User Advisory Group Orientation Package­­­­

# Introduction

It is a national non-profit organization that provides infrastructure, support and content that allows public libraries to deliver accessible library materials to Canadians with print disabilities in equal measure to that which is enjoyed by other members of their community.

## Vision

Equitable public library services for Canadians with print disabilities.

## Mission

To support public libraries in the provision of accessible collections for Canadians with print disabilities and to champion the fundamental right of Canadians with print disabilities to access media and reading materials in the format of their choice.

## Mandate

To acquire and distribute published works in alternative formats to Canadian public libraries and to provide public libraries with advice, training, and information to support their patrons’ access to and use of these collections.

## Values

### Inclusion

Canadians with print disabilities have access to quality public library collections across the nation in Canada’s two official languages and in the format(s) of their choice. Collections are preserved to ensure long-term access and represent the linguistic and cultural diversity of Canada. Services are provided in Canada’s two official languages.

### Leadership

CELA partners with national and international organizations to identify and implement best practices in creating and maintaining equitable library services for those with print disabilities.

### Expertise

CELA offers specialized skill and support to public libraries to facilitate accessible services for all.

### Effectiveness

CELA offers the greatest benefit to the greatest number of Canadians and public libraries, at the lowest cost possible through funding partnerships, collaborations and the optimization of resources.

### Accountability

Services are informed by the needs of Canadians with print disabilities and public libraries.

# Board Members

## Peter Bailey

Peter is the CEO of St. Albert Public Library in Alberta and the current President of the Library Association of Alberta. He is also serving on the interim board of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations.

## Catherine Biss

Catherine is CEO of the Markham Public Library in Ontario and is currently chair of the CELA Board. Previously, she served as the chair of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council. She has served on the CELA Board since its inception in 2013.

## Grace Dawson

Grace is the Regional and Community Services Librarian, Prince Edward Island Public Library Service. She earned her Masters of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from the University of Western Ontario in 2011 and held several positions in Prince Edward Island prior to her current role.

## Jefferson Gilbert

Jefferson is the Executive Director of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council and the Principal at Gap. Point. Reach. Inc., a Canadian-based consultancy that focusses on working with non-profit groups and building leadership and financial capacity within the sector. He is currently the CELA Board Treasurer.

## Rina Hadziev

Rina is currently Collections & Technical Services Coordinator at Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) in Victoria, British Columbia. Previously she was Head of Technical Services at GVPL and Head of Branches at Richmond Public Library in Richmond, British Columbia.

## Teresa Johnson

Teresa is the Research and Planning Librarian for New Brunswick Public Library Service. She is responsible for developing library policies and strategic plans and coordinates the ongoing development of library services for people with print disabilities.

## Pilar Martinez

Pilar is the CEO of the Edmonton Public Library. She has a broad base of experience in library leadership including: advocacy, strategic and business planning, and change leadership. Pilar was honoured with the Library Association of Alberta’s President’s Award in 2016 for her province-wide contributions to the library field, and in 2012 with the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship.

## Kitty Pope

Kitty’s career has taken her from the Canadian arctic to the United Arab Emirates, to Saskatchewan, Calgary, Peoria Illinois and back to Ontario as CEO of the Guelph Public library 2010-2014 and currently CEO of the Windsor Public Library in Ontario. She is a passionate advocate for the visually impaired and committed to expanding access to information through the public library network.

## Gwen Schmidt

Gwen is a manager of branch services of the Saskatoon Public Library in Saskatchewan after dedicating many years serving seniors and people with disabilities in the Outreach and Access Services Department. She is past-president and treasurer of the Saskatchewan Library Association.

# CELA Staff

* Michael Ciccone, Executive Director, michael.ciccone@celalibrary.ca, 905-320-5144
* Lindsay Tyler, Manager of Member Service, lindsay.tyler@celalibrary.ca (currently on maternity leave)
* Rachel Breau, Acting Manager of Member Services, rachel.breau@celalibrary.ca
* Karen McKay, Communications Manager, karen.mckay@celalibrary.ca
* Faline Bobier, Training and Outreach Coordinator
* Daphne Boxill, Specialist, Marketing and Administration Support
* Teresa Power, Content and Access Librarian

# Services

## User Services

* Online Access to Digital Collections
* Access to the CNIB collection of DAISY narrated audio, e-text and braille books and magazines (100,000 titles, English and French, for adults and children) in physical and digital formats
* Direct-to-Player download to IOS, Android and DAISY reading devices
* Access to 50 national, international and regional newspapers updated daily
* Bookshare - access to 300,000 titles for CELA patrons and educators including New York Times bestsellers and a tremendous offering of educational material
* Home-delivery
* DAISY narrated audio books and magazines on CDs, and described videos
* Embossed braille books and magazines, and printbraille (picture books with transparent braille sheet overlays on each page)
* User support
* Readers advisory service (Helpline)
* Patron technical support

## Library Support Services

* Direct-to-Player download – for libraries choosing to preload reading devices for loan
* Deposit Collections including MARC records for catalogue integration, for library shelves and local-library home delivery service
* Burn to CD service - allows libraries to burn a title locally for immediate fulfillment of a request for DAISY CD
* CELA Interlibrary Loan (DAISY audio CDs, braille, printbraille, described videos delivered to libraries)
* Training & support for library staff – web and live, interactive webinars and instructional materials
* Online self-serve instruction (e-learning)
* Members support (Helpline)
* Marketing and promotional material and support for community outreach

## Educator Services

* Access to CELA collection of DAISY narrated audio, e-text and braille books and magazines
* Bookshare - access to 300,000 titles for CELA users and educators serving students with print disabilities
* Training & support for educators - customized webinars and instructional materials
* Educator support helpline

# CELA Collections

The CELA Collections Team select materials for the collections based on principles defined in the CELA’s vision and mission statements. CELA’s collections are developed as intentionally-curated and well-balanced accessible format collections with an emphasis on Canadian content. The Team also maintains key partnerships with accessible format producers and commercial publishers and continually seeks new opportunities. Some of our most important partnerships are highlighted below:

## CNIB

CELA and CNIB have a service agreement in place in which CNIB provides the delivery and housing of a collection of close to 100,000 accessible books and the production of additions to the collection based on the CELA Collections Policy and curated by the CELA Collections Team. CNIB is funded primarily by the Government of Canada for this work.

CELA and CNIB jointly signed an agreement earlier this year with the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA) to use grant money BPAA received to produce a set of titles in audio. In this agreement, CELA keeps a copy for the collection and BPAA members sell the recording commercially to retailers and to libraries. The publishers were very happy with the quality of the CNIB recordings and we’ve received unofficial word that the project will likely be extended through additional grant money.

## Bookshare

CELA also has a partnership with Bookshare that provides ever-expanding depth to our offerings. Bookshare offers a collection of close to 300,000 books in accessible formats, including current bestsellers and a tremendous collection of educational resources. Bookshare is a US-based service from Benetech, a leading Silicon Valley-based non-profit company that uses technology to address pressing social needs.

## BAnQ (Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec)

There is also an agreement between CELA and the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) that ensures access to CELA services for residents of Québec and reciprocal access to the BAnQ French-language collection for Canadians outside Québec.

## ABC (Accessible Books Consortium)

For materials in languages other than French and English, CNIB’s leadership in the international Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) is being leveraged to further expand the CELA collection, by adding titles in accessible formats produced in other countries and often in other languages. The implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty on September 30, 2016 holds great potential for bolstering and adding depth to our offerings.

## Commercial Audio Publishers

In addition, we are actively seeking source materials through partnerships with book publishers, Canadian publishing associations and producers of audiobooks. We currently have agreements in place with Recorded Books, Blackstone Audio and Dreamscape Audio that allow us to purchase high demand audio books, add functionality to improve accessibility, and provide them to CELA users simultaneous to commercial release at substantially less cost than full production.