

BCLA Diversity & Multicultural Services Committee *MINUTES*

September 17 , 2015 Burnaby Public Library

Present: Ravi Basi, Michael Burris , Roberta Summersgill (briefly), Eva Quintana, Fereshteh Kashefi (Chair)

Regrets: Ana Rosa Blue (Resigned); Allan Cho, Alan Woo, Claire Richardson, Wendy Jang, Michel McCarthy,

Highlights of the meeting

Meeting Opening

Welcome and introductions, adoption of the minutes and agenda.

Membership

Committee welcomed new member Eva Quintana, and continued the meeting with a smaller number due to vacations and illness.

Fereshteh reported that Susan Pierce from Vancouver Island Regional Library would like to join the committee as a long distance member. This report and upcoming meeting dates will be sent to her we will look into technical ways to make it possible for her join meetings from the island.

New business

BCLA conference 2016

The committee continued discussion about possible participation in 2016 conference. The idea was to curate a session, invite a speaker and follow up with a panel discussion, some interactive activities and Q & A.

fk reported on her research on a prospective candidate, Meharoona Ghani. A copy of her resume was emailed to members prior to the meeting as well as related informative links. Committee members had a chance to learn about her activities and background. Email feedbacks from members were positive.

The following points were brought up by Ravi and Michael Burris:

- 1. Process:** In order to participate in next year's conference the committee has to write a proposal and submit to 2016 Conference's Selection Committee. There is no selection committee at work right now. The theme for 2016 conference is not announced yet. Sessions ideally should support the main theme.
- 2. Budget** was the main concern, the regular asking rate of \$1,000.00 per session seems too high, we cannot possibly afford.
- 3. Speaker :** Meharoona's resume is very impressive and interesting but the presentation needs to be tailored to library environment and the message should be clear and relevant to library workers.

This means a considerable amount of work and since we are not sure what the main theme of the 2016 conference might be, it is premature to follow up and do more work right now. There were some questions about the relevance and novelty of the ideas and “our” intended message as well.

Action: fk to contact Annette and ask for her feedback and opinion prior to the next meeting.

Round table:

NewToBC : Michael reported that proposal for a 3 year(2016-2018) budget has been accepted for negotiation by CIC , pending approval. Budget permitting, the goal is for NewToBC to increase its member libraries in Metro Vancouver and spread the program across the province.

Library Champions: NewToBC’s most successful initiative which has trained hundreds of champions so far, is accepting new intakes in September (SPL and WVML), followed by NWPL, VPL and RPL in October and November.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30

Next meeting: Thursday November 19, 2015 : 9:30 a.m.
Burnaby Public Library: Tommy Douglas Branch.