

British Columbia Library Association Climate Action Committee Minutes



July 17, 2026

Attendees: Lisa Nathan, Dan Hackborn, Stephanie Hanson, Shirley Chan, Fraser Sutherland, Jennifer Wilson, Caitlin MacRae, Alexis Greenwood, Isabel Davies

Regrets: Shevaun Ruby

Agenda

1. Welcome and check-in (Q: A new-to-you flavor, fruit/veg, recipe)
2. Approve meeting minutes from May 15 and June 26 and today's agenda
 - Approved
3. Business arising
 - None at this time.
4. Project Updates/Proposals
 - 4a. Toolkit (Helen)
 - Helen not present. Lisa received positive feedback from Rina Hadziev about CAC's work and gratitude for outgoing and incoming executive members. Rina was assuming that this toolkit would be posted to BCLA's website toolkit area.
 - 4b. BC Benchmarking Survey 2026 (Dan/Diana)
 - Dan & Diana set soft close for July 20, but will extend and use the extension announcement to re-promote the survey. Participation far beneath the first round. **ACTION ITEM: Everyone encourage participation in benchmarking survey.**
 - 4c. Climate Action Week (David)
 - David not present. Rina asked Lisa if we would like CFLA to promote. **ACTION ITEM: Lisa will confirm to Rina interest in having CFLA promote CAW.**
 - 4d. Discussion of ideas related to project ideas for undergrads in the Certificate Climate Studies & Action for undergrads (Dan)
 - Dan's proposed idea: Have a group of students in Dr. Sara Harris' class write a white paper for BCLA about best practices for establishing (and

sustaining?) a library of things, exploring library of things as a sustainable library economy.

- Caitlin suggests giving students ideas of people to talk with. Caitlin can be a person they can talk to about seed libraries. Fraser can also be a person to chat with about library of things. Alexis willing to support. **ACTION ITEM: Let Dan know if you're interested in being a liaison with student class group. Revisit at next month's meeting.**

4e. Social ideas for CAC (Virtual or in person or hybrid) (Lisa)

- Group trip to see *Digger* film (releasing October 2)
- Book club for new Kate Marvel book *Human Nature*
- **ACTION ITEM: Share ideas with Lisa**

4f. Updates and questions from Rina Hadziev, BCLA Exec. Director (Lisa/Dan)

- *Addressed in above items.*

5. Backburner items (just so we don't forget, but maybe no updates)

5a. CAC Document storage update and discussion (Dan/Helen CirCLE, possible BCLA)

- Looking for central storage location for documents that isn't Google docs for files people are working on (e.g. draft minutes, documents used to develop benchmarking survey, CAW document). Rina suggested to Lisa that BCLA might be able to revisit this in light of need to securely store survey data.

5b. Mental health programming related to climate change (Caitlin/David)

- Mental Health Climate Change Alliance (MHCCA) co-facilitated workshop on climate anxiety during past CAW; they have a grant program that is open now for small (10K) and large (100k) grants.
- Small group from CAC (Alexis, Caitlin, Brielle, Helen, David) is working on proposal for small grant proposing a hybrid session (dates to coincide with next BCLA conference) to help library workers to get skills for dealing with mental health in order to deliver outward facing climate programming with library publics. Special streams for academic libraries (Helen point person), school/children's libraries (Brielle point person). Will create materials that can be distributed; these materials can also be included in a toolkit. Programming will be developed in consultation with experts; MHCCA can connect with relevant folks.

- Meeting with Rina next week, will need to use BCLA as organization, she is supportive. Tentative submission date = August 15. **ACTION ITEM: If anyone else is interested in working on CAC MHCCA grant, let Caitlin know.**

6. Other business

6a. Project Sharing (what's going on at your workplace?)

- Lisa: Informing Climate Action project at UBC team is also exploring climate programming toolkit development (not specific to mental health). We would love to chat with those of you who use/could see yourself using a toolkit to learn what would be useful to you. **ACTION ITEM: Let Lisa know if you'd be willing to review a draft climate programming toolkit.** *Fraser, Caitlin, and Alexis expressed interest.*
- Fraser: Also preparing MHCCA grant, working with Interior Health. Proposing art therapy alongside climate programming. *Fraser offers to provide feedback on CAC application.*
- Alexis: Working at a different branch for CAW with very different community (75% focus on children's programming), will explore what programming might work. Also, there's a paid parking pilot that seems to be negatively affecting library visits ("Free for 3 hours" text is very small on the sign).
- Caitlin: Dan, Shevaun, Angie, Kristin with NRCAN collaborating on public-facing library programming during CAW. Caitlin also booked Seth Klein as CAW speaker, which coincides with literary festival event with playwrights using theatre in climate programming. Also planning poet-tree engagement activity (art and climate action thoughts).

7. Action item review

- **ACTION ITEM: Lisa to post meeting minutes from May 15 and June 26 to website.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Everyone encourage participation in benchmarking survey.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Lisa will confirm to Rina interest in having CFLA promote CAW.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Let Dan know if you're interested in being a liaison with student class group on Library of Things white paper project.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Everyone share social ideas for CAC with Lisa**
- **ACTION ITEM: Let Caitlin know if you're interested in working on CAC MHCCA grant application.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Let Lisa know if you'd be willing to review a draft climate programming toolkit.**

8. Check out and closing thoughts (type of media, book, movie, that you're looking forward to in the weeks ahead)