



**British Columbia Library Association
Annual General Meeting
Minutes Saturday, May 31, 2003
Harrison Hot Springs Resort, Harrison Hot Springs**

1. Call to Order.

C. Elder called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

2. Establishment of a Quorum.

Quorum was established by J. Conatser.

3. Announcement of Parliamentarian.

R. Clancy was announced as Parliamentarian.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Motion by A. Nussbaumer to add the Approval of the Agenda to the Agenda. Seconded by S. Roberts. **Carried.**

Motion by E. Annis to approve the Agenda. Seconded by D. Pepper. **Carried.**

5. Minutes of the 2002 Annual General Meeting, May 11, 2002.

Motion by T. Mundle to approve the minutes of the 2002 Annual General Meeting. Seconded by J. Spurrell. **Carried.**

Further clarification regarding the Minutes of the 2002 AGM at Whistler was requested by past-treasurer N. McAllister. A. Con will explain the clarification regarding our matching funds potential with the Vancouver Foundation during the Treasurer's Report.

6. Annual Report. C. Elder encouraged the membership to read the reports of all the various Committees and Interest Groups.

Motion by E. Toner-Rogala to accept the 2002/2003 Annual Report. Seconded by A. Nussbaumer. **Carried.**

7. Membership Report.

J. Conatser. Last year a Membership Committee Task Group was created. This year the highlight of their work was the membership database. J. Conatser expressed thanks to S. Singh and the Public Library Services Branch for all their hard work. Now you can join BCLA online, renew your membership and update your contact information. This has given members greater accessibility and is important for the next phase of the Membership Committee's work.

Last year the Committee conducted a non-members survey; this year they want to

examine what members want from the Association. Please participate in these focus groups. Paul Burry was introduced as the new Membership Secretary and Jeff expressed concern that the Membership Committee needs to be a standing committee. Presently the Committee is looking for representatives from Vancouver Island.

Membership benefits were improved this year and will continue to be an area that is important to add value for the members and generate revenue for the association. Johnson Insurance and Primus are two affinity programs that came on board this year. Student visits were very well received and many joined the Association. The coming year will focus on getting an increase in members from the libraries.

Motion by S. Roberts to accept the Membership Report. Seconded by D. Thomas.
Carried.

8. Treasurer's Report—2002 Financial Statements and Appointment of the Auditor.

A. Con thanked R. Avigdor, M. Burris and S. Roberts for their assistance throughout the year and also thanked all the BCLA board members for making her experience a rewarding one.

Regarding the 2002 AGM Minutes, past-treasurer N. McAllister wanted to clarify that the Vancouver Foundation matched our investments up to \$300,000. Contributions of \$150,000 were from each party and we have maximized the matching funds potential with the Vancouver Foundation.

The 2002 financial statements were audited by Collins Barrow and reflect and summarize the transactions of the Association. There were no extraordinary items of income and expenditures had no irregularities. There were two items the treasurer pointed out. First, in 2002 there was a deficiency of \$7,181 due to the net loss of the conference and decline in interest revenue. Second, the auditors did not incorporate the Vancouver Foundation Endowment in the financial statements as an asset because the funds are not accessible. However, the interest on these funds is accessible. The treasurer opened the floor for questions and being none the following motions were made.

Motion by S. Roberts to receive and adopt the financial statements and accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by N. Smart. **Carried.**

Motion by A. Con to accept Collins Barrow as auditors in 2003. Seconded by S. Roberts. **Carried.**

9. Nominations Report.

R. Clancy thanked A. Nussbaumer and C. Elder for their help with the Committee.

Past President: Carol Elder

President: Alison Nussbaumer

Vice President/President-Elect: Diana Guinn

Treasurer: Sylvia Roberts

Assistant Treasurer: Tanya Thiessen

Membership Secretary: Paul Burry

Director (2 year): Art Knight (serving 2nd year)

Director (2 year): Shailoo Bedi

Director (2 year): Deb Thomas

YAACS Chair: Christina Gerber

ALPS Chair: Natalie Gick

Recording Secretary: TBA

BCLA Reporter Editor (ex officio): Ted Benson

PLSB Liaison (ex officio): Jim Looney

Motion by R. Clancy to accept the new board by acclamation. Seconded by L. Kelley. **Carried.**

10. Resolutions Committee Report.

T. Mundle presented the six resolutions which were distributed in print at the meeting.

The first resolution reflects a concern regarding the media. Not all of the news is being printed and public access to diverse media and information is a prerequisite to a functioning democracy. Libraries are the primary social institution responsible for providing the broadest possible range of ideas and information and therefore need to engage in the political and social arena. In paragraph 5, the word “available” was changed to “availability”. In paragraph 11 the word “distributed” was changed to “make available” and “public libraries” was changed to “libraries”. These changes were accepted. There was some discussion about the cost of distributing an information kit in time for Media Democracy Day (Fall of 2003). J. Looney clarified that an information kit would be “made available” rather than “distributed” and it would be to all libraries not just public libraries.

Motion by B. Campbell to approve the first resolution concerning Libraries and Media Concentration. Seconded by S. Roberts. **Carried.**

The second resolution is concerned with Government Document Archiving. The wording in paragraph four was changed from “scholarly researchers” to “researchers”.

Motion by S. McKenzie to approve the second resolution regarding Government Document Archiving. Seconded by K. Marotz. **Carried.**

The third resolution concerned the deteriorating situation in school libraries. It was suggested that paragraph 8 change “return to standardized ratios” to “return to standardized BCTF ratios”. There was much discussion regarding word changes to reflect a stronger argument that there is a correlation between school libraries, literacy and future success. The addition of useful statistics in paragraph four to make a stronger case was discussed. S. Roberts suggested that rather than trying to accommodate all the changes from the floor, it could be accepted that the resolution is for the membership and that stronger wording for the media, school boards and politicians would be used to reflect the strong concerns raised at the meeting.

Motion by J. Mumford to approve the School Libraries resolution. Seconded by M. Houlden. **Carried.**

The fourth resolution concerned Lawful Access. This is a serious issue regarding the erosion of privacy and in Canada the proposed Bill C-36, and Bill C55/42. BCLA is opposed to the Lawful Access Consultation Document. A few changes were suggested; paragraph 1, “9/1” should be “9/11”; paragraph 4 “snail mail” should be changed to “postal system” and paragraph 8, “Lawful Access proposal” should be changed to

“Lawful Access Consultation Document”. B. Campbell agreed to make a PowerPoint presentation available on the Information Policy Web site.

Motion by B. Campbell to approve the Lawful Access Resolution. Seconded by D. Hutchinson. **Carried.**

The fifth resolution concerned Libraries and GATS/WTO. The addition “BCLA urge” and “to” was suggested to paragraph 7. It would then read, “And be it further resolved that BCLA urge the Government of Canada to maintain a close watch on commitments requested by other countries and in negotiations to assure that commitments are not made in other areas that have the effect of including libraries in Canadian commitments.” Regarding paragraph 5, P. Whitney suggested that BCLA also send a letter of thanks to the Minister of Heritage.

Motion by D. Hutchinson to approve the Libraries and GATS/WTO resolution. Seconded by P. Whitney. **Carried.**

The sixth resolution concerned Public Interest Payphone Regime. Basically, the CRTC is asking if there is a need for pay phones. The CRTC in Public Notice CTRC 2002-6 invited interested parties to provide their views and reasons on access to pay phones in general. The Public Interest Advocacy Centre considers pay phone service to be very important to low income Canadians. Many government services are only available via a 1-800 number or the Internet. It was agreed to remove paragraph 5.

Motion by H. Morrison to approve the Public Interest Payphone Regime resolution. Seconded by E. Toner-Rogala. **Carried.**

11. Other business.

No other business.

12. President’s Report.

C. Elder expressed her appreciation to the BCLA Board of Directors, the BCLA Office and the membership at large for making her presidency a tremendous experience. The president’s role is broad ranging but one important priority is Advocacy. To this end, BCLA worked closely with British Columbia Library Trustees Association (BCLTA) and other public library groups. The strengthening of our ties and combining of our mutual interests was evident when Carol joined BCLTA representatives in meeting with George Abbott, Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women’s Services. The Minister saluted the work being done in libraries and was very excited about the concept of a Legacy Program for British Columbia. BCLA, BCLTA and the Association of BC Public Library Directors also co-hosted another successful Union of BC Municipalities reception in Whistler.

Advocacy included all the preparation for the Canadian Innovation Strategy Summit in Vancouver. Edel Toner-Rogala, who helped prepare briefs for CLA, was also very involved in assisting BCLA prepare a brief with further help from Deb Thomas, Ron Clancy and Jim Looney. A letter was sent to Allan Rock expressing concern that libraries were not mentioned in their strategy documents. BCLA was invited to one of the meetings and Carol was able to make sure that libraries were mentioned as an important resource for the work the federal government was discussing at the Summit Meeting.

Carol thanked Lorraine Kelly and Mark Bodnar for updating the BCLA Election

Advocacy Toolkit on the Web site in time for the Municipal elections in November. The Toolkit was revised and updated to ensure that they would be useful for working with local politicians.

Advocacy also continued with school visits to talk about the work of the association and to recruit new members. This year Jeff Conatser visited UBC, Langara College and UCFV with a new presentation. The board also continued to have representatives from SLAIS, Langara and UCFV on the board. Carol thanked Andrea Ryce (SLAIS), Jennifer Nicklason (Langara) and Andrea Anderson (UCFV) for their input. It is important for the association to continue to build ties with new graduates.

Advocacy also meant reaching out to other organizations to promote libraries. BCLA continued to strengthen ties with PNLA with continued efforts to form a Pacific Northwest Leadership Institute. Vice President Alison Nussbaumer attended the meetings and BCLA will continue its involvement as this could be very beneficial for BCLA members. BCLA has been working closely with CLA this year in preparation for the 2004 joint conference in Victoria. A representative from BC School Libraries Association gave a presentation at a board meeting and Carol encouraged the board to continue to support the complex issues that the BC School Libraries Association faces. The board is looking at ways to maintain financial success. Therefore, the board is looking at a fixed location for the BCLA conference. The proposal is to keep the Conference in the lower mainland for the next three years. The incoming board will be addressing this issue and wants to hear from the membership regarding their ideas and concerns.

There are far too many reports to list, but Carol is proud of the variety of work conducted by the BCLA sections, Committees and Interest groups. The Board is very impressed and thanks them for the incredible amount of hard work. Carol thanked the Board for supporting her this year; Alison Nussbaumer, Ada Con, Carol Compton-Smith, Art Knight, Jeff Conatser, Gretchen Goertz, Sandra Singh, Melanie Houlden, Ted Benson, Mark Bodnar and Eva Wilson. Carol also thanked Michael Burris, Shelley Smolka and Rita Avigdor, and Ron Clancy from the nominations committee. At this time Carol presented the gavel to incoming President Alison Nussbaumer who thanked Carol for her hard work as President for the last two years. A gift from the Association and the Board was presented to Carol.

Alison announced that Charmaine Borden from Northern Lights College is a new Director to the board and she thanked the conference planning committee, Art Knight and Carol Compton-Smith and stated she is looking forward to her new role as President of BCLA.

13. Adjournment.

Motion by E. Annis to adjourn. Seconded by S. Roberts. **Carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Minutes: G. Goertz.