MEMORANDUM

To: Quebec University Library Staff

From: BCI Library Subcommittee

Object: Shared Service Platform – Project Update (note 8)

Date: January 14, 2019

Background

While most of the Integrated Library Management Systems (ILMS) in Quebec university libraries will have to be replaced by 2020, providers are gradually moving away from this technological approach to focus on Shared Service Platforms (SSP). In this context, Quebec university libraries have been collaborating on a project to replace their ILMS with an SSP under the supervision of the Library Subcomittee of the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI) since fall 2014.

Project Progress Since the September 11, 2018 Project Update

Another important milestone was achieved on December 19, 2018, with the publication of the second stage of the call for tenders in SEAO (Système électronique d'appel d'offres du Gouvernement du Québec) for the acquisition of a Shared Service Platform. Eligible suppliers have until January 30 to respond.

The tendering process continues within the established timeframe, but certain adjustments were made in the final stages, in agreement with GACEQ (Groupe d'approvisionnement en commun de l'Est du Québec), which oversees the tendering process. As a result, the contract will now be conditionally awarded around mid-February to the supplier having tendered the lowest adjusted price, based on the Selection Committee's qualitative assessment. Afterwards, BCI will negotiate the Statement of Work with the supplier for the solution's implementation and will finalize the contractual terms. Based on this schedule, the contract will be awarded once these two stages are completed, approximately mid-March. As the authorized representative of the 17 participating institutions, BCI will sign the contract with the supplier.

The Library Subcommittee commends all members of the three committees that contributed to the tendering process and competitive dialogue, for their exceptional work. M. François Charbonnier, Product Manager, SSP Project Team, worked especially hard to deliver the tender documents within schedule.

The next few weeks will focus on planning preliminary activities and securing resources to prepare for the start of the implementation phase in spring 2019. We will define the deployment strategy with the supplier before signing the contract. According to the information provided during the competitive dialogue, the chosen supplier should be capable of providing a test environment with actual cataloguing and management data from participating libraries by the fall of 2019. The Shared Service Platform should be fully implemented in June 2020.

The solution chosen after the tendering process will be announced approximately at the end of March in the next Library Subcommittee's memorandum on the SSP project.

ON BEHALF OF THE QUEBEC UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DIRECTORS

Guylaine Beaudry
Chair, BCI Library Subcommittee

Benoit Séguin
Chair, SSP Steering Committee