LIANZA

Library and Information Association of New Zealand
Te Rau Herenga O Aotearoa

Murihiku Community
Terms of Reference

LIANZA – OUR PURPOSE

Strengthening our sector to be innovative and responsive to future needs.

LIANZA – OUR VISION

A thriving library and information sector

LIANZA – COMMUNITIES

Active member communities based regionally or with shared interests in particular aspects of library and information management. These communities use LIANZA as a platform to connect and get things done.

LIANZA – COMMUNITY OF MURIHIKU

As we reside somewhere in Murihiku - Otago & Southland we are automatically allocated to this 'Community'.

BACKGROUND

A Community of Practice (CoP) is defined as: "A group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly."[1] CoP's are usually informal, self-organising, and span across organisations.

To that end, the purpose of the LIANZA Murihiku Community of Practice is to create a structure that allows staff working in the library and information sector in the Otago and Southland region to share professional practice and build capability and collaboration across a range of library activity.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the CoP will include:

1. To operate on the basis of: by community, of community, for community.

2. To identify, gather, and seek agreement on community requirements.

3. To provide an informal point of contact for library and information staff in the region to share practice and learn.

4. To contribute collaboratively to building the capability of the wider library and information sector.

5. To identify linkages and collaborative opportunities for strategic and practical initiatives.

MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE

Membership of the CoP is open to those working in the library and information sector in the Otago and Southland area.

The CoP terms of reference will be reviewed every year in February and its continuation and form will be re-assessed.

A small group of two or three members of the CoP will hold the role of Guardian to facilitate the membership determining an annual programme of events and assist with communication as required. The Guardians will deploy and report on an annual survey of members seeking continuous improvement feedback and to help in determining the next year's programme. Guardians can serve for up to three years in this role.

At least three face to face social meet ups will be held throughout the year, several of these can potentially coincide with events of the cultural calendar in the region. These events will be included in the annual programme of events for the CoP. Meet up locations for engagement before or after the events will be encouraged.

At least three online meetings will be included in the annual programme and held at a set frequency throughout the year using an agenda determined by the members, but that could include:

1. **Current Library Initiatives Roundtable:** Where each member has 2 minutes to describe what they are currently working on and how members can help each other.

2. **Focus Theme:** Including presentations (as suggested by members) and discussion on a specific topic of interest. Presentations may be from CoP members, other staff or external subject matter experts.

3. **Open Discussion:** 20 minutes allocated to an open (but still moderated) discussion on any important topics.

Members will volunteer to chair online meetings. Each chair is responsible for:

- Facilitating group discussion to ensure that communication is appropriate and respectful.

- Developing the agenda and/or objectives for the CoP meeting that they will Chair.

- Hosting any guest speakers.

- Sending out regular messages to all CoP members about the next meeting/activity.

Unless otherwise agreed, any costs arising from activities under the CoP will be borne by the Member or participant that incurs them, and will be subject to the availability of funds, personnel, and other resources.

Events to be included in the planning of the annual programme of events for the CoP, are to potentially include:

- Journal Club

- Professional training day

1 Étienne Wenger, "Communities of practice: A brief introduction" This work by Evan Leybourn (http://theagiledirector.com) is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.