

YAACS Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 7:00-8:00 pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting hosted by West Vancouver Memorial Library

Attendees:

Genevieve (RPL), Jenna Lawrence (UBC iSchool), Kate Wood (GVPL), Patricia Lesku (WVML), Rhiannon Wallace (WVML, PMPL), Rina Hadziev (Executive Director, BCLA), Sabrina Gurniak (VPL), Tess Prendergast (UBC iSchool), Tiffany Tse (UBC iSchool)

Regrets:

Raoul Fernandes (WVML, VPL), Sadie Tucker (VPL), Stephanie Usher (VPL)

Welcome to Rina Hadziev (Executive Director, BCLA)

- Currently meeting with different sections
- Starting to plan conference
- Weighty issues are also opportunities to create space for conversations and hard topics
- Working to get more funding for public libraries
- Will be available to contact with YAACS questions

1. Approval of agenda

PL moves to approve, TP seconds; all in favour.

2. Approval of minutes from July 2021 Meeting

JL approves, TP seconds; all in favour.

3. Committee / Rep Updates

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

- KW: Will discuss several vacancies under New Business; anyone interested in a position can contact KW by email or text.

YAACS Awards Committee (Katherine Parker)

- No updates.

YAACING Newsletter (Raoul Fernandes, Sabrina Gurniak)

- Submission deadline was Sept. 15, lots of submissions. Will be ready to publish soon.
- SG offers to Artistic Direct this issue.
- Thanks to TP who encouraged students to submit.

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

- No updates.
- SU's position will likely be available.

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

- No updates.

Continuing Education – Vancouver Island (Nariel Davis, VIRL and *vacant*)

- No updates.

Continuing Education – Kootenays (Avi Silberstein)

- Kootenays are holding regular Zoom meetings to check in.

BCTLA/BCTF Representative (*unfilled*)

- No rep currently. If anyone knows a teacher librarian who might be interested, pass their info along, send to website, or give them KW's contact info.

SLAIS Liaisons (Jenna Lawrence & Tiffany Tse) (Tess Prendergast - faculty liaison)

- First UBC YAACS meeting was last Thursday. About 8 attendees including new student.
- Upcoming meetings will be third Tuesday of the month from 12-1, hybrid.
- 16 people on mailing list, active over summer with people asking questions.
- Planning a fall panelist event on children's librarianship, will call on YAACS members. High interest in Pro-D events; will do a mix of pro-d and casual monthly meetings.
- Next co-chair will take this over JL's plan to organize story time workshops as JL is leaving role at the end of this term.

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

- JL finished policy on intellectual freedom.
- KW will get in contact with MM.

Thanks to Sadie Tucker for social media, updating website, etc. ST's contact info is on website.

4. Continuing Business

2021 YSI

- If anyone has theme/speaker ideas for this year send them to KW.
- YSI was previously held at Richmond PL; don't know if meeting room will be available.

- Received positive feedback about virtual YSI (less travel time), had high attendance. In-person events also have value. Agreement that hybrid event would work well.
- Thoughts on hybrid conference:
 - UBC YAACS currently running hybrid meetings; model would not work for YSI.
 - Past YSIs have had morning keynote then breakout workshops, could easily be done both in Zoom rooms and live.
 - Virtual option helps if people can't travel or in-person event cancelled. Inclusive for those not yet comfortable with in-person. Can help overcome barriers that have existed in past.
 - Hybrid event would be straightforward, need people in-person to monitor Zoom. Easy to put participants in Zoom rooms.
 - Keep scope narrow, don't commit to more than we're comfortable doing.
 - Great feedback on the human library model. People wanted more time in breakout groups.
 - Mirror sessions -- some virtual and some in-person Ask Me Anything sessions.
 - RH: BCLA is also discussing a hybrid model for conference.
 - Best to do mirror sessions separately for virtual and in-person. Holding one session both virtually and live makes virtual experience second-tier, or is difficult for facilitators.
 - Great idea to record keynote beforehand and make it available.
 - Virtual allows participants to meet people they wouldn't normally meet.
- Thoughts on keynote speech:
 - Could have speaker record and post ahead of live presentation.
 - Would be helpful to be able to offer honorarium.
 - In-person attendees could arrive at 9am or similar for keynote, virtual attendees could be given link at same time. Then everyone would have chance to ask questions and virtual experience wouldn't have connection issues, lag time, etc. Less expensive than in-person recording (AV, etc.).
- Thoughts on topics:
 - No topic or age group decided yet. Not much response to July call for feedback.
 - KW can send out survey to listserv this week about YSI topics.
 - PL, RW, and KW will review feedback from the last YSI. KW will check in with previous chairs about previous themes and age groups.
 - Could discuss same topic with in-person and Zoom options. Could have in-person and virtual attendees share notes.
 - In previous years have had keynote in morning and lightning talks in afternoon. Some years have a topic, others are a mix. Could do just lightning talks or a mix of lightning talks and breakout rooms.

- YAACS members love sharing ideas and getting feedback.
- Historically the YSI alternated between early years, middle years, teen. Some staff may work with only one age group and some may have a range; a more overarching topic can apply to everyone's work.
- 2021 theme was originally about supercharging your work and became about reflective practice. Before that they were themed around age groups.
- Brainstorming for 2020 included vulnerable families (inclusive, intergeneration, includes all ages); panel of speakers with breakout sessions; community engagement; early years; lightning talks with specific topics that add to theme
- Theme suggestions for next YSI:
 - Antiracism, anti-bias. Applies to all elements of library work.
 - Climate justice
 - Supporting families' mental health
 - Staff mental health (burnout, etc.)
- KW: would be good to start a YSI committee.
- RH: in past continuing ed coordinators have been involved. KW: they have been invited but never mandatory

5. New Business

Terms of Reference – Discussion

- KW: Explanation of what ToR is
 - BCLA requirement. What we are, how we're governed, purpose of our section.
- RH: Board of BCLA requires so they can know what's happening under auspices of BCLA

Responsibilities/Objectives

- Agreement to combine items 4 and 5.

Deliverables

- Agreement not to tie deliverables to specific deadlines (yearly, quarterly, etc.).
- Suggestion to add "which may include" in item 2.
- Grammatical edits.

Composition

- KW: May change over years with our needs (ex. with virtual meetups may not need four lower mainland continuing ed coordinators)
- Avi S. gave feedback asking about Okanagan continuing ed position; YAACS is lower mainland centric and would be great to have more rep throughout BC.
- RH: Recommendation to review ToR annually.

- Any changes come to the Board.
- More specific means have to make more changes every year. Can make changes within year as long as it's brought to the Board for review every year.
- Do all roles included need to be executive?
- Suggestion to have more general descriptions for continuing ed roles. Will likely leave as-written for now.
- Suggestion to delete sub-bullets under continuing ed.

Terms of Appointment

- RH: Alright to not hold elections, but language should indicate an opportunity to vote if more than one candidate.
 - If ask someone to participate and no other candidates, they can be appointed. Don't need call for interest, but would need to put out notice saying "___ is proposed for appointment as incoming Vice Chair of YAACS, if anyone else would like to be considered please contact ___" and wait for two weeks.
- KW: In past, have sent out calls for expressions of interest as positions come available through year rather than just having annual call for interest.
- TP: Current system works, but should be open to opportunities for election in future.
- RH: BCLA language shared in Zoom chat.
 - Call for nominees will go out one month (or similar) before election.
 - Call for nominees even if no interest. If no nominees, acclaim someone to role.
- KW will continue discussing with RH and finalizing section.

EDI

- RH: Including EDI is well within our role as a section
- Suggestion to use phrasing "neurodivergent and people with disabilities."
 - Using the term "all abilities" wouldn't align with the discussion of specifically marginalized groups.
 - Not all people who are neurodivergent consider themselves to have a disability.
 - "Diverse abilities" and "differently abled" are not preferred terms.
- Suggestion to use BCLA's language, "through what is now known as BC."
- Suggestion to include "classist" to reflect socioeconomic class barriers.
- RH: Discussion will continue as we learn more.

New and existing positions

- KW: Can send out email on YAACS listserv to see if any interest in Okanagan position.
- KW: Could add virtual continuing ed position in addition to existing positions.

- RH: Indicate a range in ToR (“1-5 continuing ed positions...”), so that we have space to assign roles as needed.
- KW: Current Van Island Rep is on leave and hasn’t been active in role for a few years.
 - General agreement on retiring position
- KW will send out calls for expressions of interest for the following vacancies:
 - BCTLA/BCTF Representative
 - Art Director. SU may be interested in art director role using InDesign. SG can also do next issue using Canva if necessary.
 - Secretary
 - Vancouver Island role

Membership

- KW: YAACS needs ten percent of BCLA membership as a whole, currently at 6%.
 - RH: People may not have selected “YAACS” in BCLA Connect profile. Explicit instructions may help.
 - TP will encourage students to join.
 - Could include in staff onboarding (SG), but can’t require membership (TP)
 - PL: BCLA could help us do education piece with existing BCLA members.
 - KW: ST can add the info to website.
 - KW will send out email reminder about BCLA dashboard, with instructions. After a few weeks will check numbers. Need it up to 10% before 2021-2022 year.
 - TP suggests a social media blitz.
 - SG suggests news piece in YAACING with instructions (KW can write the piece).
 - JL will inform mailing list.

Meeting adjourned 8:53pm.