## ACTIVE LIBRARIES

## Building community engagement in your library

By Tracy MacMaster
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"A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm."

Henrik Ibsen



# TPLWU advocates: a case study





Great people, great library, great city.

### The problem

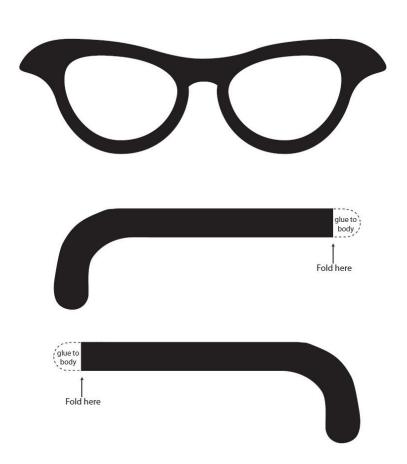


News / City Hall

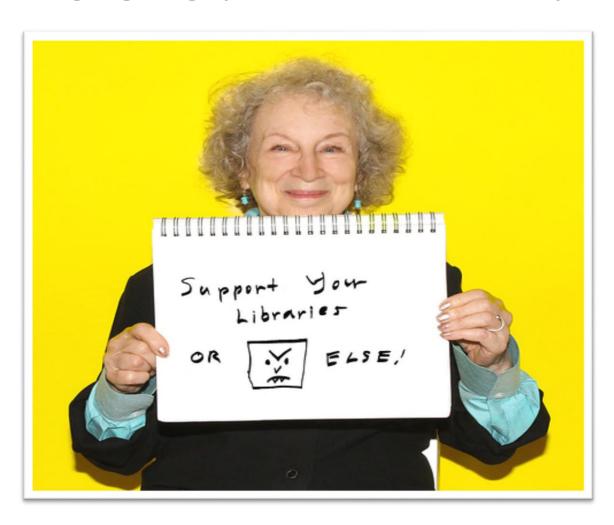
### Toronto budget committee votes to chop library, but save two pools in Ford allies' wards

Councillors say the cuts will mean loss of 1,440 open hours at 59 branches; five other pools still face closure

### The strategy



## The outcome; engaging your community works



## The CLIC project: building faculty liaison @ Seneca

Digital Collections Project

AODA

Liaison

**Archived Initiatives** 

2015-2016 Projects

### Membership

Rhonda Roth (Chair)

Tracy MacMaster

Pam Bolan

Sharon Doyle

Sara Niro

### Definition of Liaison

According to RUSA - Reference and User Services Association (Division of ALA) - Liaison work is the process by which librarians involve the library's clientele in the assessment of collection needs and services and the measurement of user satisfaction with the collection.

See 3.0 of the Guidelines for Liaison Work in Managing Collections and Services at the following link - Guidelines

### Minutes of Collections Liaison Committee (CLC) Meetings

- W Minutes of CLC Meeting Thursday, April 4, 2013
- Minutes of CLIC Thursday, May 23, 2013

### Goal & Objectives

**Goal:** To Increase Faculty Awareness of and Participation in Collection Development Activities (Approved by Carolyn Lam - October 2013)

**Objectives**: To increase the relevancy of our library collections (as a result of greater faculty participation).

To increase the use of the collections by faculty and students (as a result of greater faculty awareness).

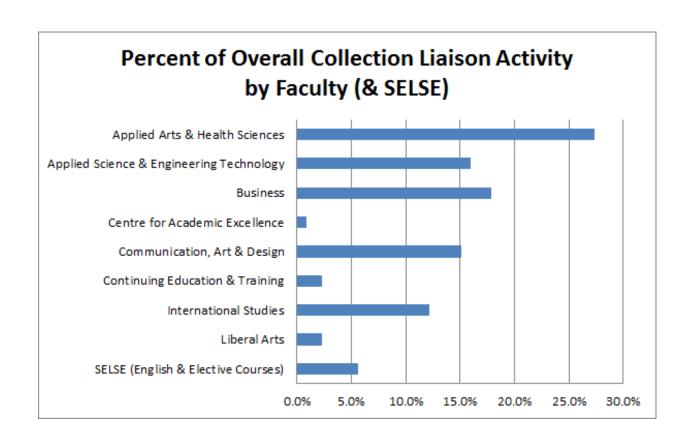
**Timeline**: January 2014 (need approval of CLIC for this timeline) - develop specific goals from these objectives. Once specific goals are developed, we will determine strategies to reach the goals and measure our progress.

### Literature Review

CLIC Environmental Scan Rationale, Observations and Considerations (Sharon)

- . No one article has the definitive answer to collections liaisons, the titles collected in various degrees all contain usable elements.
- Title selection was based on any relevancy, however small to the discussion. It is notable that Seneca is already practicing
  many of the conventional and unconventional styles of liaison found in the literature.
- Ideally, collections would develop a hybrid model that works within Seneca's multidisciplinary, multi-campus system, by extracting
  features that are applicable to Seneca Libraries and merging them with current practices. In order to explore new possibilities,
  any model developed will need flexibility built into it, minimizing standardization to avoid hinder innovation.

## What do we want? Identify the problem & solutions



### How do we get there?

1) Identify stakeholders

2) Develop strategies

3) Share & act

## Are we there yet? Recognizing & measuring success

1) Establish clear goals & objectives

2) Create strategies to meet your objectives

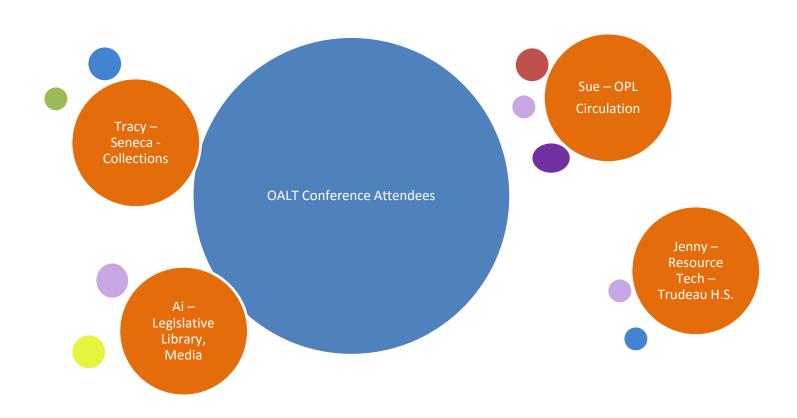
3) Track & share outcomes

4) Assess, respond, reassess

## A tool to start: community mapping



### Building our map



## More resources to make active libraries happen

- Community-Led Libraries Toolkit
   http://www.librariesincommunities.ca/resources/Community-Led Libraries Toolkit.pdf
- The Citizens' Handbook
   http://citizenshandbook.org/0 1 Intro.shtml
- Toronto and York Region Labour Council Campaign Planning Handbook

http://www.labourcouncil.ca/uploads/8/8/6/1/8861416/lccampaignbook.pdf

### Thank you!



### Want to reach me?

Email me:

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### **Works Cited**

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Kupferman, S. "Despite a Rough Political Year, Toronto Public Library Usage Is Up: It isn't just lip service: Torontonians really do love their libraries." *Torontoist,* 27 Apr, 2012. Web. 20 Apr 2015.

"On Radical Hospitality." Unified Library Scene. 25 Nov. 2014, Web. 30 Apr. 2015. "The Several Forms of Community Mapping." Best Practices Briefs Michigan State University, 1999. Web. 29 Apr. 2015.