

YAACS Annual Section Meeting

Thursday, April 14 2:00 - 3:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81191363793?pwd=ZVRqN2Q0MFk2QzdZK25DbjFvTXJGdz09>

Meeting ID: 811 9136 3793

Passcode: 554094

Present:

Sabrina Gurniak, Patricia Lesku, Janet Mumford, Tess Prendergast, Pippa Rogers, Dylan Schroeder, Sadie Tucker, Stephanie Usher, Rhiannon Wallace, Kate Wood

Agenda

1. Approval of agenda

TP approves, SU seconds

2. Approval of minutes from our March 21, 2021 Meeting

PL approves, RW seconds

3. Committee / Rep Updates

Chair, Vice-Chair and Past Chair (Kate Wood, Rhiannon Wallace and Patricia Lesku)

· Update on vacant positions

Vice Chair position vacant (3 year commitment); contact KW and RW if interested

KW: JM has expressed interest in BCTLA role and offered to talk to colleagues

- KW has confirmed this is a Liaison role, must be BCLA member in good standing; possibility of rewriting bylaws to reduce barriers (most teacher-librarians are not BCLA members)

Secretary position vacant

Continuing Education Coordinator for Vancouver Island and Continuing Education Coordinator for Kootenays both vacant

Continuing Education Coordinator for Lower Mainland: SU can stay in role, at least one position still vacant

YAACS Awards Committee (Katherine Parker)

KW: Winner is Sonia Zagwyn, nominated by Natalie Porter for Powell River PL

- ST would like to highlight on social media; KW will contact SZ for permission

YAACING Newsletter (Raoul Fernandes, Sabrina Gurniak)

Four issues published since last ASM

Preparing to accept submissions for Spring/Summer issue; hoping to get reports from YSI and SRC Meetup; May 15 is deadline but contributors can contact editors for more time or to pitch an idea

Continuing Education – Teen Services - Lower Mainland (Stephanie Usher, Alyse Herbert, Andrea Lukic)

SU would be happy to have one more person join and work on a program

KW: We have full access to BCLA Zoom for virtual sessions (let KW know if needed)

Continuing Education – Children’s Services - Lower Mainland (Jenny Zhang VPL, Sarah Bagshaw VPL)

SRC meetup on Wednesday May 4 featuring Stephanie Usher

SU: meetup is in evening so people can attend; will be showing new SRC app

Continuing Education – Vancouver Island (vacant)

No updates

Continuing Education – Kootenays (Avi Silberstein)

AS has left for another role, thanks to AS for contributions in the role; work included starting the CATS! Conference

- AS has nobody in mind to take over position

BCTLA/BCTF Representative (vacant)

KW: According to current bylaws and constitution, representative must be in good standing with BCLA and also a YAACS member; barrier for teacher-librarians

- KW speaking with Rina (BCLA) about rewriting constitution and bylaws; BCLA requires Terms of Reference but not Constitution or Bylaws, so Rina has suggested removing or reworking those elements to align with approved ToR
- RW agrees this can be a project for 2022/2023
- KW: Hopefully change will make role more appealing to teacher librarians

UBC iSchool Liaisons (Tiffany Tse & Vanessa Gill) (Tess Prendergast - faculty liaison)

KW: UBC's school is no longer called "SLAIS"

- TP: UBC has been part of iSchool consortium for awhile, recently changed name to School of Information; in future use "School of Information" or "iSchool"
- KW has changed meeting minutes template to say: "iSchool (School of Information)"

TP doesn't go to UBC YAACS meetings but they seem to be doing well; TP talks up YAACS in classes and encourages students to submit to YAACING

- TP's early lit class in summer is almost full; many students interested in childrens' services
- KW: TT and VG have said they usually have around 10 people at meetings; organizing and running a spotlight series

Red Cedar Book Award (Marilyn MacPherson VPL / Jenna Lawrence)

No updates

4. Continuing Business

No updates

5. New Business

KW: YSI 2023 will have fairly healthy budget, this year was reasonably priced; HELP waived fee and BCLA waived credit card processing fee; hope to have next year in-person and make it a special celebration

KW, PL, and RW have discussed roles of Vice Chair, Chair, and Past Chair; BCLA Board asked if roles could be adjusted so less of a commitment; have talked with Rina but haven't found option that lessens commitment time or makes sure everyone feels supported; not able to have co-Chairs attend Board meetings (potential difficulties deciding who attends, keeping confidentiality, etc). For time being will not change roles/commitment, but considering changing "Vice Chair" title to "Incoming Chair" to indicate the three year commitment

- TP: Name change is fine. Has it been difficult to get interest in Vice Chair role? Current model seems to work well, there are benefits to having team of three (camaraderie and collaboration). Zoom and other virtual tools allow for more collaboration across province. Current model works well for fairly new people who end up in the roles. Would be good to recruit more library techs and other library workers, teacher librarians, etc.
- KW: Agreement that model works well. Getting new recruits has been challenging, low interest in vacant positions (even roles with lower commitment)

TP: Suggestion to lower the targeted number of YAACS events per year, ex. 1 per region for the continuing ed roles. KW: Even with lower event number targets, people are still finding the commitment difficult

KW: RW, PL, and KW have discussed that trying to get volunteers may be challenging because there are currently many paid jobs available, so may be shifting what people are able/opting to do.

- TP: A motivation is to have committee work on CV, necessary to be involved in profession; we may also have lower active membership for a few years because of the trauma of COVID; OK to give the organization some break time and have open positions, wait for healing to happen

SG: Agreement with relieving some of the pressure, instead of doing 4 programs a year do one virtual and one non-virtual; VPL includes professional development in job descriptions, so some organizations may support active membership (KW: people may not have time/energy to participate outside of work if they don't have this type of support)

PL: would be nice to have VPL, Surrey, and/or FVRL representation on executive since they are large system that do lots; WVML is currently overrepresented

DS: FVRL is forming teen services working group; can encourage others in group to get involved

KW: Requirement for roles is to be a BCLA member, but most people were not officially members until we pushed registration; membership is free for students, then scaled based on income; would be great to have involvement from more students, library techs, library assistants, anyone who works with children, teacher librarians

- SG: Is there a way to start a pool or scholarship if fee is a barrier? Some staff may not be able or willing to pay fee (KW can take to Rina to see if BCLA can support this, or we can use some of the money usually used for YSI). SG: BCLA could also reach out to organizations to see if they can pay for employees to join
- JM: We used to give away a free membership at the AGM; could have more than one for different work roles (library techs, Community Librarians, etc.); consultants and tutors can sometimes write off memberships; BCLA could do first year free/minimal; hard for associations to get members because of free online ed, etc.
- PL: BCLA waived some fees in first year of pandemic, not sure what status is now

ST: Difficult to convince people to pay membership fee to volunteer time; ST can send email out to VPL children's and youth services to talk about vacant positions; can also do series on social media, one post per open position (KW agrees)

- PL: Could do series of interviews or short piece with past chairs to tell what the position offered for people

JM: Appreciate having TP at meetings; connection between education and profession

KW: Vote to change names of Chair roles from Vice Chair, Chair, and Past Chair to Incoming Chair, Chair, and Past Chair

- Unanimous agreement

KW: Suggestion of changing role title from Chair to President; role includes more than just chairing meetings, "President" better illustrates responsibilities of job

- TP agrees; chairs lead committees, whereas YAACS is a section

Vote to change names of roles from Past Chair, Chair, and Vice/Incoming Chair to Past President, President, Incoming President

- Unanimous agreement

Meeting adjourned 3:00pm