

## **PLIG Minutes**

**Thurs, October 13th, 7pm**

**Metrotown Library, 3rd Floor Boardroom**

**Attended by:** Meghan Savage (Surrey Libraries), Heidi Schiller (VPL), Deb Thomas (BPL), Sarah Felkar (WVML), Anna Ferri (VPL), Matthew Murray (Kwantlen Polytechnic University Library)

1. Meeting Called to order at 7:00pm
2. Agenda approved
3. Results of the vote approved the name change from “Public Librarians Interest Group” to “Public Libraries Interest Group”. There were 81 responses to the survey – 74 (91.36%) in favour of the name change, and 7 (8.64%) against.
4. Strategic Planning: Timeline and process for updating the PLIG purpose statements
  - a. Heidi proposed a creating a Strategic Plan (vision, mission, values, goals) for the group in addition to a Terms of Reference for PLIG officers and a plan of Initiatives. She proposed a three (3) meeting timeline, beginning with the current meeting, to review and revise the group’s statements about the purpose and membership and to set terms of reference.
    - i. First meeting (October 13) - workshop vision and mission statements
    - ii. Second meeting (November 10) - workshop values, goals, and Terms of Reference
    - iii. Third meeting (December 8) - workshop Initiatives
  - b. Sarah proposed putting the draft statements out to all PLIG members and interested community members on the website, email list, or through other means to seek comments and contributions between the meetings. Other group member’s agreed, but it was suggested that after receiving the feedback, the final versions of the vision, mission, values, goals and Terms of Reference would be decided at the PLIG meetings without a further vote from the whole group.
  - c. The members approved the above process, format and timeline
5. Strategic Planning: Existing Documentation
  - a. Heidi provided the group with copies of the existing purpose and membership statements for PLIG from the webpage, the current BCLA Strategic Plan, the BCLA (Perspectives) Editorial Board Terms of Reference, and a PLIG Strategic Planning Process guide with tips about how to conduct the strategic planning process.
  - b. The group reviewed the existing statement of purpose and membership as it is written on the [BCLA PLIG webpage](#) (see appendix). Deb noted that the original statements were solid in that they had very good intentions and seemed essentially similar to the group’s current intentions, but that they need to be updated and revised to meet the new focus on the broader Public Libraries community. It was also noted that the language could be made more direct and plainer.

- c. The need for the membership statement to specify “adult services” was questioned and it was suggested this was likely to distinguish the group from YAACS to ensure that adult services staff had similar access to a local professional group. It was also suggested that it was unnecessary to limit the group membership to those involved in “the organization, management or provision of public library services” as this excluded students, job seekers, those seeking a career change from academic to public libraries, or even those in academic libraries interested in learning about or supporting public library service provision.
    - d. The group reviewed the current [BCLA Strategic Plan](#). It was noted that the vision statement seemed wordy but the succinct, clear, and pointed mission statement was appealing.
  6. Website update
    - a. It was noted that the name was not yet changed on the website in all locations and that we don’t have control over editing some of those areas. Meghan said she would ask Cassie at BCLA how to update the overall BCLA website.
  7. Strategic Planning: Workshop mission statement
    - a. The group reviewed best practices for vision and mission statements.
    - b. The group wrote ideas for an answer to the question of “why PLIG exists” on sticky notes
    - c. The results were sorted into thematic patterns and given headings
      - i. Relationship / Community Building
      - ii. Professional Development
      - iii. Advocacy
      - iv. Sharing of ideas/materials
    - d. Anna noted that active PLIG membership would have to grow to make something like the provision of professional development opportunities a possibility. Heidi suggested that one of the initiatives should focus on increasing membership.
    - e. Deb noted a close alignment with the existing PLIG purpose statement and questioned the need to “recreate the wheel”. The group felt a shorter “pithy” statement of guidance and focus was worthwhile and could be helpful to evaluating future direction.
    - f. Sarah and Meghan offered to work with the headings and try wordsmithing a short statement. The workshopped statements would be sent to the members at the current meeting by Oct 20th for review. Feedback was due by October 27th. Heidi or Meghan would then send several options would then be sent out to the PLIG listserv by November 1st for feedback.
  8. Strategic Planning: Workshop vision statement
    - a. Deb suggested:
      - i. A connected, inclusive, and informed public library community.
    - b. After a brief discussion the group unanimously approved of this as a draft vision statement.
  9. Next meeting

- a. Thursday November 10th, 7pm at West Vancouver Memorial Library (1950 Marine Dr West Vancouver) in the Welsh Hall
  - b. Attempts will be made to provide a phone in option but this cannot yet be confirmed. UPDATE: If you would like to participate via teleconference, please call 604-925-7405 and tell the staff person who picks up that you would like to be transferred to the PLIG meeting.
  - c. Meetings will continue to be scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm. Locations will rotate as available.
10. Meeting Adjourned

## **Appendix to Meeting Minutes**

Below is the PLIG purpose statement as of October 13, 2016

Welcome to the Public Libraries Interest Group (PLIG)!

The goal of the Public Libraries Interest Group, PLIG, is to provide support and promote the interests of professional librarians in British Columbia.

The group will seek to:

- advocate and promote professional development and continuing education for public librarians
- encourage and foster collegial collaboration
- promote networking and mentoring opportunities
- respond to challenges and opportunities occurring within the profession and to encourage discussion of professional issues
- support the vital role of public librarianship in a democratic society

For information about PLIG please contact: [Heidi Schiller](#), Co-Convenor or [Meghan Savage](#), Co-Convenor.

### **Membership**

Members belong to the BC Library Association and will be drawn from the public library community at large, based on interest. It is expected that members of the committee be involved in the organization, management or provision of public library services to adults.