

## **Public Libraries Interest Group (PLIG) Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, October 22nd, 2020 | 3:00-3:30PM | Zoom

**Chair:** Gillian Guilmant- Smith, Co-Chair (VPL)

**Present:** , Adam Farrell, Co-Chair (NWPL), Kate Lowe (VPL), Andrea Lam, Balbir Gill (FVRL), Eleanor Crumblehulme, Alexis Greenwood (VPL), Tara Thompson (Okanagan Regional Library), Rachel Burke (Coquitlam Public Library), Sam Murphy

**Recorder:** Gillian Guilmant- Smith, Co-Chair (VPL), Adam Farrell, Co-Chair (NWPL)

**Absent:** William Deureme, Communications Officer (VPL), Vicky Woo, Recording Secretary (VPL), Richard Kuehle (BPL)

### **Meeting begins at 3:00PM**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Meeting Agenda** - Approved by group
- 3. Review of meeting minutes from February 2020. The following action items are outstanding::**

#### **BCLA Perspectives - "Day in the Life" Column**

The "Day in the Life" column is currently suspended until further notice.

- Action - Gillian/ Adam will connect with the *BCLA Perspectives* editors to consider the value of the column, audience, and who might take this on.

#### **Update on the work-plan**

Gillian and Vicky will create a new survey for our members to take on what they hope to learn/gain from the group. With the results, we will start a new work plan.

- Action - Gillian & Vicky will meet to create a survey.

#### **4. Journal Club Update (Gillian on behalf of Richard)**

A potential date for the next journal club meeting (via zoom) is early 2021.

Two ideas have emerged for topics to explore; (1) New experiences around fine free libraries after many Canadian public libraries went fine free when they reopened from Covid restrictions (see Fine Free Libraries in Canada <https://librarianship.ca/features/fine-free-libraries-in-canada/>)

and (2) Considerations for library spaces: long-term pandemic engineering controls?, safe spaces for marginalized communities such as at Calgary Public Library ("a ventilation system that rolls around to each meeting room so you can smudge anywhere in the building"), classical questions around a coexistence of physical and digital spaces

Please send any thoughts or suggestions to Richard via the PLIG listserv. More details to come.

## **5. Student Rep Update (Annie Macanulty, UBC iSchool)**

UBC BCLA will be holding an online event from 4:00-5:30 on 13 November over Zoom (in the iSchool's Zoom study group). The event is a casual panel discussion featuring two librarians and one co-op student giving short introductions to their work roles in conjunction with the event's theme: "librarians serving communities". We'll also be soliciting some questions from our membership for the panelists following their presentations. We'll have a few more meetings before term ends in December, but the main objective is to get this event off the ground, since it was meant to have happened last spring.

## **6. Themes for 2021 BCLA conference**

If you had a chance to read last week's announcement about the 2021 BC Library Conference then you know that BCLA is planning a 5 day, mostly single streamed conference focusing on a different theme each day. The below link asks you to suggest themes that you would like to see highlighted at the 2021 Conference. The link also includes a collection of themes we have heard recently and we hope that you will either endorse specific themes, or have new ones to suggest. Alternatively you may want to refine one or more of the themes suggested.

The link provides a box for you to endorse your chosen themes and/or add new ones to those already suggested.

<https://bclaconnect.ca/stream-theme/>

Thank you for your help shaping the 2021 Conference. Our intention is to mount a conference that best meets the needs and interests of our members and of the library community. The best first step is for us to listen to what you say about themes that interest you, and that you understand as important and relevant to our library community.

## **7. Terms of Reference update**

To ensure compliance with the new Societies Act, BCLA committees are required to have a Terms of Reference. Preparing a Terms of Reference is a great opportunity for groups to revitalize their purpose and to re-introduce their work and focus to the larger BCLA membership. Terms of Reference are tools for groups and committees to establish and use as guideposts for their work. They help build a sense of common purpose as well as providing a roadmap for the future and as such often need time to evolve. The group discussed our mandate and objectives.

- Action - Adam will reach out to Annette to confirm membership requirements.
- Action - Alexis is going to have a look at what other groups are doing for ToR

## **8. Next Meeting**

21st January 2021, TBD