



# BOLDLY MOVING FORWARD WITH CANADIAN SCHOOL LIBRARIES

## www.canadianschoollibraries.ca



**Canadian School Libraries** (CSL) is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to professional research and development in the field of the school library learning commons in Canada. CSL connects school library practitioners and educators across Canada in the collaborative pursuit of delivering exemplary practices reflective of current professional school library learning commons standards.



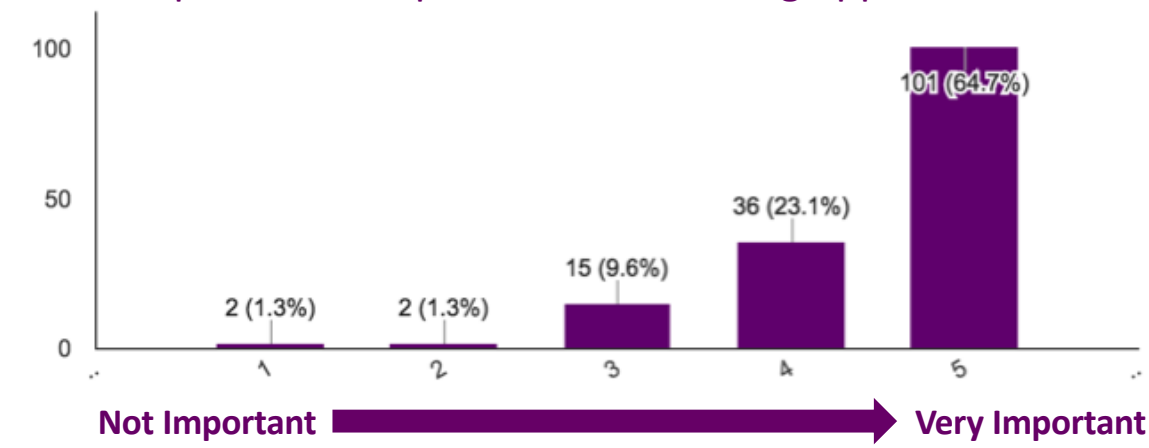
**The Problem:** CLA dissolution orphaned projects of national importance to school libraries:

- Freshly-minted national standards
- National journal on school library practice
- Research initiatives
- Growing cooperation between provincial and territorial associations

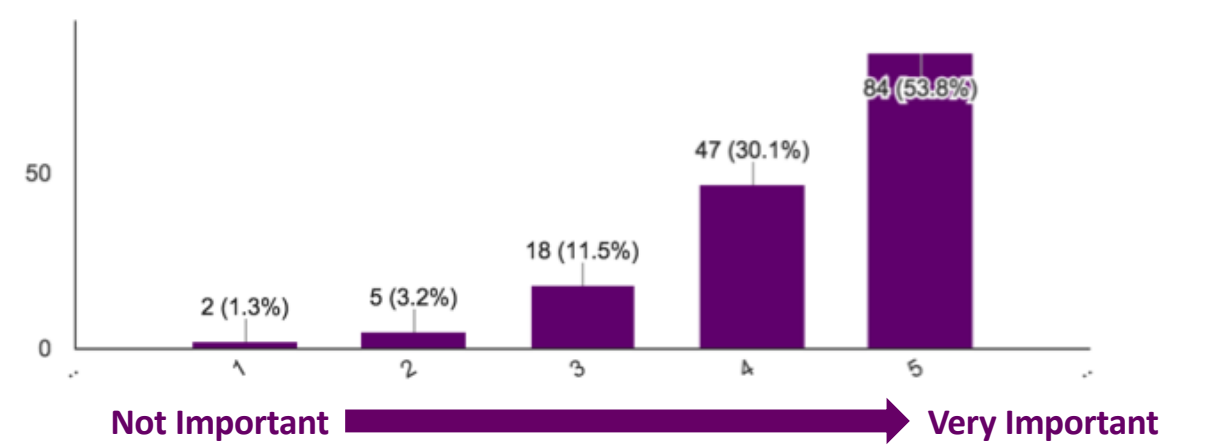
A working group was formed in early 2016 to explore options for moving forward.

**The Mandate:** National Survey, February 2016

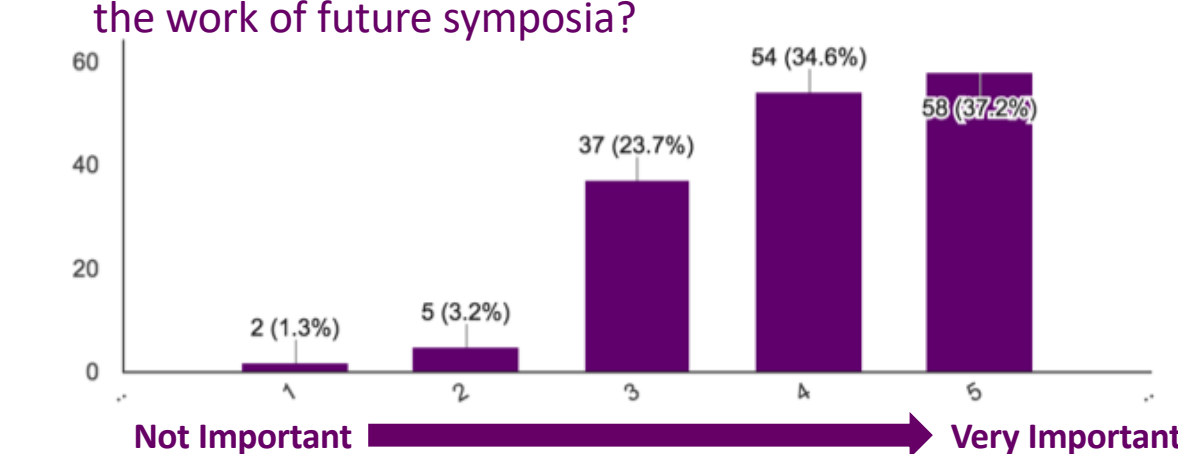
**Leading Learning:** How important is it to continue development of the Leading Learning project, including a website, connections to provincial/territorial documents and policies, and professional learning opportunities?



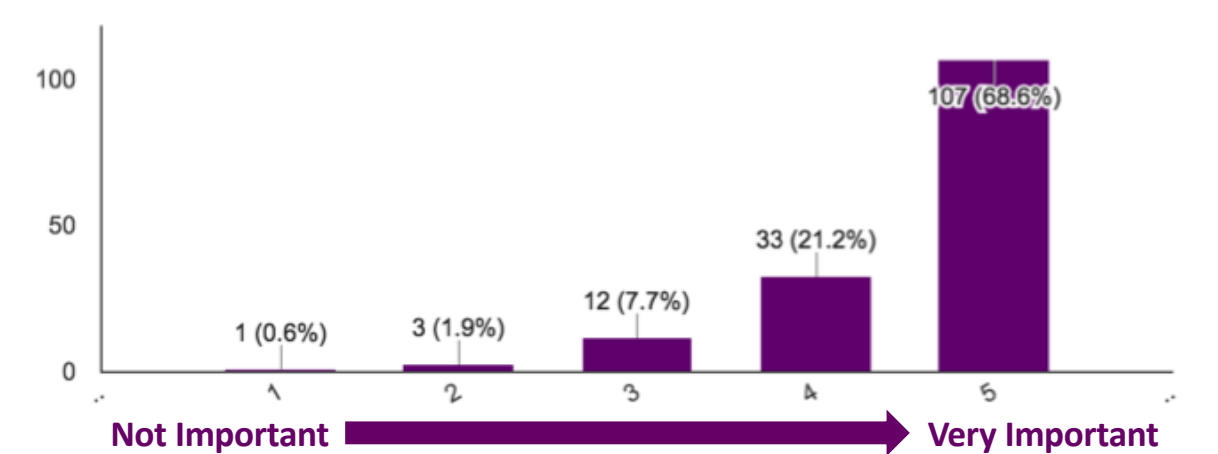
**School Libraries in Canada:** How important is it to continue publication of the online journal, School Libraries in Canada, with a stronger editorial structure and more robust web interface?



**Treasure Mountain Canada:** How important is it to establish a home base and infrastructure for the continued work of the Treasure Mountain Canada committee, and to support the work of future symposia?



**A National Network:** How important is it to formalize and strengthen the national network of school library practitioners, scholars and advocates?



The Solution: Canadian School Libraries is now incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization, moving forward aggressively with its mandate and projects.

### Challenges

### Opportunities

### Our Progress



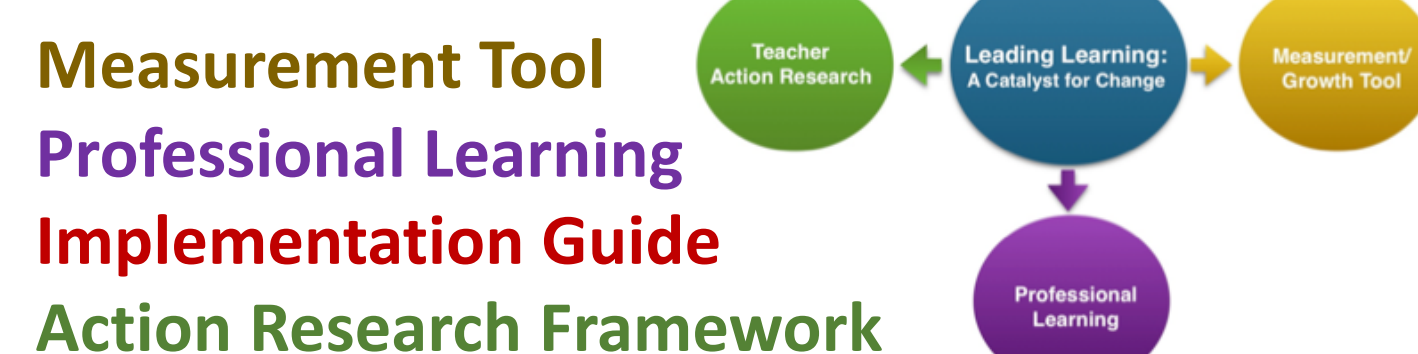
- Leading Learning** (CLA 2014) orphaned
- Loss of momentum for implementation
- No ability to update and keep fresh
- French version remains unpublished

- School Libraries in Canada (SLiC)** ceases publication
- Only national journal dedicated to school library practice
- Diminished support from CLA over the years had weakened editorial structure and capacity-building

- Compelling need for Canadian research into school library programs and practices, as called for most recently by the 2014 RSC Expert Panel report, *The Future Now*

- TMC** Research Symposium needs a stable home base

- Expand bank of current exemplars
- Publish French version
- Connect to provincial/territorial guidelines
- Raise awareness about capacities for use:



- Create new online publication with updated interface and renewed purpose
- Establish strong editorial board with representation from across the country
- Seek out partnerships for enriched content
- Create a digital archive of **SLiC**
- Establish reputation for excellence and expand readership

- Make TMC a supported CSL Project
- Partner with provincial associations and school districts to host future events
- Improve and expand TMC's online interface
- Raise awareness of papers from past symposiums by creating a searchable online interface
- Support practitioners for engaging in action research: toolkit, professional learning

- Leverage the **Leading Learning** national collaboration to build for the future
- Engage provincial and regional associations in common purpose
- Engage volunteers for CSL projects
- Leverage online communities and services to build community

- Focus on education and research through projects and publications
- Network-driven, not membership-driven
- Revenue: Donations, events, grants
- Build relationships, do quality work & provide quality resources
- Leverage partnerships



[ilsop.canadianschoollibraries.ca](http://ilsop.canadianschoollibraries.ca)

[cda.canadianschoollibraries.ca](http://cda.canadianschoollibraries.ca)



- Successfully negotiated transfer of IPR for **Leading Learning** with CLA, including unpublished French translation
- Published **Leading Learning** websites: English – Aug 2016 / Français – Jan 2017
- Established national committee: currently updating & expanding exemplars
- Raising awareness through publications and professional learning opportunities

- First edition: Spring 2017
- Strong editorial board
- Book review partnership with **ResourceLinks**
- Website includes full online **SLiC** Archives
- Very favourably received: quality articles, useable, attractive interface



- Partnered with MSLA for successful **TMC5**
- Created new TMC website
- Created Research Archive website: cumulative work of TMC now findable



- Compelling need for national collaboration**
- CLA's school library division (CASL) dissolved in 2010
- CLA's Voices for School Libraries network lost with CLA dissolution
- Loss of momentum gained with **Leading Learning** collaborative development

### Creating a sustainable organization

- Unique value proposition, appeal and usefulness to stakeholders
- Membership model:
  - Individual memberships?
  - Federation model?
- Financial sustainability
- Status, influence and extended reach

### A national network:



- Registered non-profit organization, with CRA charitable status
- An organization, not an association: no membership required
- Successfully negotiated transfer of rights for CLA projects: **Leading Learning**, **SLiC**, Angela Thacker Memorial Award
- Member, International Association of School Librarianship
- Member, Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA-FCAB)
- Robust network & wide-reaching communications strategy
- Committees established and a growing body of volunteers



Ontario Library Association Super Conference 2018 Poster Session  
Presented by Anita Brooks Kirkland, Chair, Canadian School Libraries

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### Support Canadian School Libraries

Every child deserves an excellent school library. Canadian School Libraries (CSL) is dedicated to professional education and research. By donating to CSL you help enrich understanding and improve practice to support the development of the school library learning commons program across Canada.



Canadian School Libraries is registered with the Canada Revenue Agency as a charitable organization. CRA Business Number: 72944 8092 RR0001