

# Creating Organizational Values

Using a staff-led approach



Oakville  
Public  
Library

OLA Super Conference, January 2020

# Hello!



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## Danika Bernard

Program Development Manager

- Manages program direction and strategy across seven service branches, outside the library walls, and the Creation Zones

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## Emily Sedgwick

Development Officer

- Executes OPL's corporate and development communications strategy

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# Why now?

**We were already giving exceptional customer service.**

## **Missing links:**

- A framework to outline, formalize and standardize our approach
- A way to celebrate and acknowledge the good work we do



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# Goals & Objectives

## Creating Aligned Service

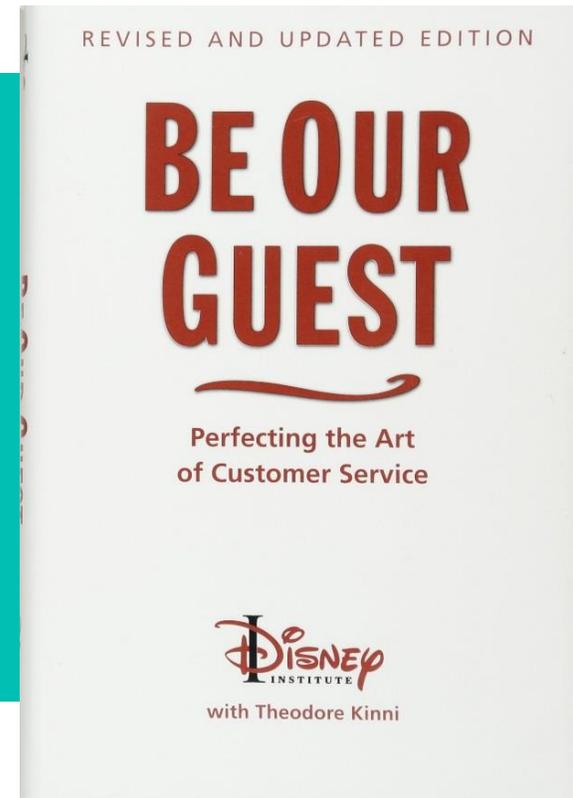
- **Objective:** A consistent customer service experience across locations and channels

## Developing a Common Language

- **Objective:** External and internal conversations revolve around universally-known concepts

# Setting up for success

- Collaborative, committed core team
- Executive support and trust
- Visionary framework



# Identifying what matters to our staff and our community

## Information-gathering:

- Staff brainstorming sessions:
  - Listened, asked questions, recorded answers

## Leveraging Sources of Community Data:

- Market research
- Focus groups from website redesign
- Anecdotal evidence from customers, external stakeholders and community partners



### When have you given exceptional customer service?

When i was working at Glen Abbey, a woman came up to me saying her hold was not on shelf. I looked it would look for it. Eventually i found it, called her to tell her and asked if she needed extension rather than coming back to pick up or what she would like. She was so pleased with service - so sent email to Lib. Still have copy.



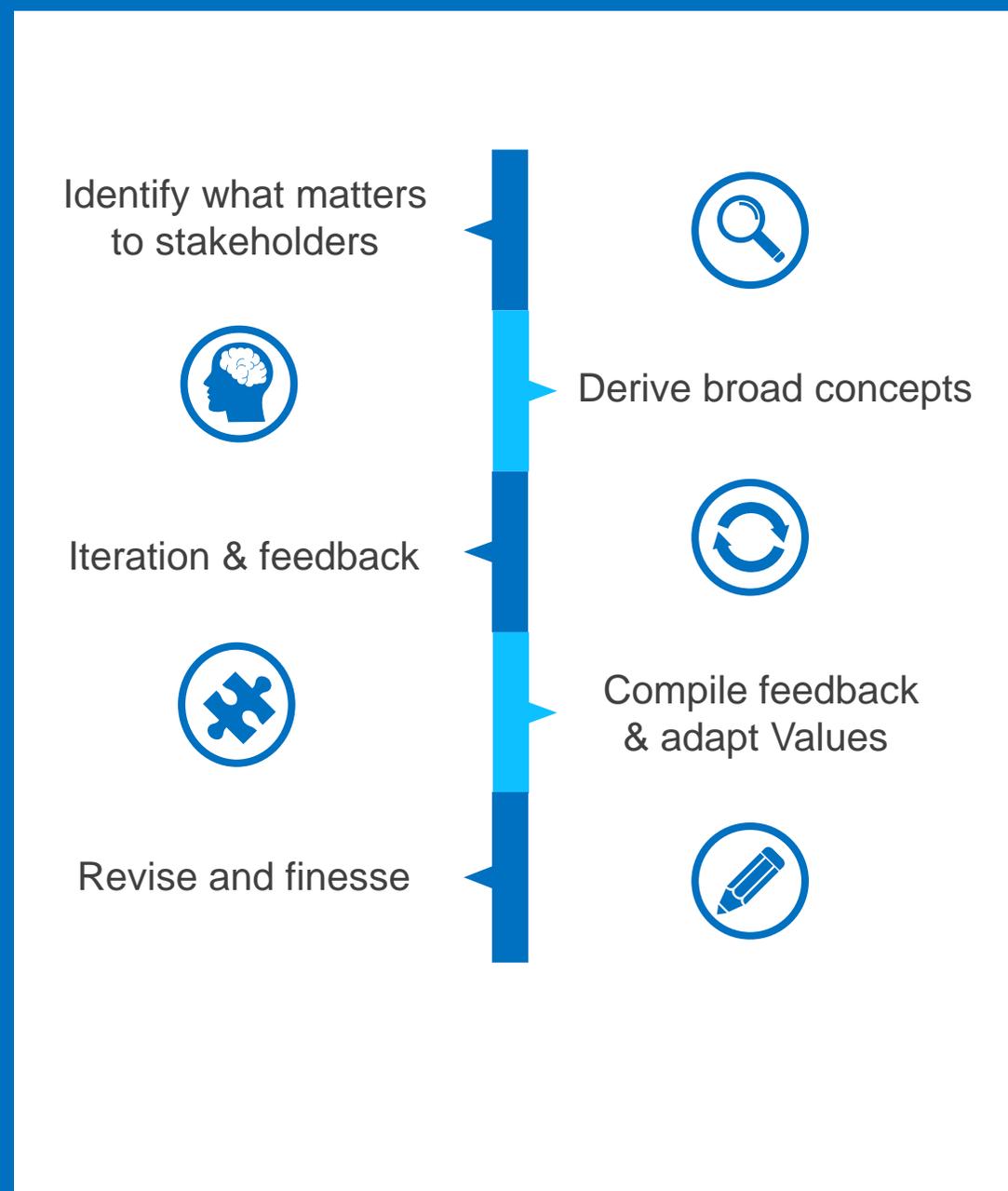
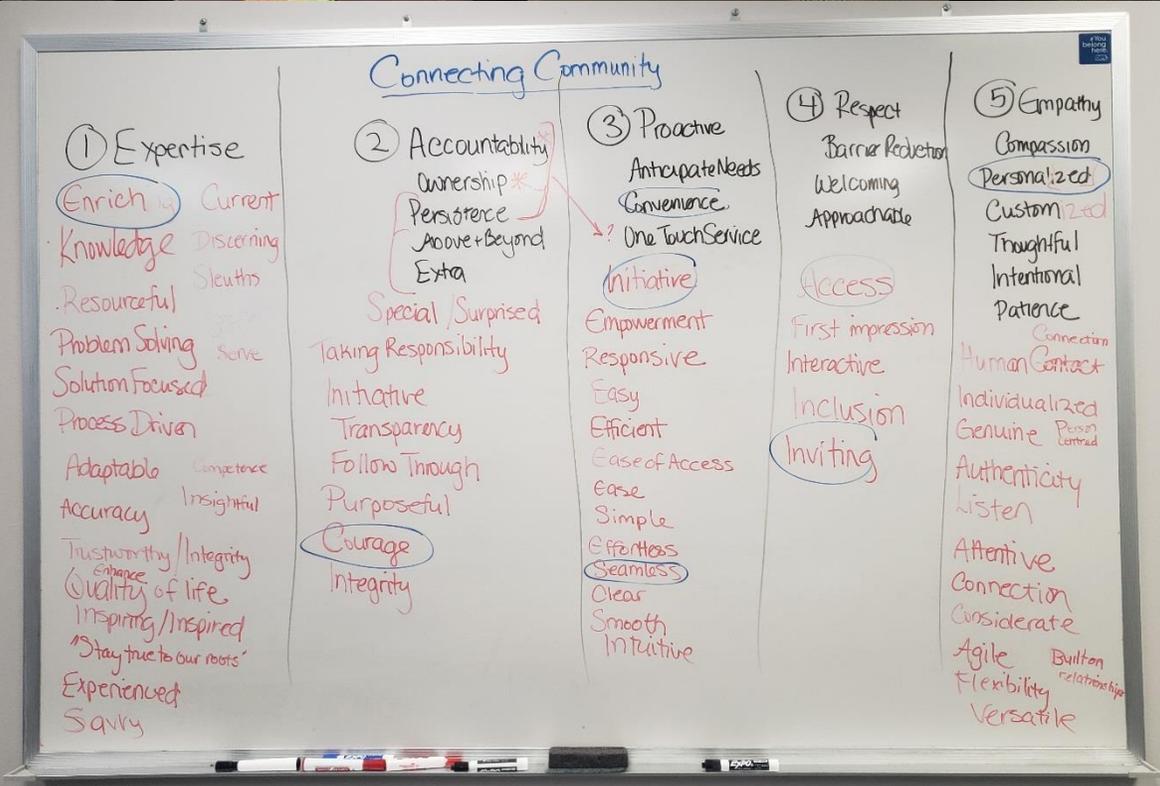
Oakville Library @OakvilleLibrary · Oct 3, 2018

We're redesigning our **website** & we need your help! There is still time to complete our short survey, which will help us better understand what type of **website** will serve our **#community** best 🇺🇪 😊 [ow.ly/8fOk50jf4RH](https://ow.ly/8fOk50jf4RH)



# ACTIVITY: USER INTERVIEW

1. Find a partner from a different table
2. Ask: “Describe your best teamwork experience”
3. Ask probing questions
4. Identify 4-5 key words and write them on separate post-it notes
5. Switch roles



# ACTIVITY: CONCEPT DERIVATION

1. Form a group with your table
2. Share your post-it notes from your interview
3. Working together, group concepts or common themes
4. Identify top 2 and name them

# ACTIVITY: USER FEEDBACK

1. Write down your prototype
2. Find your original partner
3. Take turns asking for feedback on your prototypes
4. Listen and ask probing questions

Put foundations first. Commit to the ALA's Core Values of Librarianship

Invite | Welcome | Be Approachable

*Take initiative with customers*

Value the person | Personalized | Responsive | Custom | Adapt

Be Courageous | Accountable | Take Ownership

Be Enriching | Current | Quality | ~~Expert~~

Make it Seamless | Convenient | Easy | Simple

*They are all extremely important. Convenient is lowest but extremely important. I believe in valuing the customer as an individual more.*

Identify what matters to stakeholders



Derive broad concepts

Iteration & feedback



Compile feedback & adapt Values

Revise and finesse



# Sharing the message

## An Integrated Strategy

- Staff Development Day
- Internal communications vehicles
- Postcards
- Video

## Peer-to-Peer Communication

- Leveraging 'brand ambassadors'
- Employee-led narratives
- Storytelling as the key to communications success

## The Five

### 1. Inclusion

We invite and embrace everyone in our community.

### 2. Personalization

We value each person and their unique experience.

### 3. Quality

We strive for excellence in everything we do.

### 4. Ownership

We boldly take responsibility.

### 5. Seamlessness

We make it simple.



Marcus Logan – Manager, Community Development & Engagement



Mary-Ann – Customer Service Technician

# Ownership

We boldly take responsibility.



Connecting Community  
[opl.ca](http://opl.ca)

# Bringing the values to life

## External Communications

- Telling the OPL story

## Staff Development

- Educating staff from Day #1

## Program and Event Development

- Including Values in formal decision-making frameworks

## Public Service

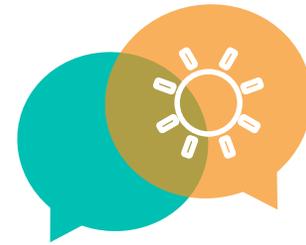
- Procedures, policies, daily operations



# Measuring success

- Outcome-based measurement
- Measuring aligned service
- Employee-engagement





## Blue Sky Vision

All staff are empowered to integrate and apply the values in their day-to-day work with commitment and understanding of what we stand for as an organization.

# Thank you! Questions?



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