

## Public Libraries Interest Group (PLIG) Meeting Minutes

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 | 7:00 pm náčá?mat ct Strathcona Branch, Vancouver Public Library

**Present:** Heidi Schiller, Meghan Savage, Kate Shuttleworth, Sara Ellis, Gillian G. Smith, Marisa Tutt, Vicky Woo, Balbir Gill, Angie Kang and Anna Babluck(via Skype)

**Regrets:** Deb Thomas, Sarah Felkar, Gill Bass, Shideh Taleban, Kaya Fraser

Meeting started at 7:02 PM.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of agenda  
*Moved by Meghan*  
*Approved*
3. Approval of May 2017 meeting minutes  
*Moved by Heidi*  
*Approved*
4. Heidi explains PLIG statements and roles explained to our newest members, as well as what each working group entails.
5. Working Groups break out and discuss for half an hour, and come back to discuss with everyone:
  - a. Community Engagement Group (Goal 1)  
Group Meeting: Vicky Woo, Angie Kang, Kate Shuttleworth, Marisa Tutt
    - What are the different kind of social media platforms we could use? Is there a platform that people of all age groups and comfort with technology could use?
    - What kind of discussions do we want to see take place in regards to community engagement? Several ideas were suggested including: Christie's journal club idea, a forum for library workers to share inspirational stories or suggestions about their library, etc.
    - Activities that we plan now can happen in lower mainland since most of PLIG group members are in lower mainland, but in the future how do we incorporate members across B.C.? Could we do an annual "retreat"?
    - What are the regulations with BCLA in regards to posting materials online? We are still an interest group of BCLA, so we need to know if there are any regulations.
    - Suggested a newsletter might be the best solution in terms of collecting stories, and sharing journal articles - similar to what YAACS is doing.
  - b. Professional Development Group (Goal 2)  
Group Meeting: Heidi Schiller, Gillian G. Smith and Balbir Gill.

- Brainstormed ideas for workshops such as resume help; senior level staff can help with other staffs' resumes.
- Possible ideas also included:
  - Day in the life article: profiling a staff member, their roles, what they like about their jobs, what challenges they face, etc.
  - Brainstorm what kind of skills does the library and its staff want to develop, and from there, bring in guest speakers or workshops on those set of skills.
- BCLA conference presentation ideas - such as staffing levels.
- Action plan and timeline for this group to come.
- Question: do we have any available funding?

c. Membership Working Group (Goal 3)

Group meeting: Meghan Savage, Anna Babluck, Sara Ellis.

Expressions of interest from Kaya, Jill, Marisa, Alexandra

- What is the value of being part of the group if you live outside the lower mainland? What if you're not in a librarian or library technician position? We need to find out what library staff outside the lower mainland and library staff in various positions want from PLIG and then we will better be able to solicit participation. Smaller libraries also want to know what they can contribute.
- Anna suggested that her staff are interested in professional development opportunities.
- We all liked the idea of offering a roundtable at meetings where members can share ideas, especially about programs
- In terms of regional representatives, we discussed reaching out to the various library federations (including the Northwest Library Federation, the North East Library Federation, the North Central Library Federation, the IslandLink Library Federation, the Kootenay Library Federation, and the BC Libraries Cooperative) to email their member libraries to invite expressions of interest in regional representative positions. Many of these federations meet a few times a year.
- We discussed teleconference options. Sara recommended Adobe Connect as she has used it to teach anywhere from 5-50 people and it worked well (although feedback can be more of an issue with larger groups). Adobe Connect is not free, so it would be great if one of our libraries (or BC Libraries Co-Op?) owned it and was able to provide access for our PLIG meetings. People phoning in to Adobe Connect don't need to have the software.
- Perhaps we could organize some kind of virtual road-trip to BC libraries?
- It would be great to have PLIG members attend the Beyond Conference in 2019 & organize a meeting or social. It means a lot to other libraries

when members from the lower mainland libraries travel outside of the lower mainland for library opportunities/conferences.

- d. Those who wish to join the working group, please email the following coordinators:
- Group 1: Marisa - [marisatutt@gmail.com](mailto:marisatutt@gmail.com)
  - Group 2: Gillian - [Gillian.Guilmant-Smith@vpl.ca](mailto:Gillian.Guilmant-Smith@vpl.ca)
  - Group 3: coordinator not confirmed, but Sara Ellis might take on the role if no one else does. For now email, Meghan at [msavage@surrey.ca](mailto:msavage@surrey.ca)
6. Next Meeting: July 13 Location: TBD
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm