

BCLA Diversity & Multicultural Services Committee *MINUTES*

September 22, 2016 Burnaby Public Library

Present: Ravi Basi, Wendy Jang ; Michael McCarthy; Eva Quintana; Roberta Summersgill; Jessica Whu, Jenny Zhang, Susan Pierce (teleconference) ; Fereshteh Kashefi (Chair)

Regrets: Michael Burris , Mark MacKichan

Meeting Opening:

Welcome and introductions, adoption of the minutes and agenda. A warm welcome was extended to Jenny Zhang who was attending the meeting for the first time and Susan Pierce (VIRL) who joined the meeting via phone.

Membership

The BCLA membership requirement for committee members was discussed. We also have noticed that it is not easy for some of the new members to attend the meetings, fortunately minutes are regularly posted on our section of the BCLA website to keep everyone informed. The current long membership list will be taken off the site to comply with other divisions' style.

Survey results, survey report and future plans

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-KSH7HKRS/>

The committee sent out the above survey (now closed) to the listserv in April. Thanks to all who took the time to answer, we received lots of valuable feedback. Jessica has prepared a contextual report based on survey results which has recently been posted on the committee section of the bcla website.

<https://bclaconnect.ca/dmsc/2016/08/25/survey-findings-trends-challenges-and-needs/>

- There was a lot of interest in staff development /intercultural communication training. The committee decided to prepare a [pre-] proposal letter to be sent to BCLA office /executive regarding the possibility of offering a workshop* on the topic as part of the **Professional Development Institute (PDI)** for the next BCLA conference in 2017.

**The committee can use the materials put together for their intercultural communication workshop which has been successfully delivered to various libraries and other organizations involved in literacy / multicultural services in the past. The workshop package has been edited and evolved over time. Susan , Wendy and Ravi suggested we keep the main structure, edit and update it to reflect any changes or current needs and expand with a panel of experts to discuss challenges and introduce available resources.

Action: Ravi offered to write this proposal.

Website and blog maintenance:

Fereshteh reported that Jessica's name has been added to the list of site administrators. She is taking over from and at the request of Michael MacCarthy who has acted as our main web and blog administrator for several years. The committee expressed many thanks to Michael for all his hard work.

Blog: It was suggested and agreed that we take down the blog and concentrate on enriching the website content.

Action: everyone to please visit the blog at <https://bcladiversity.wordpress.com/> while it is still accessible and choose "transferable" items and write back to Jessica and cc Fereshteh for the record.

Round table:

- BPL will celebrate its birthday on October 22. This would be the culmination of BPL's 60th anniversary celebrations.
- BPL has added Punjabi and Farsi and Tagalog to its multilingual collections.
- Popularity of various multilingual collections varies in various libraries depending on demographics.
- BPL has a program on "Chinese farmers of Big Band and their connection with Musquean First Nations in October. This is part of their Neighbourhood History Series.
- VPL is undergoing a redesign of their website. (Jessica)
- They're ensuring that their CMS will be support various language scripts including First Nation languages.
- They currently have some translated content (i.e., for getting started at the library) in Chinese, French, Spanish, Vietnamese, Hindi Korea, Japanese. They will be adding content in Tagalog and Punjabi on the new site.
- NVPL has a newcomer teen meetup program also another project in which younger kids team with a teen buddy. (Jenny)
- SPL is participating in city wide Orange Shirt Day celebrations to honour resilience and bravery of residential school survivors.
- North Vancouver City Library has been conducting inclusive "Community Conversations" since last year. So far 150 community members have participated. The library is also active in reaching out to various community groups including First Nations.

Next meeting date:

Thursday December 8 . (last meeting in 2016) **Location** : BPL (Metrotown Branch, 3rd floor Board Room).

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30.