Considerations for a PLN community

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A network of people & organizations
An architecture for preservation

Ensures the long-term access to a rich body of digital content through the establishment of a national network of committed partners

Two key components of infrastructure:
- Preservation Network: partners collaborating to preserve and provide long-term access to digital content
- Preservation Architecture: technical components that enable digital preservation

Values
- Support the needs of multiple communities over long periods of time
- Respond to rapidly changing technologies and innovative behaviors
- Be transparent and trustworthy
“In spite of current ads and slogans, the world doesn't change one person at a time. It changes as networks of relationships form among people who discover they share a common cause and vision of what's possible.”

Wheatley and Frieze
“When separate, local efforts connect with each other as networks, then strengthen as communities of practice, suddenly and surprisingly a new system emerges at a greater level of scale. This system of influence possesses qualities and capacities that were unknown in the individuals. It isn’t that they were hidden; they simply don’t exist until the system emerges. They are properties of the system, not the individual, but once there, individuals possess them. And the system that emerges always possesses greater power and influence than is possible through planned, incremental change. Emergence ....takes things to scale.” Wheatley and Frieze
Constellations are self-organizing **action teams** that operate within the broader strategic vision of a partnership.
**Magnetic attractors**
(need or opportunity)

Broader ecosystem
(context for partnership)

- **Lead Partner**
- **Constellation**

**Shared Vision**

Enabling factors
1. Lightweight governance
2. Action focused teams (constellations)
3. Third party coordination (partners don't run secretariat)

Secretariat
(3rd party coordination)

**Lightweight agreements**
For more information:
National Digital Stewardship Alliance
http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndsa/

Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and the Environment, Surman and Surman, The constellation model of collaborative social change, 2008
http://socialinnovation.ca/blog/open-sourcing-social-change-inside-constellation-model