

Topic	Data collection through Ontario's Regional Museum Networks (RMNs)		
Date	October 24, 2018	Location	North York Room, Westin Prince, 900 York Mills Rd., Toronto, ON
Host(s)	The Ontario Museum Association		
Participants	Diana Carter	Ottawa Museum Network	
	Abbey Stansfield	Museums of Niagara Association	
	Will Hollingshead	North Shore Cultural Attractions Network	
	Kenn Norman	Waterloo-Wellington Museums & Galleries Network	
	Laurie Webb	Heritage Sarnia Lambton	
	Mike Baker	EON (Association of Curators and Directors of Art Galleries, Museums, Historical Societies and Archives of Elgin, Oxford, and Norfolk Counties)	
	Katie Huddleston	Sumac - Simcoe County's Cultural Network	
	Melissa Cole	York Durham Association of Museum and Archives	
	Nathan Etherington	Brant Museums & Galleries Association	
	Meredith Leonard	Halton Heritage Services	
	Amy Cubberley	Huron Perth Middlesex Museum Network	
	Lizz Thrasher	Lanark County Museum Network	
	Robyn Paine	Kingston Association of Museums	
	Cheryl Blackman	Toronto Museum Network	
	Liz Forsberg	Ontario Trillium Foundation	
	Wendy Fitch	Museums Association of Saskatchewan	
	Cathy Taylor	Ontario Nonprofit Network	
Marie Lalonde	Ontario Museum Association		
Notetaker(s)	Christopher Shackleton- Arts Advocacy Assistant, Ontario Museum Association		
Facilitator(s)	Stephen Abram- Principal, Lighthouse Consulting; Executive Director, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries		
Invitation	<p>Dear Regional Museum Network (RMN) Representatives,</p> <p>As agreed, we are pleased to invite you to our Network of RMNs meeting, which will be taking place from 10am to 4pm on October 24, 2018, in the North York Room of the Westin Prince Toronto (900 York Mills Rd., North York, ON, M3B 3H2).</p> <p>A workshop and discussion will take place to determine the data needs of the sector, facilitated by Stephen Abram. There is a continuing need for better-quality data in the sector, and the OMA is going to be collecting data in an opportunity to update our last major effort, the <i>Ontario's Museums 2014 Profile</i>. This will also involve a joint effort with Mass Culture to establish better collaboration with other cultural organizations.</p> <p>We will spend two hours in the morning identifying the data and research needs of our sector.</p>		

	<p>To inform our discussions, please bring with you to the RMN Meeting and Conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the most recent annual report and financial statement for your Network • the most recent annual report and financial statement for your Museum • a copy of your recent CMOG application (if applicable)
<p>Perspectives and thoughts</p>	<p>-Culture is a larger part of Ontario’s GDP (6%) than the automotive industry (1%) and manufacturing (4%) combined; we must make the case to funders and governments</p> <p>-measurements allow us to communicate with boards and municipalities</p> <p>-we need to build our influencing skills</p> <p>-we need to measure our success as a group through metrics such as changing a policy or improving our funding</p> <p>Presentation about Operating as a Network: Cathy Taylor, Ontario Nonprofit Network</p> <p>Presentation on the Operations of Museum Networks in Saskatchewan: Wendy Fitch, Museums Association of Saskatchewan</p>
<p>What research would be useful?</p>	<p>-the impact of a museum visit on education (for example, library storytime equates to a letter-grade increase in student performance)</p> <p>-the percentage of people that do a cultural activity as part of tourism</p> <p>-how our role as technology hubs and community spaces improves our communities</p> <p>-the percentage of our visitors who are not from our communities</p> <p>-the economic impact of an open hour for a museum (for example, libraries in Toronto know that each open hour equals \$2,515 of economic impact)</p> <p>-the amount of Property Tax that is paid by museums in the province</p> <p>-the amount of support provided to museums by all levels of government, direct and indirect (incl. Heritage Grants, taxes, tax exemptions, in-kind services, etc.)</p>
<p>Whose voices are missing around the table?</p>	<p>-Grey-Bruce-Dufferin Museum Network, which is on hiatus</p> <p>-Renfrew County Museums Network</p> <p>-Sunset Country Museums Network</p> <p>-Bay of Quinte Museums and Archives Group</p> <p>-South Western Ontario Heritage Council</p> <p>-Haldimand Norfolk Cultural Association</p> <p>-museums that don’t belong to an RMN</p> <p>-Regional Tourism Organizations (RTOs)</p>
<p>Resources & Links (mentioned during discussion or shared afterwards)</p>	<p>1. So Much More: The Economic Impact of the Toronto Public Library on the City of Toronto. Martin Prosperity Institute, 2013. https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/content/about-the-library/pdfs/board/meetings/2013/dec09/10_1.pdf</p>
<p>What next steps were mentioned as a result of the Gathering?</p>	<p>-Ontario Museum Association to move forward with the Museum Impact Survey, using RMN representatives as a conduit for the messages and to encourage participation</p> <p>-Network representatives to suggest three priorities that would benefit their network, to give guidance as to potential future projects</p>