



Manitoba Association of Health Information Providers

P.O. Box 232 Winnipeg, MB R3M 3S7

<http://mahip.wordpress.com>

contact.mahip@gmail.com

November 7, 2012

MAHIP Report to Provincial Working Group of Member Responses to Survey Results

Prepared By: Andrea Szwajcer, MAHIP President

Presented to: Provincial Chapter Presidents

Background

On August 27, 2012 the MAHIP executive met to discuss the survey findings and consider the best way to solicit member opinions of the findings, and the direction member's wished the Executive to pursue with the Provincial Working Group. Following that meeting, the MAHIP President sent a letter to its members providing a link to the survey results and proposed various scenarios where a shared agreement could be reached with a Provincial Library working on the premise that members were interested in retaining chapter status as part of the Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA/ABSC).. This letter preceded the September 19, 2012 MAHIP Members meeting where a formal discussion of this issue took place.

Members were asked that, if they were not able to attend the meeting or wished to give their comments privately, to submit those comments via email to MAHIP Executive members. Three members chose to respond this way; their responses were summarized, made anonymous, and presented to the members in attendance at the meeting as part of the general discussion

Summary of Discussion

The majority of MAHIP members are in agreement that MAHIP should retain its chapter status with CHLA/ABSC. At this time, this includes adhering to a constitution and retaining an executive body at the chapter level. This relationship and its benefits have been declared by the majority of members to be of value and they do not wish to dissolve this status in favour of an alternative provincial structure. MAHIP members also agreed to a provincial federated association model as a way of collaborating with provincial colleagues and associations in the library science discipline and avoiding duplication of effort.

Further, the majority of members agreed to the following items as identified by the Executive as reasonable points of discussion within a federated framework, with the proviso that any concrete details on any of these items be presented to the Members as a future point for discussion.

Under a federated provincial library association model, MAHIP is prepared to consider:

- Reciprocal event fee can be agreed upon in principle (standardization of pricing structure across Chapters/Associations needs further clarity).
- Standardized amount/percentage to provincial professional development events (e.g. Manitoba Libraries Conference), agreed in principle; detail needs clarity.



Manitoba Association of Health Information Providers

P.O. Box 232 Winnipeg, MB R3M 3S7

<http://mahip.wordpress.com>

contact.mahip@gmail.com

- Sharing of resources can be agreed upon in principle (e.g. Permanent Executive Assistant to be shared? Office space?)
- Standardization of in-kind donations for provincial events.
- Liaison from each Chapter/Association on the provincial body, would require terms of reference and further clarity.

When a model is determined, there will be other points of resource sharing and collaboration that will arise; MAHIP is willing to be a part of this discussion and consider each aspect within the framework of its chapter's status and value to its members.

Other benefits were also stated as considered of value in a federated model. They include:

- Opportunities for continuing education (CE) partnerships with other library associations in Manitoba;
- Opportunities to attend meetings of other library associations (perhaps even regular attendance to executive meeting) and, similarly, invitations to other associations to join MAHIP meetings;
- Opportunities for social engagements, sharing, and networking with librarians/library staff from other associations and other sectors;
- A provincial web platform presenting events, educational opportunities and the activities of the various organizations (could have a feed from individual organizations to automate central calendar, etc.)
- Continue joint conference concept, perhaps a more formalized structure around funding/contributions/course accreditation; reciprocity in terms of course accreditation if needed.

One member put forward a possible federated model: having two main categories for belonging:

- Interest groups (membership costs included in membership fees to umbrella organization - similar to the Special Library Association base fee + interest group fee)
- Affiliates (perhaps a slightly reduced rate on individual membership costs in umbrella organization; affiliate agrees to some kind of annual contribution to affiliate organization for access to shared services/office support, member rate for jointly sponsored events)

Conclusion

MAHIP members support the principle of a federated model of a provincial library association body. In whatever form a federated model would take, it must respect the chapter status of MAHIP and the responsibilities MAHIP has to its parent body CHLA/ABSC. Within the federation principle, MAHIP members are open to discussion around sharing of resources and other aspects of association collaboration.