

BCLA Climate Action Committee

Terms of Reference

Approved by the BCLA Board: April 9th, 2021

Mandate

The Climate Action Committee acts as an information resource and provides policy recommendations for the BCLA Board of trustees on climate crisis issues.

The BCLA Climate Action Committee was established by normal resolution At the direction of the Board, the Committee guides and sustains the Association's responses to the ongoing climate crisis, and In doing so influences the larger library community's responses to the climate crisis.

In alignment with BCLA's commitment to support Indigenous peoples who have been stewarding these lands and waters from time immemorial, this committee focuses on climate justice and action across British Columbia's well-networked library sector.

Responsibilities and Objectives

- Through the BCLA Board, advocate for libraries to take measures to promote healthy ecosystems and achieve the transformative change that is necessary for a healthy biosphere (e.g., curb global heating, decrease plastic pollution, promote biodiversity, etc.)
- Monitor developments related to the climate crisis and climate justice, and advise the BCLA Board and wider library community on strategic policies and actions
- Support the library sector in mitigating the climate crisis, identifying risks, and adapting to impacts, recognizing the critical role that libraries play in community education, health, resilience, adaptation, and planning
- Provide a forum for ongoing discussion and support on climate, climate justice, and related issues
- Establish relationships and collaborate with other organizations to meet the above objectives

Deliverables

- Develop advocacy campaigns related to the climate crisis, particularly mitigation, including the creation of informational material (e.g., press releases, letters, position papers, motions, presentations, etc.)
- Find, develop, and share information resources, activities, and opportunities of use to the BCLA Board and wider membership
- Develop and recommend letters, reports, resolutions, and recommendations proactively and/or as requested by the BCLA Board
- Hold regular meetings to organize activities that align with stated objectives
- Provide an annual written report of Climate Action Committee activities to the BCLA Board

Composition

The Committee Executive comprises the following positions:

- Chair or Co-Chairs
- Recording Secretary
- Two Directors-at-Large
- Student Representatives from British Columbia MLIS and Library Technician programs (University of British Columbia, University of the Fraser Valley and Langara College)

Climate Action listserv subscription is open to anyone.

Resources and Budget

The BCLA Board approves funding for initiatives made through the Executive Director.

Timelines and Tools

Ongoing committee meetings called by the Chair/Co-Chairs as required to accomplish objectives. Elections will be held in the spring.

Agendas will be prepared by the Chair/Co-Chairs with input from Committee members. Current agendas and recent minutes will be distributed to Committee members a minimum of 48 hours before a meeting.

50% of the Executive plus three shall constitute a quorum.

The Committee will post meeting minutes and resources to the Climate Action subsite of the BCLA website.

Type of Committee

The Climate Action Committee is a Standing Committee to the BCLA Board (Bylaws 15.2).

Term of Appointment

The Committee is ongoing.

Each spring, the Chair/Co-Chair will call for nominations from the Climate Action listserv and send out a slate of candidates for review. Officers are elected or acclaimed at the annual meeting.

Terms of Executive:

- Chair/Co-Chairs: 2 years
- Recording Secretary: 1 year
- Directors-at-Large: 2 years
- Student Representatives: 1 year

Any BCLA member in good standing may join [the committee](#).

Terms of Reference established *9/04/2021*