Great Idea Checklist

Is this idea even worth pursuing?
- ☐ Does it advance the current institutional strategic plan?
- ☐ Does it advance the current library's strategic plan?
- ☐ Does it fill a need?
- ☐ Is this something that only the library can do?
- ☐ Does it align with academic priorities?
- ☐ Is it easy to explain to others?
- ☐ Does it have at least 3 years of staying power?
- ☐ Have I identified and talked to other institutions that have done this?

But will it work at your library?
- ☐ Do other people in the library like the idea?
- ☐ Do people who will use the service like the idea?
- ☐ Is it (or something like it) already being done on campus?
- ☐ Does it align with the institution's culture?
- ☐ Who are the internal (library) partners for this?
- ☐ Do campus partners like the idea?
- ☐ Can I get funding?
- ☐ Is it scalable?
- ☐ Can I do the work that will be required?

Getting Started – Pilot Phase
- ☐ Secure funding for the pilot
- ☐ Find people to participate
- ☐ Figure out the workflow
  - o Identify pain points, comments and objections
  - o Devise assessment methods
  - o Create and streamline the workflow

Communication – Internal and External
- ☐ How/when will I communicate with the team?
- ☐ How/when will I keep the library informed?
- ☐ How/when will I market/promote to users?
- ☐ How will I share this with the wider library world?

Reassess/Rethink
- ☐ Has scale been achieved?
- ☐ Do the results justify the effort?
- ☐ Has something major changed that should affect this project?

Remember…
- Suggestions are just suggestions
- Cross-department teams are useful
- Statistics don't always tell the full story

Buchansky, H. & Vine, R. (2016). *Picking the best project in a world full of great ideas* [presentation]. OLA Super Conference 2016, Toronto, ON.