

BC Libraries Climate Action Update

2022 July 25

- Climate Action Week
- Ontario Library Association Survey & Environmental Scan
- Climate & Libraries Brief
- Nelson Public Library Strategic Plan
- BCLA Position Statement
- Toolkit & Resources Hub
- Ideas for a Climate Leadership Camp and a Consultant



Title of project: **Climate Action Week**

Presenter: **David C. Waddell (VPL)**

Date(s): **September 23-29**

Location: **BC Libraries**

Learn more: david.waddell@vpl.ca OR our listserv



Climate Action Week - Status Update

- Why Climate Action Week?
- Why Sept 23-29?
- Where are we at right now?
- What comes next?
- Where can we share resources (documents, branding, etc.)?

Climate Action Week - What can it look like?

- Civic Engagement Displays - Townhalls, Voting Information, Information Literacy Toolkits (passive)
- Special guest presentations - Gwynne Dyer (active)
- Bibliocommons &/or Libby booklists - Adult focused / Younger audience (passive)
- Seed library (passive)
- Community garden (active → passive)
- Repair cafes (active)
- Tech repair supplies/instruction manuals (passive)
- Climate Crisis Conversation Groups (active)
- LEED Building Certification (passive)
- Film screenings (active)
- Book Clubs (active)
- Book displays (passive)
- Garden/yard tool collection (passive)

Climate Action Week - What can it look like?

- Clothing repair collection (passive)
- Food drive (passive)
- Clothing/gear swap (active)
- Rainwater collection (active)
- Climate action to-go kits (passive, [GVPL](#))
- Bike repair collection/space (passive)
- Upcycling event (active)
- Beekeeping event (active)
- Urban gardening workshop (active)
- Creating mutual aid networks (active)
- Emergency preparedness workshop (active)
- Heatpump workshops (active)

Climate Action Week - Great Resources

Book/Article Recommendations from UBC School of Information Students

- Tanner, R., Ho, A. K., Antonelli, M., & Smith Aldrich, R. (2022). Libraries and Sustainability: Programs and Practices for Community Impact. ALA Editions.
- Barnes, L. L. (2012). Green buildings as sustainability education tools. *Library Hi Tech*.
<https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/07378831211266546/full/html>
- Munro, K. (2011). Resilience vs. sustainability: The future of libraries. *the Library with the Lead Pipe*.
<http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2011/resilience-vs-sustainability-the-future-of-libraries/?print=pdf>



Title of project: **Ontario Library Association Survey & Environmental Scan**

Presenter: **Sarah Roberts**

Learn more: sroberts@accessola.com



United Nations Strategic Development Goals

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.1

Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.2

Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

13.3

Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Environmental Scan & Localizing SDGs

13.1

Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity of libraries to climate related hazards and natural disasters.



- Libraries as Respite During Disaster and Extreme Weather
- Pandemic Response
- Materials Preservation Policy

13.2

Integrate climate change measures into library policies, strategies and planning.



- Climate related strategic planning
- Climate related accountability

13.3a

Improve Institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation and impact reduction



- Green Buildings
- Book Bikes
- Reducing travel

13.3b

Improve education, awareness-raising.



- Programming
- Climate Emergency Week
- Waste Reduction

Survey: Benchmarking Ontario Public Libraries Climate Action

13.1

Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity of libraries to climate related hazards and natural disasters.



Does your library have any of the following emergency management preparations in place?

13.2

Integrate climate change measures into library policies, strategies and planning.



Has your library integrated climate goals into its strategic objectives / plan?
Do your library's strategic objectives / plan align with...

13.3a

Improve Institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation and impact reduction



Does your library have any policies in place to reduce its carbon emissions impact through any of the following areas?

13.3b

Improve education, awareness-raising.



Does your library support local response and resilience to climate change in any of the following ways?



Title of project: **Climate Justice/Crisis & Libraries Brief**

Presenter: **McKelle Hansen**

Date(s): **Summer, 2022**

Location: **Vancouver (UBC)**

Learn more: **McKelle Hansen & Dr. Lisa Nathan**

lisa.nathan@ubc.ca



my question:

What is the role of the library and information professionals in responding to the climate crisis?

transformative change

“Transformations are ... fundamental deeper changes that affect the socio, cultural, political and structural conditions in which communities are embedded and which begin to change existing community dynamics, relationships, and infrastructure, as well as contributing to wider shifts in worldviews and beliefs that underpin climate change.”

Fazey, I., Carmen, E., Chapin, F. S., Ross, H., Rao-Williams, J., Lyon, C., ... Knox, K. (2018). *Community resilience for a 1.5 °C world*. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 31, 30–40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2017.12.006>

question for you

What are some of the barriers you face (or foresee facing) in implementing climate-focused, transformational changes?

Please reach out with questions, ideas, etc.

McKelle Hansen

Dr. Lisa Nathan: [**lisa.nathan@ubc.ca**](mailto:lisa.nathan@ubc.ca)



Title of project: **Strategic Plan: Nelson Public Library**

Presenter: **Tracy Therrien**

Learn more: ttherrien@nelson.ca



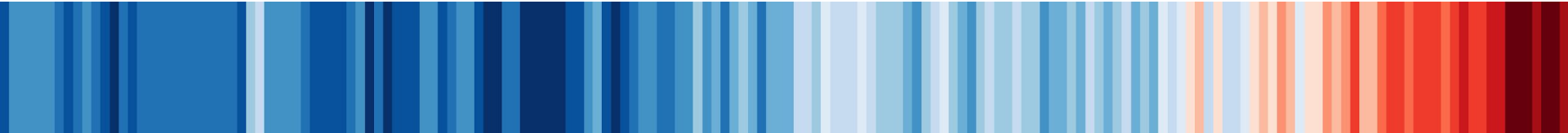


Title of project: **BCLA Position Statement**

Presenter: **Helen Brown**

Contact: climateaction@bcla.bc.ca

Learn more: **BCLA CAC meetings held 3rd Friday of every month 12-1pm (next meeting is Aug 19 @ 12pm)**



BCLA Position Statement - Background

[BCLA Climate Emergency Declaration](#) (2020 AGM)

[BCLA Climate Action Committee](#)

Working Group: Diana Marshall, Kevin Millsip, Lisa Nathan, David Waddell, and Helen Brown

Purpose & Content

Purpose

- Background to inform library decisions and a starting place for developing professional capacity
- Advocacy to governments, unions, and other policy and decision makers
- Providing direction and advocacy within the library sector

Content

- Core background and resources
- Impacts on libraries
- Importance of contributions from libraries
- Calls to action for governments, policy makers, and leaders
- Recommended actions for libraries and information organizations

Information Gathering & Priorities

Consultation (avail [here](#)):

- Position Statement Survey
- Initial BCLA CAC Brainstorming Session
- BCLA 2022 Conference Sessions / Meetings

Sources to determine necessary climate focused priorities and actions:

- [UN IPCC reports](#)
- [Canada's Changing Climate Report](#)
- [BC Risk Assessment Report](#)
- [Lancet Countdown](#) and [Canada Briefing Documents](#)
- [UBC Climate Emergency Task Force Report](#)
- [BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan](#)

Related Library Initiatives:

- OLA, [ALA](#), [IFLA](#), etc.

Next Steps

- Draft stage
- Plan to have an opportunity for additional feedback
- Hope is to be ready for the BCLA Board to review in early fall



Title of project: **Climate resources and library toolkit**

Presenter: **Diana Marshall**

Contact: climateaction@bcla.bc.ca

Learn more: This project is looking for a champion!



Examples

ALA's Resilient Communities: Libraries Respond to Climate Change

<https://www.ala.org/tools/programming/climatechange>

Sustainable Libraries Initiative

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

UBC Library Climate Action

<https://guides.library.ubc.ca/climate/ubclibrary>

Extend existing platforms

Create something new

Library Toolshed

Climate consultant

Climate Crisis listserv

BCLA Website

This project needs a champion

Because that's our rule.

Can you...

Curate

Organize

Provide access

Communicate



Title of project: **Climate leadership camp & consultant**

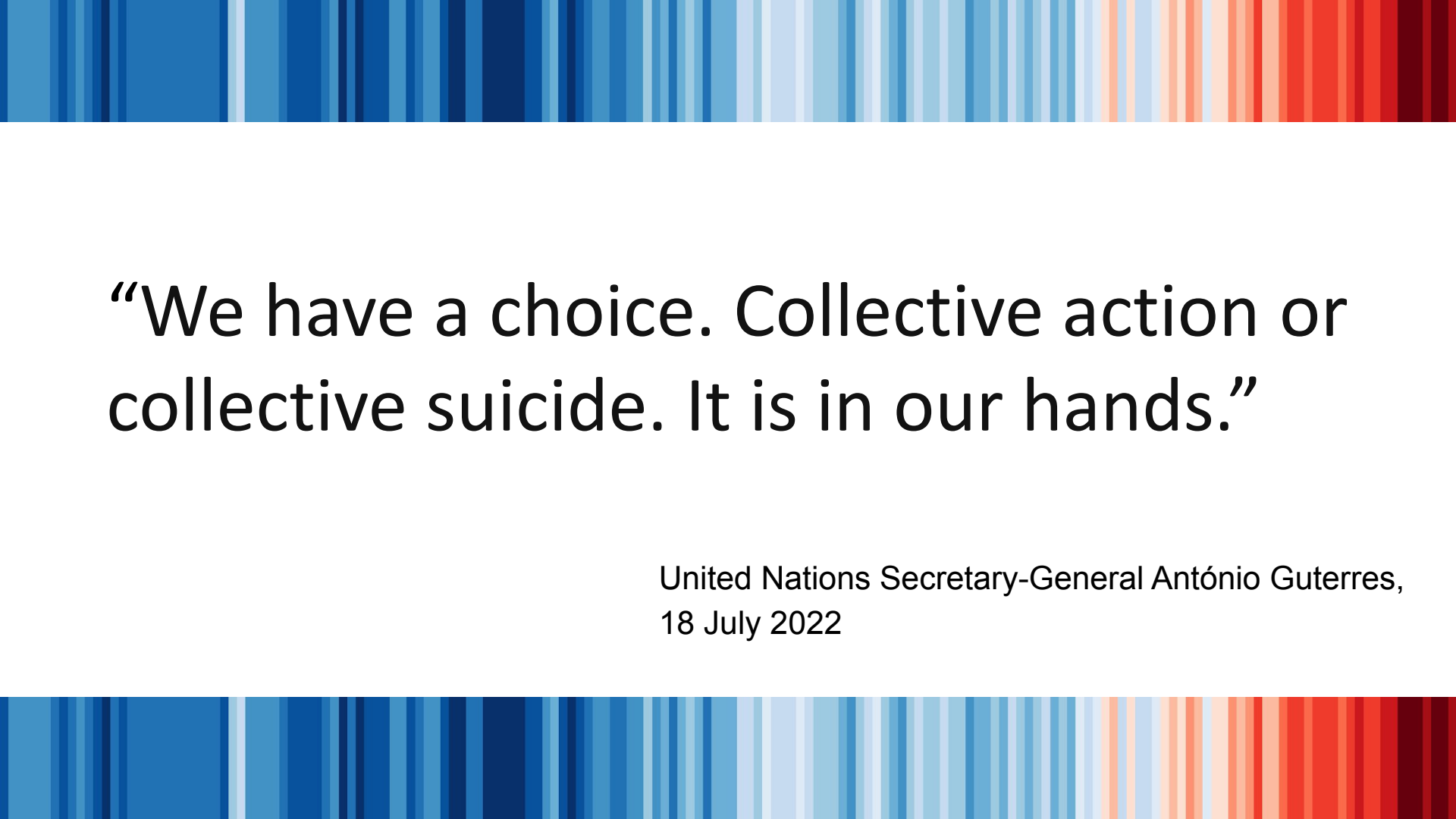
Presenter: **Kevin Millsip**

Date(s):

Location:

Learn more:





“We have a choice. Collective action or collective suicide. It is in our hands.”

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres,
18 July 2022



Climate Crisis Discussion List

<https://bclaconnect.ca/professional-development/bcla-list-servs/>





Thank you for joining us!

Every job is a climate job!

Inspiring Ideas Shared in Zoom Chat

- Consider large electric delivery vans (just starting to become available)
- Collaborate with other governing bodies
- Plan an electric vehicle session, climate-oriented booklists; YS-themed book displays & themed storytimes
- Check out ideas from Blue Marble Librarians (US)
<https://guides.masslibsystem.org/ClimatePrepWeek/BlueMarbleLibrarians>
- Partner with local Fire Dept/WildFire service on how to prepare an emergency kit
- West Van's Fire Dept partnered with us to provide a "Fire Smart" workshop around gardening and landscaping to reduce fire risk (no charge for library)
- Consider session with heat pump community coaches: <https://betterhomesbc.ca/community-coach/>
- Invasive Species Council will provide free sessions/info to libraries.
- e.g., "Considering a Heat pump" webinar and the West Kootenay Eco Society is facilitating a "Storytelling for Climate Action" workshop.
- Remember your patrons are also experts, particularly during emergencies
- Workshop on re-using paper and discarded book jackets or cardboards to create craft DIY bookmarks and greetings cards or other useful crafts
- BCLA idea: Hire a curator for climate action toolkits and resources.
- Renfrew-Collingwood Seniors' Society's Emergency Support for Seniors Framework includes [Extreme Heat & Emergency Preparedness Resource Kits](#) that can be of use to other organizations

