

Resolution on eBook Pricing for Libraries

Whereas Canadian Public Libraries for Fair eBook Pricing has led efforts “to raise awareness of eBook pricing issues, with the goal of ensuring broad access to eBooks for Canadian readers” (<http://www.fairpricingforlibraries.org/>);

Whereas the Canadian Urban Library Council (CULC) has declared that the high cost of eBooks and audiobooks and restrictive licensing models are not a sustainable model for Canadian Libraries;

Whereas libraries and their readers in the United States face the same barriers to access of titles that exist in Canada, preventing access by citizens to information; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Creates a joint working group of representatives from ALA, ULC, ASGCLA, COSLA, PLA, LITA, ALCTS, RUSA, and other members to be determined to address library concerns with publishers and content providers specifically:
 - a. to develop a variety of digital content license models that will allow libraries to provide content more effectively, allowing options to choose between one-at-a-time, metered, and other options to be made at point of sale;
 - b. to make all content available in print and for which digital variants have been created to make the digital content equally available to libraries without moratorium or embargo;
 - c. to explore all fair options for delivering content digitally in libraries;
 - d. to urge Congress to explore digital content pricing and licensing models to ensure democratic access to information
2. Develops an advocacy and public awareness campaign to provide accurate information about the true value of library purchasing of books to publishers.

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