

## ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## **MentorMatch Guidelines and Resources**

## **Check-In Questions for Mentors and Mentees**

A helpful model for understanding stages of the mentoring cycle has been adapted from Gerard Egan's <u>Skilled</u> Helper model.

## **Exploration Action Planning New Understanding** Clarify aims and objectives Define ideas: Share Examine options for action as experience, stories, ideas and Get to know each other well as consequences Negotiate the agenda advice Encourage new ways of thinking Challenge ideas but ensure Help make decisions, solve constructive feedback problems, develop action plans Identify development needs Monitor progress and evaluate outcomes

The cycle is likely to be dynamic as you explore ideas, but the model is helpful to understanding the process and for developing you own mentoring relationship and plan.

Check-In Questions: Questions to help evaluate the mentoring process and assess what needs to be revised.

- 1. At the end of every session do you know when the next meeting will take place and where?
- 2. Have you developed together a prioritized list of points to discuss? Do you feel comfortable enough to digress or even change it?
- 3. How do you evaluate what has taken place between meeting times?
- **4.** Are you both mentor and mentee comfortable enough to be honest and upfront about issues, skills and your understanding of information, ideas and advice? Do you ask for what you need?
- 5. Is your mentoring time a shared priority? Are you both fully focused during your time together?
- **6.** How do you feel about giving and receiving feedback?
- 7. How are you documenting your shared learning? Have you considered journaling to help track your insights?
- 8. How do you listen to each other, reflecting and reflecting on what you are hearing?
- **9.** Have you thought about how you learn the best and discussed this together?
- **10.** If you feel you don't have all the answers, are you comfortable suggesting where else to go or whom else to consult?