

Future of North American Wikimedia affiliates

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Affiliates = chapters, user groups, thematic groups

Chapter = a formal nonprofit organization

Projects = The online sites

North American affiliates are small

- Run largely by volunteers
- If we were in a bigger organization, we could
 - Make more multiyear commitments/partnerships
 - Support administration and finance of affiliates
 - Coordinate calendars across locations
 - Officially cover all U.S. – museums everywhere
- OpenStreetMap's arrangements seems good.
- Wikimedia Foundation invites proposals for pilot Hubs

Sunday afternoon let's discuss proposing a pilot project – a Hub or federation

There is a history to why the U.S. affiliates are small.

So let's be careful, e.g.:

- Plan to limit/avoid U.S. dominance or requiring English
- Volunteers on the Projects don't have to join
- User groups don't have to join the pilot or stay in.
- What else?

Helpful example: Central and Eastern European Hub proposal

Possible projects for the pilot

1. Help run this North America conference
2. Combine/share/support some administrative work
3. Some visionary element useful around the world
 - Develop WikiCite, develop GLAM tools, sustain partnerships with larger organizations, . . . many possibilities

The combined package must be appealing to several audiences.

Next steps

- Opportunity to discuss on Sunday at 15:10
- Or email me: peter.meyer@wikidc.org
- Brainstorm, compare to other organizations
- Pick a feasible collaboration
- Find consensus, file grant proposal with WMF