

British Columbia Library Association Climate Action Committee Minutes



October 18, 2024

Attendees: David Waddell, Rachael Huegerich, Helen Brown, Lisa Nathan, Caitlin MacRae, Jennifer Wilson, Dan Hackborn, Kelly Lau, Amory Strader

Regrets: Diana Marshall

- 1) Welcome and check ins
- 2) Approve minutes and agenda
- 3) Business arising, action updates
- 4) Updates
 - a) Library trustees policy project (Caitlin)
 - i) Successful event online with Trustees on September 11. Approx. 12 folks attended.
 - ii) Some folks very enthusiastic, others were listening carefully. Caitlin and Jennifer drew on the presentation that Helen B. used for the CAPAL conference, slightly adapted. Caitlin shared that presentation in Basecamp (feel free to use). Shared CAC committee contact information and invited folks to join CAC meetings. Caitlin also volunteered to follow up with any trustees (e.g., join a meeting).
 - b) Climate Action Week (David)
 - i) 2024 planning
 - (1) Every single participant on the webpage list has committed to doing something this year.
 - (2) After the week, David will share with the group the variety of approaches. Some folks doing 3 or 4 different activities (e.g., plant swap).
 - (3) David suspects that some of the challenges he has had in communicating with different organizations is b/c folks are starting new jobs or changing positions in their organization.
 - (4) Overall participant numbers are about the same (right now) from last year. Hoping for a 10% rise in number of institutions participating.
 - (5) Discussion about how to count participation (an entire university/public library system or individual branches). Many different perspectives put forward. Bringing in the bi-annual survey and how the questions are asked. David moving forward with thinking about how to represent this on the CAW website. Leaning towards how folks report their institution.
 - (6) David reminded folks of the Climate Anxiety & Libraries event on Nov. 5, 12-1pm on zoom. PLEASE ATTEND! Link below.
 - (7) Discussion of folks moving to different social media platforms (migrating away from X)

TO DO:

1. Helen B. will send David a list of UBC library branches participating. Jennifer will do the same for Surrey.
2. ALL: Share invite to / Promote Climate Emotions and Libraries event, Nov. 5, 12-1pm on Zoom for library workers and students
https://bclaconnect.ca/login/?action=mepr_unauthorized&mepr-unauth-

[page=21299&redirect_to=%2Fcommunity%2Fbcla-forums%2Ftopic%2Fclimate-emotions-and-libraries-special-online-presentation-nov-5-12-pm](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83405331926?pwd=FWlkByQWMPbHX42gaP07CEqEyvnTpo.1)

- ii) BC Gaming Grant – details didn't come together for this year. Will aim to try again next year (Q1/Q2).
- c) OLA CAC meeting update (Caitlin)
 - i) Only 3 people attended the last meeting.
 - ii) Helen B. and a few others put in a conference proposal for a virtual, on demand session. It was accepted!
- d) CFLA CAC update (Dan, Helen)
 - i) National survey asked essentially, “What do folks want from CFLA’s CAC?”. They are reviewing survey responses. 40 % of folks don't know where to start. Others want to know how libraries might fit into broad climate issues.
 - ii) CFLA CAC is working on a primer – to demonstrate how folks can take the initial step into climate work in their particular setting. Using CDN 5,000 Environment Canada Grant to develop two documents. 1) A document for libraries that have very little resources to start a climate initiative, and 2) Is a document that ongoing action is important, suggests that building relationships with other groups/experts etc. and some best practices (e.g., need to go beyond a “one and done” approach).
- e) Alberta Training Conference (David)
 - i) Great experience in September going to Northern Lights Library System gathering (50 different libraries in Northern and Eastern Alberta). An internal or inward facing conference, yet it included councillors and others beyond library workers. In his presentation, David spoke about different ways to use language that fits a specific community's interests and values. Also talked about the likelihood of uncomfortable moments/conversations. David had the opportunity to provide an example of how to productively handle disagreement.
 - ii) David offered to help others prepare for similar types of events.
- f) Book recycling, collaborating on larger projects (Diana, Chris C.) – **no update**
- g) Conference Submissions (BCLA, OLA Super Conference, others)
 - a. See notes above about OLA Super Conference acceptance
- h) BC Climate benchmarking survey (Dan & Amory): Brief review of initial results, discussion, next steps
 - i) Quick note on the unpaid labor of climate action.
 - ii) Discussion of how to share information from the survey (perhaps share initial findings).

TO DO: David will connect with Rina to ask for a conversation on how to steward survey data

5) Action item review

6) Check out and closing thoughts

Next Meeting: Friday, November 15, 2024 12-1 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83405331926?pwd=FWlkByQWMPbHX42gaP07CEqEyvnTpo.1>

Meeting ID: 834 0533 1926

Passcode: BCLA