.