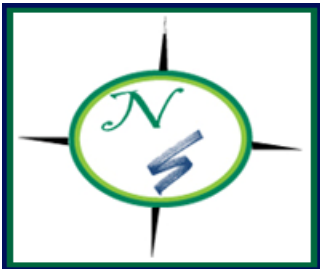
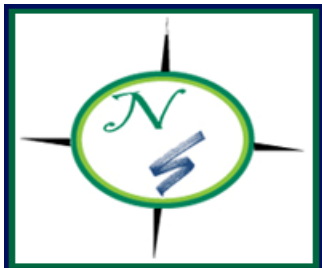


**\$15.0 Million Investment to Provide
Equitable Access.**



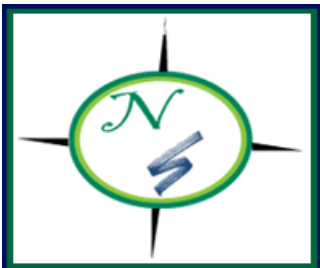
Equitable access by:

- ☞ Bridging the digital divide through investments that will improve services and access by supporting the implementation of new technology, in particular for small, rural and remote public libraries;
- ☞ Enhancing access to community collections through investment in library collection development in strategic areas, such as French language, multicultural, health and literacy, and digitization;
- ☞ Strengthening public library professionals' capacity to meet and keep pace with the library service and digital information needs of their communities.



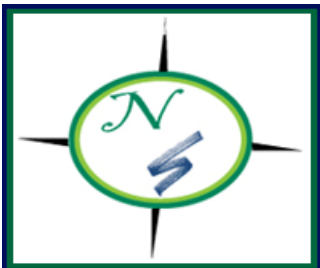
Funding Parameters

- ❏ One-time funding
- ❏ Strategic investments to maximize impact
- ❏ Does not have to be spent in one year; expects it will take several years to spend wisely
- ❏ Appropriate to use in phases or for leveraging other investment
- ❏ Cannot be used to supplement operating/base funding or create an ongoing dependency
- ❏ Capital expenditures such as repair, rehabilitation or expansion of facilities are not eligible.



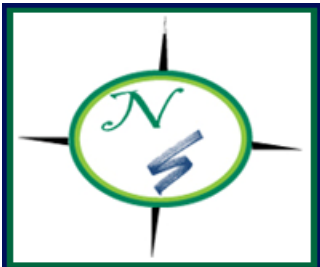
Other Criteria

- ☞ We need to measure our success by benchmarking where we are now and providing evidence of improvement
- ☞ All libraries must be eligible
- ☞ May use different streams with different criteria for funding (e.g., formula, application process)
- ☞ Application process must be transparent
- ☞ Must not duplicate other funding allocations



Guiding Principles for SOLS and OLSN

- ☞ We will fulfill the Ministry requirements and outcomes for the grant
- ☞ SOLS and OLSN will work in collaboration as per our letter from the Ministry
- ☞ We will work in partnership with other organizations as appropriate
- ☞ Funds will go to libraries or to programs for libraries
- ☞ We will have a clear consultation process
- ☞ We will maintain clear and regular communications with the libraries
- ☞ We will not duplicate grants already provided by other organizations
- ☞ Our goal is to build the long term capacity of libraries...not looking to fill small gaps
- ☞ Projects must be either one time or plans for sustainability must be addressed



Discussion of Program Ideas

- ❏ Bridging the digital divide through investments that will improve services and access by supporting the implementation of new technology, in particular for small, rural and remote public libraries;
- ❏ Enhancing access to community collections through investment in library collection development in strategic areas, such as French language, multicultural, health and literacy, and digitization;
- ❏ Strengthening public library professionals' capacity to meet and keep pace with the library service and digital information needs of their communities.



Next Steps

- ☞ Complete consultations with client libraries
- ☞ Consult with other stakeholders including KO, FOPL, OLA (OLBA/OPLA)
- ☞ Distribute summary report of input to clients
- ☞ Develop program guidelines and timelines, advisory structure, communications and marketing plans
- ☞ Announce initial programs during Ontario Public Library Week
- ☞ Begin implementation of initial programs in fall

