

BCLA Multicultural Services Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: November 30, 2021 9:30AM **Location:** Zoom

Present: Jessica (BPL), Nicole (ORL), Emily S (VPL), Emily G (BPL), Patricia (Prince George PL), Alicia (VPL), Fatima (GVPL), Aditi (UVic)

AGENDA

1. Terms of Reference [[Draft](#)]
2. CE Planning [[Options](#)]
3. Roundtable
4. Next Meeting

Terms of Reference

We reviewed the TOR draft document together section by section. Comments were added to the working Google doc. Some highlights:

- Consider rewording mandate with a mention about addressing barriers; looking at what we mean by ethnic communities
- No changes/questions about deliverables, composition, or resources
- Some discussion on decision-making. What kinds of decisions affects how we want to make them. Discussed ideas for establishing quorum number when our membership number by listserv/membership list/BCLA accounts doesn't reflect usual attendance or participation. Suggestion that we look at average meeting attendance and determine percentage of that. We welcome ideas about this.
- Shared what we learned from BCALS and YAACS regarding being a section. Discussion points added to the Google doc.
- Agreed that a more structured executive can be helpful.

Action: Committee members to look at TOR working document again and continue discussion at next meeting.

Update from CE Planning Working Group

Three options presented for the format of the continuing education event for 2022. Members were in agreement that all options had advantages and were appealing. We discussed the importance of thinking what is most inclusive and what will employers be willing to support with sending their staff to the event on paid time.

Action: Committee members to vote on a [poll](#) for best option before the end of December so we can notify BCLA if we are choosing to do the preconference option.

Roundtable

Fatima (GVPL) – No in house programming nor outreach at the moment. Fatima is part of the Diversity Portfolio and they've been hosting an indigenous book club program virtually, in partnership with UVIC (working with Carmen Rodriguez de France, Associate Prof.). They do readings and focus on local topics. Pre-pandemic, they were working closely with the Indigenous Friendship Centre and hope to reconnect there.

Nicci (ORL) – ORL has been running a [Read Woke Challenge](#) for teens and kids. There are booklists, resource lists, and prizes with a multicultural focus. It's slowly gaining momentum. There's also been a series of virtual read woke storytimes (with themes: eastern voices, black voices, latinx voices, indigenous voices, women's voices, diversabilities voices) and virtual topic storytime (e.g., feeling like you stand out, sexual orientation and gender, serious illness). There is also a push for a diversity and equity audit.

Patricia (PCPL) – Focused mandate right now is to be more diverse and inclusive. Prince George community is changing (20-25% of the city is indigenous, and has significant ethnic groups speaking: German, French, Tagalog, Punjabi). Recently went through a program with School Library Journal to evaluate diversity of their collection with a diversity audit. There's a lot of work ahead and it's a priority for 2022.

Emily G (BPL) – Has been working on internal anti-racism work. End result is for better service for the public and better workplace for BIPOC staff. She's been stepping into the community development outreach team and making connections with groups in Burnaby and doing this work with an anti-racism lens. At BPL, there's been virtual programming such as Book Club with BIPOC authors and ESL programs.

Jessica – Working on a LLEAD project with BCLA related to EDI recruitment with the goal of improving services to diverse groups through a diverse workforce.

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 24 2022 9:30 – 11:30AM via Zoom