

British Columbia Library Association Climate Action Committee Minutes



July 19, 2024

Attendees: David Waddell, Shirley Chan, Lisa Nathan, Dan Hackborn, Josh Hamlett, Caitlin MacRae, Jennifer Wilson, Diana Marshall, Amory Strader

- 1) Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgement(s)
- 2) Approved June minutes and action updates
ACTION ITEM: Post June CAC minutes to BCLA's CAC site (Josh)
- 3) Business arising: None
- 4) Spotlight for New Initiatives
 - a) Discussion of notes from 2024 BCLA-CAC conference conversation from David's notes. (David)
 - i) Goal of conversation is to identify new projects we want to undertake for the upcoming year, ideas, priorities. Also to identify if anyone wants to take the lead on a new project.
 - ii) Most ideas will be added to Project Tracking list (not all ideas captured here), some will be incorporated into ongoing projects (e.g., Toolkit).
 - iii) Creating opportunities to share culturally diverse perspectives on climate action (e.g., connecting with newcomer groups to find out what ecological movements they are aware of/connected from their cultural/geographic background).
 - iv) Climate programming with young folks (e.g., Finding groups that are already doing a lot and figuring out a way to platform them at the library). (e.g., Sustainabiliteens.org; <https://www.monkeyrebel.ca>).
 - v) Speakers: Create a list of speakers who would be a good fit for BCLA conference/keynote. Added to project list.
 - vi) Award for sustainability activities: Noting that there is a significant amount of work to develop criteria for and adjudicate awards. Added to project list, with potential for working on it on the year ahead. Lots of ideas for creating a creative, upcycled award.

ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Add "How to Green Your Library Tips" to the Toolkit. (Helen)

b. Add other projects discussed to Project Tracking worksheet as appropriate. (David)

5) Updates

a) Toolkit project (Helen)

No update

b) BC benchmarking survey (Diana)

- i) 44 responses so far (low number of these are individual libraries)
- ii) Three weeks left to fill out survey (closes August 6)
- iii) Quick skim by Diana identified many are listing obstacles to climate work, lots of recycling mentioned, many reporting climate disruptions.
- iv) Discussion of extending survey time and consideration of the work required to analyze survey results.

c) Library trustees policy project (Caitlin)

i) Jennifer and Caitlin met with Executive Director of BCLTA yesterday (BC Library Trustees Association)

(1) Meeting will be in the evening of **September 11**.

(2) Expect maybe 10 folks (maybe more)

(3) Presentation by CAC will start off event followed by small group discussions – having trustees develop ideas – encouraging them to think big.

(4) Big question will be, what comes next for them? Perhaps some will consider joining CAC meetings?

ACTION ITEM: Contact Caitlin if you can attend event on Sept. 11 to help host table (ALL)

d) Climate Action Week (David)

i) 2024 CAW planning

(1) Plan on reaching out to students who expressed interest last spring

(2) Fewer libraries connecting with David this year (suspect for a range of reasons including overcapacity)

(3) Working through getting rid of old 2022 links from CAW webpage.

- ii) BC Gaming Grant – No Update
- e) OLA CAC meeting update (Caitlin)
 - i) Caitlin went to their June meeting. The group closely follows our work and follows our lead on many initiatives.
 - ii) They have staff support (Lilly Kwok) who is happy to help with BCLA CAC's work.
 - iii) They are hoping to adapt our Climate Position Statement for Ontario this fall.
 - iv) They have their own Benchmarking Survey (Public Libraries only so far).
 - v) Keen to do Climate Action Week the same week as BC. Again, happy to support us.
- f) CFLA CAC update (Dan)
 - i) Committee is on hiatus for summer.
 - ii) Working group is reviewing their survey, with the goal of developing a Climate Change Briefer for libraries across Canada.
 - iii) Brief discussion of CFLA's limitations b/c it is made up of other library associations.
- g) Northern Lights Library System Training Conference (David)
 - i) Background information: BCLA CAC was approached by the Northern Lights Library system that trains library workers employed by libraries in and around Northern Alberta (beyond Northern Lights). They want to have a speaker from BCLA's CAC come talk to Northern Alberta group of library workers. David agreed to go and has permission/support from VPL who will pay for his car travel and accommodation.

ACTION ITEM: David (if time) will schedule a mock presentation to get feedback from group on his presentation.

- h) Active Project Tracking Sheet (David)
 - i) ACTION ITEM: Add updated version of project list and add live link to this sheet to Basecamp (David completed this during meeting)
 - i) Communication, Branches, Basecamp, website etc.

6) Check out and closing thoughts

Next Meeting:

Friday, August 16, 2024 12-1 pm