Continuing Professional Development Scheme

PUBLIC LIBRARY SPECIALISATION

Public Library: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Competencies

1.   Understand the public library sector and the policies, issues and trends that impact on local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

(e.g. local demographic profile; developments in community values; local government policy; LIS profession; ethical and legal issues; awareness of cultural practices...)

2.   Understand the principles and practices related to providing information services to meet local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities needs.

(e.g. provision of bilingual resources; reference services; information access; document delivery, appropriate content and perspectives in traditional cultural property; establish mechanisms to allow participation of indigenous community representatives in the library's programs; promote cultural awareness for staff...)

3.   Know and understand the importance of reading among all members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Promote and support targeted programs for members of those communities with identified literacy needs.

(e.g. identify the need for particular language collections based on published standards and guidelines; participate in networks providing services for local communities; engagement with other organisations and Indigenous community representatives; …)

4.   Understand the management of resources in a broad range of formats, with a focus on other languages and cultural diversity.

(e.g. collection development and management; digitisation of collections; cataloguing and signage in first languages; inclusion of materials by and about Indigenous Australians in the collection…)

5.   Know and understand the application of leadership, finance, communication, marketing and management theory and techniques.

(e.g. strategic planning; organisational policy, planning and decision making; financial management; marketing and public relations; review and evaluation of library services; promotion of diversity in staffing…)

6.   Understand and use current technology and systems to manage all forms of information.

(e.g. library systems; web management, network management; mobile technologies, database creation and management; authentication and authorisations; content management; learning management systems…)

7.   Understand the importance of digital literacy among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and assist in its development.

(e.g. technological profile of your community and its implications; cybersafety; intergenerational programs, introductory computing; lending of devices…)

8.   Maintain currency of professional knowledge and practice.

(e.g. participation in professional organisations; attending formal conferences and workshops; participating in informal workplace learning activities; research and publishing in LIS…)