

# Designing a Blueprint for Libraries with .. ontario college and university library association

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The four strategic priorities supporting OLA's mission remain relevant but the projects and plans aligned to each priority are new. Here are the projects and plans that OCULA Council has identified.

- **What do you think OCULA should focus on this coming year?** (If there is something else you don't see on this list but you think should be there, please let us know!)
- **How will we make this happen?**
- **How will we know it was good?**
- **How will we brag about it?**

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## **Growing Career Paths And Potential**

*Our goal is that those involved in Ontario's libraries and information sectors look first to OLA for progressive, thought-provoking, practical professional development that expands their thinking, their capabilities, and their career opportunities.*

1. Identify appropriate and relevant SC sessions to be offered as EI sessions
2. Promote development of new EI sessions as a means for people to contribute to the profession
3. Continue New Librarian Residency Program
4. Fundraise for New Librarian Residency Program Fund
5. Host the OCULA spring conference (professional development and networking)
6. Host the OCULA spring dinner (networking)
7. Host the OCULA Fall event and dinner (PD and networking)
8. Collaborate with the OLA Mentoring Committee
9. Continue to prepare and deliver information briefs
10. Host a practicum student from an Ontario MLIS or library tech program
11. Promote practicum opportunities among potential hosts (practicum, job shadowing)
12. Contribute to the OLA initiative to create a grants application database with FAQs and templates

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## **Collaborating to Extend Libraries' Strategic Voice**

*Our goal is that Ontarians view librarians as essential contributors to the economy, education, lifestyle, and culture of their communities.*

1. Continue conversations with CAPAL, WNY/O, or other associations about potential collaborations
2. Contribute to the OLA initiative to prepare briefs for Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities; in doing so, collaborate with associations such as CAPAL, CLA, CAUT, OCUFA
3. Identify one non-library organization to partner with.
4. Collaborate with OLA Advocacy Committee
5. Create an OCULA Council portfolio for advocacy

### **Strengthening the Organization**

*Our goal is that OLA has the near-term and long-term strengths in terms of people, finances, and infrastructure to fulfill our mission and realize our vision*

1. Develop a deeper understanding of our membership (ideas: work with Ambassadors to gather information; consider conducting a survey of members and non-members)
  2. Develop a promotions plan with an aim to increase OCULA's membership
  3. Create a volunteer database
  4. Explore new relationships with suppliers outside of the traditional library suppliers
  5. Investigate the ALA-STS vendor relations committee model to inform OCULA vendor relations options
  6. Continue to explore options for improved web publishing for InsideOCULA, in collaboration with OLA staff
  7. Populate Council members' MyOLA profiles with information about expertise, interests, and volunteering
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### **Transforming Ideas into Solutions**

*Our goal is to foster innovative thinking throughout the library sector that is translated into solutions that keep library services growing and meaningful within the changing Ontario culture and environment.*

1. Support changes to OLA Super Conference; e.g. TEDLibraries
  2. Work with OLA where appropriate
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Example:

#### **What are we going to do?**

- Host a practicum student from an Ontario MLIS or library tech program

#### **How will we make this happen?**

- Write a proposal for the practicum outlining learning objectives, project, council lead
- Post practicum opportunity on the iSchool Job Site board
- OCULA President visit students in library programs

#### **How will we know it was good?**

- OCULA has a successful applicant who carries out their practicum
- Student membership with OCULA division is increased by 10 students a year

#### **How will we brag about it?**

- Publish a piece about the student's learning experience in Inside OCULA