

E-HLBC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2015 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Location: Room 3100 (Boardroom), SFU Harbour Centre, 515 Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC

Participants:

In Person:

Fiona Chiu (PABC)
Antje Helmuth (MoH/MCFD)
Karen MacDonell (CPSBC, Chair)
Debbie Schachter (Douglas)

Teleconference:

Cliff Cornish (VIHA)

e-HLbc Administrative Centre:

Jennifer Bancroft (e-HLbc, Recorder)
Anita Cocchia (e-HLbc)

Regrets:

April Haddad (JIBC)
Todd Mundle (KPU, Vice-Chair)

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Icebreaker Activity (Karen MacDonell) 10:00 – 10:20am

Members were welcomed and reminded that the Spring Management Committee meeting minutes were approved via email and posted to the e-HLbc website:
<http://ehlbc.ca/about-us/governance/management-committee-documents#minutes>

K. MacDonell introduced new members on the committee and led an icebreaker activity.

2. New Product Investigations Update (Anita Cocchia) 10:20 – 10:35am

A. Cocchia provided an update on new product investigations. The Administrative Centre has initiated discussions with vendors of products that were identified by e-HLbc members as high-priority during the last New Product Selection Ranking Survey.

The three products being investigated are:

1. Natural Medicines
2. APA Books e-Collection
3. Clinical Skills (formerly called Mosby's Skills)

Natural Medicines

The Administrative Centre is still in the early stage of negotiations. The pricing provided for Natural Medicines is inconsistent and is not based on a transparent pricing model. e-HLbc needs a clear pricing model in order to move forward with this product.

APA Books e-Collection

With this offer, e-HLbc members could purchase collections of professional ebooks published by APA between the years 2001 to 2015.

The vendor's pricing is standardized, transparent, and published on its website. The challenge is that the pricing is high with little room for negotiation.

The ebooks can only be purchased on APA's PsycNET platform. In addition to the purchase price there is also an annual service fee to access the ebooks on the vendor's platform.

The vendor will give participation discounts for the number of collections purchased, but it is unlikely the discount will exceed 15%.

The Administrative Centre consulted with e-HLbc members that ranked this product as high-priority on the Ranking Survey. Feedback from members confirmed that the pricing is too high and there is not enough continued interest in this offer.

e-HLbc will not pursue a license for the APA Books e-Collection at this time.

Clinical Skills

This product includes a core set of skills and three add-on modules with additional skills. Most of the health authorities license this product and practicing nurses consider it a core resource. Earlier this year, Health Shared Services BC (HSSBC) approached e-HLbc having heard of interest in the product and inquiring if e-HLbc would pursue licensing on behalf of health authorities.

The Administrative Centre is working on a pricing offer with the vendor. As most of the health authorities already license Clinical Skills, discounted pricing is not available. Elsevier is instead offering the health authorities a 5-year license for both the core and add-on modules with a 2% annual price increase. This offer is available until the end of December 2015.

Pricing for e-HLbc's post-secondary institutions is based on Bachelor of Science in Nursing FTEs. The Administrative Centre has shared Elsevier's pricing with e-HLbc members that ranked this product as high-priority on the Ranking Survey. The feedback received from members is that the pricing is far too high and that this product benefits only a small portion of the total student population.

The vendor needs more education on existing financial support for nursing students in Canadian post-secondary institutions. The Administrative Centre will continue to discuss pricing for the post-secondary institutions after it reaches an agreement for the health authorities.

3. Boutique Licenses Annual Price Increases (Anita Cocchia) 10:35 –10:55am

The Management Committee discussed the increase in costs of boutique licenses that renew annually.

Very few institutions are seeing increases to their collections budgets. Health resources are already very expensive, but with the current US exchange rate at approximately 1.32, institutions are experiencing up to 30% increases in actual costs for boutique resources.

Canadian consortia have been discussing the issue of the high exchange rate and annual price increases on a number of library listservs and meetings. Many consortia, including the BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN) have taken the decision to send vendors a letter outlining their expectations of reasonable annual increases.

A. Cocchia asked whether e-HLbc would like to send a letter to its vendors communicating that it will not accept increases higher than 3%.

The committee discussed what is a reasonable annual rate of increase for health resources. A 3% increase is considered standard for consortial pricing and should be acceptable to vendors. In future, e-HLbc may choose to re-evaluate this rate.

Other ideas discussed were whether the Administrative Centre and vendors could agree to an exchange rate in advance or negotiate to price products in Canadian dollars on par with pricing in US dollars.

The Management Committee decided that e-HLbc should send its vendors a letter outlining its expectations of reasonable annual price increases.

ACTION: The Administrative Centre will work with the Chair to draft a letter to send to vendors.

4. Affiliate Member Recruitment Update (Jennifer Bancroft)

10:55 –11:05am

J. Bancroft provided an update on the affiliate member recruitment drive undertaken over the summer.

In August, the Administrative Centre sent out approximately 20 letters to BC professional health associations inviting them to join e-HLbc. Of all the associations contacted, five requested more information about e-HLbc.

The Administrative Centre has since been communicating with the following associations about e-HLbc resources and membership costs:

1. BC Chapter of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
2. BC Dental Hygienists Association
3. BC Naturopathic Association
4. BC Psychological Association
5. Midwives Association of BC

After numerous conversations, the Midwives Association decided it would not pursue membership as most of their members who need access to health resources have access already through their affiliation with the University of British Columbia.

The Administrative Centre had a teleconference meeting with the Association of Occupational Therapists. The Managing Director is very interested in joining e-HLbc and will bring it up at their association's next board meeting.

Follow-up email messages will be sent to the health associations who did not already respond.

Although e-HLbc has never targeted private post-secondary institutions as potential new members of the consortium, several institutions have independently expressed an interest in e-HLbc affiliate membership.

Alexander College and Columbia Bible College are private institutions and members of BC ELN. On separate occasions, they both expressed interest in specific e-HLbc resources (e.g. PsycARTICLES, Health Source & Alt HealthWatch).

Last April, Alexander College inquired about e-HLbc affiliate membership. After careful consideration, Alexander College did not feel ready to join e-HLbc, but indicated that affiliate membership will be back on their agenda in the future.

In the past month, Columbia Bible College expressed an interest in joining e-HLbc. The institution is now working on a proposal to offer the Health Care Assistant program and

so will require access to health resources. It is likely that Columbia Bible College will submit an application for membership in the coming year.

ACTION: The Administrative Centre will send follow-up email messages to the professional health associations.

5. Affiliate Member Fees and Responsibilities (Anita Cocchia) 11:05 –11:35am

During the recruitment drive, questions came up about the requirements of e-HLbc affiliate membership. In addition to payment of membership and licensing fees, the other requirement for affiliate members is that they license the Core Suite (although they can choose to license only the EBSCO or Ovid portion of the Core Suite).

A. Cocchia asked the Management Committee to reassess and confirm that licensing the Core Suite is still a valid requirement for affiliate membership.

The committee discussed the rationale for requiring that all members – both full and affiliate – license the Core Suite. e-HLbc's core mandate is to ensure that all health students, faculty, practitioners, and researchers in the province have access to a common equitable set of health resources. In licensing the Core Suite, affiliate members support e-HLbc's mission by expanding access to health resources in the province.

The committee agreed that e-HLbc's current requirements for affiliate membership are appropriate and should not be changed.

6. Draft Licensing Activities Survey (Jennifer Bancroft) 11:35 –11:50am

J. Bancroft provided information about a licensing activities survey the Administrative Centre drafted.

The purpose of the survey is to better understand how e-HLbc's licensing activities are meeting the needs of member institutions. The results of the survey will be used for assessment purposes in future reports (e.g. Year in Review) and to identify areas for improvement in the Administrative Centre's approach to licensing.

The committee discussed the purpose of the survey and recommended changes to specific questions. One suggestion was to add a question about the impact of e-HLbc's services and resources.

ACTION: The Administrative Centre will send the Management Committee a revised version of the survey for review, and will distribute the survey to the membership at large before the November 19th Steering Committee meeting.

7. New Business (Karen MacDonell)

11:50 – 11:55am

There was no new business.

8. Next Meeting (Karen MacDonell)

11:55am – 12:00pm

The Management Committee will hold a brief meeting after the November 19th Steering Committee meeting, and the next Management Committee meeting will be scheduled for the Spring of 2016.

ACTION: The Administrative Centre will identify optimal dates for the Spring 2016 Management Committee meeting.