

Memo

To: Fulfillment Task Force Members

From: Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian

Date: June 23, 2008

Re: Next Steps

Please know that when I appointed this Task Force, the commitment that I asked you all to make was for one year's time. That year is up and I feel that you have done an excellent job of addressing all of the tasks set before you. Is the work complete? I would say no, but again, I feel the Task Force has done a great job of laying out the basics.

What is the next step(s) for this Task Force? I would like to ask this group to remain on duty at least through December 2008. This extended time period will allow you to help the State Library bring the resource sharing discussion you have begun to the libraries of Montana. It is time to focus our efforts on spreading the word about the recommendations of the Task Force and the upcoming legislative work needed to support improved resource sharing among our libraries. Each of you is in a position to serve as an ambassador for this Task Force to library communities statewide.

I would further ask that the Task Force make a recommendation as to moving forward with some of the other issues that you have identified. Would your recommendation be to:

1. Reconfirm this Task Force for another year with the same membership to continue to work on the details of implementing resource sharing enhancements like courier services and/or other specific resource sharing topics that need further research.
2. Appoint a new Task Force with some overlap of membership to continue to work on the details of implementing better resource sharing strategies .
3. Refer recommendations back to the Network Advisory Council and State Librarian and let them decide if they need a specific task force for specific work.
4. Establish two or more task forces to deal with details of courier service(s), statewide collection development issues, floating collections, shared catalogs, statewide library card, etc.
5. Other possible appropriate recommendations as to moving forward and/or combination of such recommendations?

I am looking forward to a frank discussion on the next steps. Thank you.