



Minutes of the Board Meeting  
February 13, 2015

**Present:** Gwen Bird, Ursula Brigl, Heather Buzzell, Caroline Daniels, Annette DeFaveri, Sarah Felkar, Angela Fleming, Roën Janyk, Stephanie Kripps, Shirley Lew, Dane Praed, Kaylea Prime, Heidi Schiller, Ashley Van Dijk, Daphne Wood. Margo Schiller.

**Regrets:** Anna Ferri, Leanna Jantzi.

**1. Call to Order** (Heather Buzzell)

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

**2. Adoption of Regular Agenda**

**Moved by** Gwen Bird, **seconded by** Heidi Schiller, that the regular agenda be adopted as presented. **CARRIED**

**3. Opening Remarks** (Heather Buzzell)

Heather stated that she would limit her opening remarks to introducing the next agenda item regarding the future of the Canadian Library Association.

**4. Canadian Library Association and future iterations.**

Heather referred the BCLA Board members to the report which had been provided to us in advance of today's meeting as background material:

<http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home&CONTENTID=16142&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm>

Heather described a meeting she attended with the Canadian Library Association (CLA) Board and representatives of other library-related associations from across Canada. The discussion explored whether and how CLA might be restructured in order to be sustainable and relevant. There was general agreement across the Canadian library community that having "no CLA" would be undesirable. Therefore attention must be given to its future.

Some of the many challenges include:

- Being truly representative and inclusive of Canadian libraries without creating an unwieldy organizational structure. Small libraries or associations may not have the capacity to send representatives of their own, while some of the very large groups, such as CULC and CARL, do not necessarily represent and speak for all libraries of their type.



**British Columbia  
Library Association**

- No business plan yet. CLA hopes to present a motion to its membership, perhaps to vote upon at the CLA Annual General Meeting in June. Heather and Annette pointed out that this timeline is optimistic, given that provincial and other associations would need to first consult their own members. A working group will be struck to develop the business plan.
- Potential impacts restructuring of CLA may have on BCLA's own activities, structure and membership, especially with an eye toward providing a CLA voice for Trustees, the BC Libraries Co-Op, and special interests such as Health Libraries.
- Registered charitable organizations have a limit of 10% that can be put toward advocacy activities. More clarity is needed on this aspect, as it may affect the advocacy roles of both CLA and BCLA.

In summary, Heather felt "cautiously optimistic" and stated it would be important for BCLA to be included in the working group. Sending a letter to the CLA Board, proactively expressing interest, might be an important step to encourage CLA to invite BCLA's involvement. Such a letter should stress the forward looking vision of CLA and mention terms such as collaboration or partnership.

Heather requested a motion to this effect.

**Moved by** Caroline Daniels, **seconded by** Stephanie Kripps, that the BCLA Board prepare a letter to the CLA Board, expressing interest in participating in the collaborative planning process for the future of CLA.

**CARRIED**

Gwen commented that, should BCLA be invited to the working group, this role should be filled by the Executive Director rather than by the President or one of the Directors, whose terms are fixed. The process may take longer than anticipated and continuity would be important.

**5. Break**

**6. BCLA Professional Development Institute (Sarah Felkar / Annette DeFaveri)**

The Professional Development Institute is intended as a vehicle for learning and engagement opportunities on a broad scale, as well as a potential source of revenue for BCLA. It is not intended to compete with nor discount the role and value of the Continuing Education Committee.

The Institute is still in early stages, for example it still needs to establish Terms of Reference and a financial policy. However it will pilot an event at the upcoming Conference. Four sessions will take place in a 4-hour period. Sessions are of practical, high interest to Children's services especially for Summer Reading Club, and will be offered at a low cost (\$35) in order to encourage participation in the pilot.



It is expected that future sessions would cost more than \$35, in order to generate revenue. The pilot will shed light on other issues that may need to be resolved. As the Institute becomes more established it will present considerable potential and opportunities.

## 7. Verbal Reports

### (a) **President's Report** (Heather Buzzell)

Most of Heather's attention since last meeting has been directed toward CLA business as well as the Partnership meeting in Toronto. She noted that even among very different sizes and types of libraries and library associations, there were interests in common such as advocacy and membership drives. Heather also reports that other library associations are now moving toward the different conference style that was pioneered by Annette for BCLA. The *Partnership Journal* has a new editor, Robyn, who may soon be requesting further help from members.

### (b) **Executive Director's Report** (Annette DeFaveri)

**BCLA Browser:** Large and engaged response to the survey. Members like the idea of an op-ed venue, open for discussion on current issues. The working group is very active and successful with an ambitious timeline for the first issue (August 2015) that they seem well on the way to meeting. Leanna will provide more detail at the next meeting.

**Conference update:** Some very exciting, inspiring speakers are confirmed but cannot yet be announced. The Conference sessions themselves, taken together, suggest this will be the strongest, most diverse and unusual conference yet. The focus is on the present and future -- what libraries *could* do -- not on the past, on things we have already done. Conference 2016 is already established: May 11, 12, 13th.

## 8. Closing Remarks

The next meeting of the BCLA Board will be April 17, 2015 (no meeting in March, as previously planned).

## 9. Adjournment

There being no further business, Heather requested a motion to adjourn.

**Moved by** Daphne Wood, **seconded by** Stephanie Kripps, that the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.