Informal Library Chat
Summary Notes
July 22 2021

OLS Updates

- The reminder email process for the Informal Library Chat has shifted to be sent out earlier in the week of the scheduled chat and include a calendar invitation
- Some provincial COVID-19 screening tools have been updated to align with the requirements in O.Reg 364/20: Rules for Areas at Step 3 – see the COVID-19 Resources for Public Libraries (Health and Safety)

COVID-19 Snapshot of Library Services

- CEOs in attendance were polled on a variety of current service levels at their libraries
- See COVID-19 Snapshot of Library Services document for results
- Poll to be repeated at upcoming chats and document to be updated for sharing in the chat summary notes

Toys

- CEOs discussed current approaches to making toys available in the library for public use, as well as the cleaning protocols in use

Membership Drives

- CEOs discussed ideas and suggestions for membership drives to engage with users, lapsed users, and non-users (ideas included partnerships, business involvement, newsletters, newspapers, mail outs, etc)

Part-Time Staff

- CEOS discussed the provision of benefits or paid sick time for part-time staff

Library Furniture

- CEOs discussed vendors, styles, and cleaning protocols for library furniture

Change Management

- CEOs discussed issues around change management and communication methods across staff when schedules are still "abnormal" in some systems
- A suggested resource was shared: https://www.petrusdejager.com/articles

Library Usage

- CEOs discussed ideas around rebuilding the library habit in their communities, including in-person programming, incentives to come inside, partnership programs, outdoor programming, community gardens at the library, take and make kits, etc

Collections

- CEOs discussed the use of digital collection services such as PressReader

We look forward to seeing you at our next scheduled Informal Library Chat:

Date/Time: Thursday August 5, 2021 – 2:00PM (1:00PM CT)
Connection details to be provided via email