

@LSC

A newsletter of what is new at the Library Services Centre

December 2017



2018 pricing

With the planned increase in the minimum wage in Ontario by 20.6% coming January 2018, we thought we would talk about LSC's plans.

LSC will:

- ❖ Honour pricing in our multi-year contracts.
- ❖ Discounts will not be changing.
In fact, where a library has a budget increase, LSC would be pleased to discuss increases in discount.
- ❖ Where annual increases are allowed, we will raise prices by inflation or 2%.
- ❖ Not be making any changes in freight rates in 2018.

LSC's budget process for 2018 started in the summer of 2017. We have been able to fully fund our 2018 operations with the full knowledge of the planned change.

One area that LSC has tuned relates to our inbound freight costs, which are included in our cost base when we compute a discount to be offered on material. We recognized that this process could be streamlined, so LSC has computed the average per unit freight cost from all of our suppliers. This average cost is now used in all cost calculations for that supplier.

The result is that freight costs become consistent, reducing any variations in selling price.

Other than allowing LSC to effectively manage the increased minimum wage without passing the bill to our clients while increasing the consistency of pricing, the overall impact of the change is negligible.

Cover art for multilingual material

LSC is now scanning all material in languages other than English and French that we handle. These images are being uploaded onto our web site and are available for download to the library when material is shipped to them.

The good news about this service enhancement is the price.

Free.

OLS-N consortium

Ontario Library Service – North (OLS-N) covers the huge geography of Northern Ontario and provides services to the public libraries in this area of Ontario.

As part of its mandate to improve service to the North's public libraries, OLS-N is putting together a consortium to acquire, catalogue, and process material. LSC is pleased to be working with OLS-N on this venture. LSC will be one of several suppliers each with a focus on the different communities found in the North. There are specialised vendors for First Nations and Francophone communities. LSC supply all other materials.

This is an exciting initiative on the part of OLS-N. It extends the economies of scale enjoyed by southern Ontario libraries to even the smallest northern libraries.

OLS-N already operates a shared catalogue for northern libraries. LSC will feed this catalogue with high quality, consistent, records which will also improve library service.

From Selection to Shelf

LSC continues to refine this consulting service. It provides high level recommendations to library management about potential process improvement inside the library.

The service is offered at no cost and without obligation to qualifying libraries.

New suppliers

Recorded Books

LSC is pleased to announce that Recorded Books material is now available through LSC. We load all new titles as they are announced and have a large backlist selection in our database.

Recorded Books set the standard for audio books in the library market and offers titles unavailable in audio format by other means. We are pleased that we are able to supply these to our libraries.

Playaway

Playaway is a leader in alternative format material: player devices with embedded audio books or DVDs. These items are an important niche because they allow patrons to access the material without the patron needing to have any special equipment or to undertake downloads.

LSC will soon be offering a full range of Playaway material through our web site. But in the interim, libraries interested in this new service should contact James Capson (jcapson@lsc.on.ca).

System enhancements

When searching on the LSC web site, search results will now default to a reverse publication date order (most recent titles appear first.) Users can still re-sort items using any of the 11 other sort criteria.

Coming soon: subject search using BISAC subject codes.

Staff changes

- ❖ Jamie Quinn has returned to LSC from her maternity leave.
- ❖ Johanna Whitson has started her maternity leave.

More information

On any story: cdillon@lsc.on.ca or customerservice@lsc.on.ca