



Progress Report January - June 2002

Goal 1

Provide access to a wide range of databases and services, and foster the development of intuitive electronic interfaces to worldwide information resources

Objective 1.1

Pursue new products and services that meet users' needs

Activities/Results

- licensed Sociological Abstracts from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA) following a trial on 4 platforms. Subscription also includes access to Social Services Abstracts, Social Services InfoNet, Recent References, and ERIC at no additional cost
- licensed PsycARTICLES, an online database containing more than 26,000 searchable full-text articles from 49 peer reviewed journals published by the American Psychological Association, for 9 sites
- licensed the Grove Dictionary of Art Online, providing access to more than 41,000 articles and links to over 100,000 images
- on behalf of Consortia Canada, led negotiations for a national site licence for Oxford University Press's Oxford Reference Online, providing desktop access to 100 key Oxford dictionaries and reference works across a broad subject spectrum. Licence begins July 1, 2002
- met with representatives from CISTI, Coutts, CSA, EBSCO, Gale, OCLC, OVID and ProQuest to review new product offerings

Objective 1.2

Ensure existing products and services meet users' needs

- renewed ABI/INFORM Global, following a survey of ELN partners to gauge interest in

evaluating alternative business databases. The majority of partners indicated that ABI/INFORM continued to meet their needs for business information

- renewed PsycINFO. Costs for this database will increase substantially over the next 3 years as APA has indicated they will be bringing pricing for ELN in line with their standard consortial rates. ELN will remove PsycINFO from the core database package in 2003/04 to allow sites greater flexibility in the renewal process
- renewed ACM Digital Library, AccessScience, American National Biography, Books in Print, CBCA Fulltext Reference, CRI/Microlog, Early Canadiana Online, Encyclopedia of Life Sciences, Oxford English Dictionary, Reveal Research Alerts, the Wilson Indexes, and WorldCat

Objective 1.3

Develop streamlined connections to ELN databases and services using new technologies and protocols

- worked with Simon Fraser University to implement GODOT full text linking to the database level in CPI.Q
- worked with Micromedia and Simon Fraser University to generate a title list in JAKE format for the CBCA Fulltext Reference database, to enable GODOT full text linking to the database level

Objective 1.4

Facilitate the availability of instruction for ELN products and services

- with Public Library Services Branch, coordinated Impact/Online 2 training session held February 22 at Burnaby Public Library
- coordinated CPI.Q training sessions held April 9 at Douglas College & April 10 at the University of Victoria
- coordinated Sociological Abstracts virtual desktop training

Goal 2

Facilitate resource sharing among institutions to ensure users have timely and effective access to the province's collective information resources

Objective 2.1

Integrate holdings/requesting features into commercial database services

Activities/Results

- implemented GODOT Z39.50 lookup on the ELN Serials Database, resulting in substantial improvements to the currency of GODOT holdings information
- worked with vendors to coordinate implementation of GODOT linking for Sociological Abstracts trial

Objective 2.2

Provide leadership in establishing a coordinated provincial resource sharing network

- resource sharing survey report and recommendations finalized and released on ELN web site following review of draft version by library directors and approval with amendments by ELN Steering Committee
- implemented the following recommendations arising from survey report:
 - flat fee for ILL transactions
 - annual invoicing for ILL transactions
 - fee for Impact/Online ILL module
- met with OCLC representatives to discuss their proposal for integrating OutLook holdings into WorldCat; determined cost would outweigh benefits
- compiled and released annual ILL statistical summaries (2001) report on ELN web site
- worked with PLNet to open network ports for Ariel transmissions; conducted pilot with three libraries to confirm the functionality of Ariel implementations under PLNet firewalls
- coordinated second round of Ariel software purchasing to achieve volume discount

- purchased Ariel software and scanner for Institute of Indigenous Government with Ministry special project funding
- reported on ELN Media-related initiatives at Media Exchange Cooperative's Annual General Meeting

Objective 2.3

Improve the utility of union databases

- Provided funding and technical assistance for Public Library Services Branch coordinated project to assess quality of records in the union database. Consultants' report now under review by ELN; recommendations forthcoming
- implemented "bug-tracker" database to record issues reported to ELN regarding the new IOL2 interface:
http://bceln.ca/sharing/iol2/faq/index.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_bugs

Objective 2.4

Improve Outlook OnLine ILL service

- IOL2 evaluation survey in preparation; to be released summer 2002
- Media ILL pilot project concluded April 8; follow-up survey to be released as part of IOL2 evaluation survey

Goal 3

Provide a mechanism for post-secondary libraries to play a prominent role in educational planning, policy development and program delivery

Objective 3.1

Participate on provincial/national projects and planning groups

Activities/Results

- submitted report to the Premier's Technology Council regarding ELN's contribution to bridging the digital divide within British Columbia

Objective 3.2

Maintain a presence and impact within the Ministry and at the senior executive level of post-secondary institutions

- contributed to President's Reports for OLA Board
- held briefing meeting with Ministry representative

Goal 4

Promote organizational alliances that are mutually beneficial to users and service providers

Objective 4.1

Extend alliances and partnerships with public, school, and health sector libraries within B.C.

Activities/Results

- investigated option for joint licence of LegalEZE (Queen's Printer) with Public Library Services Branch; not practicable at this time due to divergent licence requirements

Objective 4.2

Expand national and international alliances

- attended 11th International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) meeting, April 18-19
- participated in Consortia Canada meeting held concurrently with ICOLC conference
- collaborated on creation and issued endorsement of two ICOLC 'best practices' guidelines:
 - *Statement of Current Perspective and Preferred Practices for the Selection and Purchase of Electronic Information*
 - *Guidelines For Statistical Measures Of Usage Of Web-Based Information Resources*
- joined with ICOLC to issue endorsement of the Bath Profile, an international Z39.50 specification supporting library applications and resource discovery
- attended 2002 conference of the Canadian Library Association (CLA)

Goal 5

Generate strong and diverse support for ELN products and services

Objective 5.1

Strengthen accountability for ELN key stakeholders

Activities/Results

- reported on recent ELN activities to Council of Post-Secondary Library Directors (CPSLD)

Objective 5.2

Strengthen communications framework for ELN key stakeholders

- published third issue of ELN Connect, a communiqué providing an overview of ELN initiatives to stakeholders and other interested parties
- revised menus and structure of ELN web site to improve navigation and better reflect current operational priorities

Objective 5.3

Pursue appropriate business opportunities to export ELN's services and expertise to other organizations or regions

- presented BCLA continuing education session on Z39.50 & the Bath Profile April 23 at Douglas College
- convened session and co-presented on remote user authentication at the BC Library Conference May 12th, with Mark Jordan (SFU) and Charles Hogg (UNBC)
- presented on resource sharing survey at BC Library Conference, May 11 at session 'Sharing the load: recent developments in Interlibrary Loan', with Scott Mackenzie, Public Library Services Branch

Objective 5.4

Ensure sufficient resources to meet current and long range needs

- hired consultant to draft Resource Sharing survey report and follow up on Material Delivery project

- received status quo funding from MAETT, 2002/2003
- rehired David Kisly on contract to implement modifications to the ELN Forum, and advise and assist on matters relating to resource sharing and the union databases