

**Butte County Library**

Melanie Lightbody, County Librarian

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MEMORANDUM

Date	Thursday, July 5, 2018
To	Library Advisory Board
From	Mel Lightbody, County Librarian
RE:	NVCF monies for sending Alex Chen to KohaCon 2018

Amount Requested: \$1400.00. \$100 already committed by Durham Friends of the Library.

Further Information: <https://kohacon2018.bywatersolutions.com/information.html>

Staff Member: **Alex Chen**, the Library's Information Systems Technician

Value of Expense: Please see the attached email from Alex telling the LAB how valuable it would be for Alex to attend KohaCon.

Three years ago we were able to send our Senior Library Assistant and Koha team member to this training. It provided invaluable insights, connections and knowledge that carried us through until she had to leave the position.

This training is of high benefit to all the branches of the library, especially as it will assist us in our continued customization of this program. Alex's work on Koha has already saved us time and money that now can be spent elsewhere in support of the system.

Lightbody, Melanie

From: Chen, Bingjie (Alex)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 1:35 PM
To: Lightbody, Melanie
Cc: Serrano, Susan; LIB - KohaAdmin
Subject: RE: Alex, can you write a paragraph or two about what you'd get out of KohaCon in Portland?

Hi everyone, my paragraph:

I've been helping with Koha SQL reports for as long as I've been here, I have computer science background so the Koha system and SQL reports are pretty intuitive to me from the very beginning, and I'm glad that my coding skills and help with making reports, stats and catalog management easier and more efficient.

The 2018 KohaCon is a great opportunity to meet with people from libraries that also use Koha, to exchange ideas and experience, and meet up with Bywater team to exchange thoughts on better utilize and support the KOHA ILS. The most exciting part for me is to meet with the developers and Bywater support staff that do more in depth and behind the stage development and support for Koha, because according to my coding experience, it helps much to know how the system is made in order to better use and support it, even if in my day to day library work there's limited coding needed, it helps me to solve an issue or come up with a report quickly because I know the back end codes and database schemes thoroughly.

Also from my ARSL experience, conferences like this help you come up with more ideas and help you get to know more people in this field, even though our library may not be able to take advantage of all the information I get from the conference, some adaptations or future opportunities – such as cooperation with

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outside entities or grant opportunities – may be able to use the ideas from such conferences. It's good both for the library and personal growth, so I think it's beneficial thing for me to go to.

Alex Chen
Information Systems Technician, Associate
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From: Chen, Bingjie (Alex)
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2018 4:04 PM
To: Lightbody, Melanie <MLightbody@buttecounty.net>
Cc: Serrano, Susan <SSerrano@buttecounty.net>; LIB - KohaAdmin <LIB-KohaAdmin@buttecounty.net>
Subject: Re: Alex, can you write a paragraph or two about what you'd get out of KohaCon in Portland?

Sure. I'll think about it and write some stuff.
I believe I can attend.

Alex Chen
Information Systems Technician, Associate
Butte County Library
1108 Sherman Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
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Pixel 2 XL

On Jun 24, 2018 4:03 PM, "Lightbody, Melanie" <MLightbody@buttecounty.net> wrote:

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I'm going to be asking LAB for money and they will need me to present something to them. As well, could you be available to attend the next LAB meeting? It is in Oroville on Wednesday, July 18th.

mel

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mel Lightbody". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

County Librarian
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