

BC Library Association – Accessibility Interest Group (AIG) - Notes

Date: Monday, January 19 from 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Location: Teams

In attendance: Rachel Chong (Chair), Tara Thompson, Jennifer Streckmann

Review [Notes 2025.11.17](#)

1. No amendments or revisions.

Review action items & updates

1. Government Documents list updated to include Guide Dog and Service Dog Act, WCAG, and,
 - a. Action item: Add human rights act (Tara to send link)
 - b. Action item: Add Alzheimer's Society (Jennifer to send link)
 - c. Action item: Add [American Sign Language for Librarians](#)
2. Rachel Chong and Kelsey Chaban from Kwantlen Polytechnic University presented on Braille Printing: Accessible University Library Services, Wednesday, November 19th at 12:30 – 1:30pm PDT on Zoom. The event was a success.
3. Action Item Pending: Rachel to investigate funding/payment options to bring in guest speakers.

Upcoming events

1. Join YAACS on January 28th from 12:00-1:00pm for [Manga Literacy for Librarians: Accessing Accessible Comics from Japan](#) guest speaker Mx. V. Rahbar.
2. Accessibility Assessment Framework for Library Spaces Community of Practice (3rd Tuesday of each month, from 1 – 2pm, for 6 months). Pre-registration required. The community of practice has already begun.
3. [Accessible Professional Network 2026 Conference in Toronto](#)
4. [Memory Café by the Alzheimer Society](#) dates, times, and locations vary. Registration is required.

Confirm 2026 meeting dates

1. Every two months – typically the third Wednesday from 12 - 1
 - a. Wednesday, March 09 from 12 – 1pm
 - b. Wednesday, May 20 from 12 – 1pm
 - c. Wednesday, July 15 from 12 – 1pm
 - d. Wednesday, September 16 from 12 – 1pm
 - e. Wednesday November 18 from 12 – 1pm
2. Share meeting dates with
 - a. Action item: BCLA Listserv (Rachel)
 - b. Action item: Share with Interlink (Jennifer)
 - c. Action item: Accessibility Framework (Rachel)

Other Business

1. “There is significant concern in the Canadian library sector about proposed changes to the Canada Post Corporations Act in [Bill C-15, An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget](#), tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025 by Minister Lightbound. C-15 repeals Paragraphs 19(1)(d) to (g.1) of the Act. This section currently provides for a reduced rate of postage for library materials lent by a library to a borrower, including by means of an interlibrary loan, and for the ‘transmission, by post, free of postage, of (i) letters, books, tapes, records and other similar material for the use of the blind.’ If it is repealed and the current postage rates are increased, it would have a devastating impact on the ability of libraries to offer interlibrary loans and/or provide library materials to people with print disabilities.” Summary pulled from the BCLA main posting. [Please see the BCLA main posting for more details on how to get involved in Bill C-15 Advocacy.](#)
2. Action item: Make space on the Accessibility Interest Group page to gather a list of grants and funding related to accessibility work.