

British Columbia Library Association Climate Action Committee Minutes



January 17, 2025

Attendees: Rachael Huegerich, Helen Brown, Lisa Nathan, Caitlin MacRae, Dan Hackborn, Alexis Greenwood, David Waddell, Shirley Chan, Jennifer Wilson, Diana Marshall

Regrets:

- 1) Welcome and check ins
- 2) Approved November CAC minutes and today's agenda
- 3) Business arising, action updates
- 4) Updates
 - a) OLA CAC meeting update (Caitlin)

OLA's CAC are having some challenges getting folks to contribute to the committee. Working on their work plan, noting that there are many alignments with BCLA CAC's ongoing projects.
 - b) CFLA CAC update (Helen)

CFLA's CAC ran a survey open to folks across Canada and report is under development. In response to survey responses and findings, CFLA CAC is simultaneously developing "primers" to share ideas, guidelines and resources folks can use. Ongoing work includes French language translation. Anticipate release later in the spring (after CFLA Board approval). Background/Reminder: The development of this overall project by CFLA's CAC received funding from Environment Canada. Monies went to VPL staff member to do this work (easier to get funding to a specific institution).
 - c) Conference Submissions (BCLA, OLA Super Conference)
 - OLA: Helen reported that the OLA Super Conference submission from BCLA's CAC was recorded, submitted, and will be available for conference attendees (virtual or physical) to watch for 6 months. The BCLA CAC panel consisted of sharing brief climate action stories from BC.
 - BCLA:
 - (1) Caitlin reported on her participation on Regenerate BC's BCLA panel on increasing climate literacy in BC. Thursday morning slot.
 - (2) Lisa will be displaying work of the students in the Climate Justice course offered 2x by iSchool 2024 (only work that received student permission to share)
 - d) Toolkit (Helen)
 - Work continues...
 - Action Item: Lisa share student contributions with Helen

- e) ALA's Sustainability Libraries Initiative - Certification program
- JW provided some background and requirements of this program based on Surrey Libraries experience. In summary certification includes committing to 200 action items that your library (or one of your branches) commits to doing in (100 actions required, 100 actions optional).
 - DM reported that FVRL started the certification program recently and has found the folks working there to be very supportive and willing to adjust to Canadian context. Program appears to be very attached to the Triple Bottom Line concept. Really strong program for giving you ideas and areas to consider.
 - Discussion of pricing - <https://www.sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/join/pricing>

f) Gaming Grant (David)

- Open invitation to work with David on this grant for 2025 (meet with Rina to review with plenty of time).

ACTION ITEM:

- Please contact David if interested in lending a hand and a pair of eyes
- David will connect with Rina about timeline for BCLA's review of grant application

g) BC benchmarking survey

- David is connecting with Rina about the need for a data management process for surveys

ACTION ITEM: David will reconnect with Rina to keep this conversation moving

5) Recycling library material

- a) FVRL connected with vendor Planet Earth Recycling. This company accepts used books (approx. 1 metric ton per day). Cost of their service is 25 cents per book plus GST. Useable books are reused (e.g., Amazon) and unusable material is processed for pulp.
- b) Discussion of idea to publish a directory of entities that can help libraries navigate possible reuse/recycle options in their context
- c) Happy Stan's Recycling does pulping (but not the sorting for reuse)

ACTION ITEMS:

- Caitlin will send resource/contact information to Diana
- Diana will send a note to Branches asking for more resources, and then will collate and post information she has on recycling (or give to Helen for toolkit?)

6) Action item review

7) Check out and closing thoughts

Next Meeting: Friday, February 21, 2025 12-1 pm