



Memorandum of Understanding

Background

Founded in 1957, the British Columbia Museums Association (BCMA) creates a bright future for British Columbia's museum, gallery, and related heritage communities through networking, advocacy, innovation, and professional development. It delivers programs and services to the benefit of its members and the sector at large, acting as the cultural and heritage information hub for British Columbia while providing a unified voice for the institutions, trustees, professional staff and volunteers.

The British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) leads the library community in advocacy, professional development, and support of intellectual freedom. It ensures that all British Columbians have equitable access to information, ideas and works of the imagination. BCLA builds partnerships and relationships between libraries, governments, and community organizations. Its goal is to advance the values of the Association and to promote a widespread understanding of the benefits of library and information services.

The Archives Association of British Columbia (AABC) was established in 1990. Its mission is to foster the development of the provincial archival community to better preserve and promote access to British Columbia's documentary heritage. Its goals include providing services to increase the capacity of archives throughout the province to preserve and provide access to B.C.'s documentary heritage; building and maintaining the provincial catalogue, MemoryBC (memorybc.ca), in support of the national catalogue; and providing the infrastructure to support networking opportunities for members.

Shared Values

As professional associations, BCMA, BCLA and AABC agree to and uphold the following values which are foundational to both our membership and our partnership:

- Intellectual and ethical integrity
- Equal rights and dignity of all persons
- Freedom of speech and freedom of inquiry
- Respect and recognition of Indigenous peoples and cultures
- Commitment to using our shared capacity for research and education for the betterment of BC communities.

Protocol Objectives

BCMA, BCLA and AABC will encourage member participation in activities that will enhance learning opportunities and knowledge transfer among professionals and institutions. All Partners will work towards the following objectives:

- Share professional expertise and knowledge to strengthen the capacity of all parties to advance their respective missions
- Explore collaborative research projects to expand learning opportunities among the three Associations
- Explore public outreach opportunities to spark community engagement with knowledge and ideas
- Identify joint funding ventures for projects of mutual interest and benefit in the areas of knowledge curation and public education
- Identify opportunities for new membership categories within our Associations to welcome allied professionals
- Provide member rates at BCMA, BCLA and AABC conferences
- Consider new awards to acknowledge and celebrate exceptional professionals and projects in our fields of expertise

Terms of renewal

This MOU will remain in place for a period of three years, effective January 1, 2017. Annually, each organization that is party to the agreement will convene to discuss shared accomplishments, opportunities for further exploration and mutual professional interests. The outcomes of these discussions will be shared with each respective Board that is party to the MOU. At the end of the three years, each board will meet to consider continuing with the MOU.

Signed this day, March 24, 2017 in Surrey, British Columbia:

David Alexander, President, BCMA
Daphne Wood, President, BCLA
Cindy McLellan, President, AABC