

What libraries across Canada are doing well for accessibility

Kris Jorgensen

Project Manager, NNELS

kris@nnels.ca



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Agenda

- Acronyms
- What is NNELS
- What are libraries doing well?

These slides and my talk are available on the Library Toolshed. Search “NNELS SLA 2018”.



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Acronyms

NNELS = National Network for Equitable Library Service

PWPD = People with Print Disabilities

What is NNELS?

“National Network for Equitable Library Service”

(See report: “Opening the Book” from Canadian Library Association, 2005)

Funded and supported by the governments of AB, BC, MB, NS, NWT, NU, SK, YT



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Definition of a “perceptual disability”:

- a) severe or total impairment of **sight** or hearing or the inability to focus or move one’s **eyes**,
- b) the inability to **hold** or **manipulate** a book, or
- c) an impairment relating to **comprehension**.

Working together...

NNELS accounts can be for PWPD or people acting on their behalf, including:

- family members
- neighbours
- health professionals
- teachers and education assistants
- library staff



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How to Register a Patron for NNELS

- Internet search for “print disability Saskatchewan”
- Select libguides option



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Rules...

- Follow the instructions for registering borrowers
- The content in NNELS – if you have to log in to get it – is only for people with print disabilities



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What are Libraries doing well?

1. Being conscious of the policy environment
2. Lending reading tools to readers
3. Mandating a PATAQ
4. Putting accessibility information on websites
5. Being serious about belonging
6. Being nodes in a network



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