

Climate Action Committee  
British Columbia Library Association  
Minutes  
January 20, 2023

Attendees: Diana Marshall, Lisa Nathan, David Waddell, Caitlyn MacRae, Suzanne Jay, McKelle Hansen, Chris Conroy

1. Welcome and Check-Ins
2. Approved Minutes (some edits made) and Agenda
3. Business Arising
4. Updates
  - a. Introduction of the Mobilizing Building Adaptation and Resilience (MBAR) Initiative (Suzanne Jay, Digital Library Specialist at BC Housing). The MBAR Initiative falls under the purview of the (now stand-alone) Ministry of Housing. Responsibilities of the Ministry include: subsidized housing, rent assistance to private market, etc., and working with residential builders). In her role as Digital Library Specialist, Suzanne developed a digital library (tax payer funded) to make what the MBAR Centre learns available to the public as well as to specific roles (e.g., tradespeople, architects, etc.) Now moving digital library to a new platform that holds about 100 items that are tagged “MBAR” – meant to be “decision ready” pieces. The collection focuses on housing climate issues, developing the ability of the industry, property managers and home owners to adapt to climate change. The work recognizes that climate change is happening and strives to answer the question, how do you build housing without making the climate worse? Hoping that the library becomes a “hub” for folks to use as a resource. BC Housing is a relatively trusted organization and they are trying to reach a wider audience to help deliver this information <https://research-library.bchousing.org/> Public libraries might be a way to let the broader public know about (and use) this resource. Asking for ideas for how to share information. Note there is a marketing department with this department. Discussion included suggestion of possible ways to distribute this information through libraries.

**ACTION ITEM:** *Suzanne* will develop a short info sheet with her colleagues (perhaps a few for different types of audiences) and will bring back to this group for feedback.

- b. Climate Action Week 2022 Survey Results (shared by Helen via email). No discussion this month.
- c. Climate Action Week 2023 (Planning, Communication, Funding)
  1. Shared a draft email announcing CAW 2023, still confirming exact dates, but likely in November.
  2. CAW (informal) Motto reminder: “*Each library does what works for them!*”

**ACTION ITEM:** *All* encouraged to attend CAW planning meeting **Feb. 8th @noon via zoom**

d. BCLA 2023 Conference Proposal

1. Proposal on “Be The Change...” a panel on climate action work in libraries accepted! (Thank you Caitlin and David)
2. Possibility to invite an OLA CAW rep to contribute to the panel (in discussion with Rina)
3. Caitlin is in contact with former Indigenous Climate Writer in Residence from West Van. to see if there is interest and availability. (Pre-recorded message?)
4. Timing: **Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**, early morning panel time (hoping for hybrid)

**ACTION ITEM:** *Caitlin, McKelle, David* plan the panel details

e. OLA Climate Action Committee Update

1. Put together a booklist - “Libraries in Canada Responding to Climate Change” (open for editing)  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H3kedbQQ51bnTmoHgaTsUTUYrULZQv72/edit>

f. Other Updates

1. BCLA’s new “Branches” communication system discussion. Some issues brought forward: Have to go through an extra step to sign up for the listserv; can’t switch email address preference; some are getting messages twice; some are not getting CAC emails at all.

**ACTION ITEM:** Diana will connect with Rina and Angie to discuss issues above.

5. New Business

- a. Read 4 Climate: Diana thinking of creating a list (aka) “4 Things” people can do connected to libraries and climate (e.g., posters). Could be linked to CAW, not tied to it.

**ACTION ITEM:** Keep brainstorming Diana!

- b. Recycling Library Materials - Resource (discussion put off for next month)

6. Action Item Commitments – Review

7. Closing, Check-Outs, and Gratitude!

8. Next Meeting Time/Location: **February 17 @ noon.**