

Memorandum

To: Quebec University Library Staff

From: BCI Library Subcommittee

Object: Shared Service Platform—Project Progress Update (Note 10)

DATE: June 18, 2019

Background

Quebec university libraries have been collaborating on a partnership project to replace their integrated library management systems (ILMS) with a shared service platform (SSP) under the supervision of the Library Subcommittee of the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI) since fall 2014. The shared service platform chosen in April 2019 after the competitive bidding process is WorldShare Management Services (WMS) from OCLC, a non-profit library cooperative. The solution will go into production in June 2020.

Project Progress Since the Last Memorandum on April 23, 2019

OCLC's deployment process for the WMS platform is off to a great start. In May, all institutions prepared full extracts of their bibliographic and item data from their catalogues. For its part, OCLC has been reviewing our data in order to load it into WMS's sandbox over the summer. With this testing environment, the library implementation teams will be able to begin familiarizing themselves with WMS functionalities and parameters in a few weeks.

Quebec University Libraries (QUL) currently use VDX ILL, but the system is at end of life and must be replaced. OCLC, who commercialized the system, recently introduced Tipasa, a new cloud-based ILL management system. The BCI Library Subcommittee mandated an ad hoc working group to develop a deployment scenario for Tipasa considering the context of WMS implementation. After careful analysis, the decision is to wait until summer 2021 to deploy Tipasa, which will give OCLC enough time to develop certain functionalities, in partnership with QUL, to meet our needs. To facilitate the transition towards Tipasa, two or three institutions will be mandated to progressively implement this system once WMS comes into production in June 2020.

Now that the implementation phase for the WMS platform is underway, the Communications working group was reactivated and tasked to develop a communication plan to keep QUL staff and library users updated on the progress towards WMS implementation as well as progress on other shared services that will be developed by the QUL partnership over the coming years. Muriel Rorive, Organizational Development Advisor, will chair this group on behalf of the BCI SSP project team, with the assistance of Nathalie Gagnon (UQAM), Maryse Legault (Université de Montréal), and Amélie Tremblay (Université Laval).

We would also like to mention that our supplier OCLC announced publicly today that our partnership chose its solution for the Shared Service Platform. You can find the English and French versions of this announcement at the following addresses:

French version:

<https://www.oclc.org/fr/news/releases/2019/20190618-bci-selects-worldshare-management-services-for-quebec-univ.html>

English version:

<https://www.oclc.org/en/news/releases/2019/20190618-bci-selects-worldshare-management-services-for-quebec-univ.html>

ON BEHALF OF THE QUEBEC UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DIRECTORS

Caroline Lessard
Chair, BCI Library Subcommittee

Benoit Séguin
Chair, SSP Steering Committee