

BCLTA Bulletin

You are receiving this Bulletin because you are either your library board chair or the chief librarian. BCLTA and your trustees rely on you to circulate the Bulletin to all of your trustees. Please forward it by email or print and include with your monthly board package correspondence. Thank you for your assistance in helping BCLTA serve all its members.

BCLTA President's Message

Warm Greetings,

Welcome to our March Bulletin, once again chock-full of information and resources for all of you as library trustees.

Please do check out our conference information, below and on our website. We look forward to welcoming many of you to Richmond and some concentrated time of celebrating, learning and networking. The program is really shaping up to be exciting and worthwhile...and fun!

The BCLTA board has just finalized its strategic plan for the next three years, and you can find a brief overview of it [here](#). As in the past few years, our main focus areas are advocacy, supporting trustees and strengthening our own organizational effectiveness. We have lots of work ahead, but now we have a plan! Please let us know what you think.

Best wishes

Donna Macdonald,
President, BCLTA

MARCH 2016

PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE

2016 CONFERENCE

BE INVOLVED WITH
YOUR CONFERENCE

BOARD CHAIRS
AND BCLTA REPS

ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

ANNUAL AWARDS

TOP AND CHAIRING
THE BOARD

BOARD LIABILITY
INSURANCE

LINKING WITH YOUR
LIBRARY

BOARD DEVELOPMENT
RESOURCES

Executive Director's Message

Whether your March came in like a lion or a lamb it is here with its promise of spring and the need to set clocks ahead. It's an exciting time for me as I get ready for what will be my first BCLTA conference and AGM and I really look forward to meeting many of you over those two very busy days in May. I thank all of you for your kind interest and patience as we work with you to build the conference sessions for what will be a time of connecting, learning and, I hope, a few good laughs. The conference information, including registration, will be up on our website by March 21st and we will keep it updated with details on speakers and schedules.



We have been busy answering your questions about TOP and other resources available for supporting your trustee work. Supporting your work is a significant part of BCLTA's mandate, and in recognition of this the Libraries Branch has provided funding for the association to develop a trustee learning and development framework. For you, this means having learning resources and development opportunities when, where, and how you learn and work. For us, it means understanding your needs and knowing that we are delivering value to you as members. It also means that we have some work ahead of us to make this happen and you will be hearing more from us on this. Thank you to Mari Martin and the Libraries Branch for supporting us with this important project!

The Libraries Branch is beginning work on their strategic vision and plan for advancing public libraries. The new plan will provide direction, similar to how [Libraries without Walls](#) has for the past decade, and will reflect the changing needs of communities in British Columbia. Donna and I, along with our partners (Association of BC Public Library Directors, BC Libraries Cooperative, and BC Library Association), met with Mari Martin, Ramona Soares (ADM for Partner Relations and Teacher Regulation Branch) and Deputy Minister Byng to discuss the process for developing this plan and we expect to know more soon on how trustees will be informed and consulted.

Please keep in touch, as the more I hear from you, the better I can serve the association.

2016 Conference

Libraries Connect!

May 13th and 14th
Sheraton Vancouver Airport, May 13th (evening) and 14th (all day), Westminster room.

Registration will open on the BCLTA website March 21st.

The 2016 conference fee will be \$135 (includes Reception, but not Friday TOP and Chairing the Board sessions)

As with last year, you are able to reserve a room at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel and receive the BCLA Conference discount rate. There is a limited block of rooms (they will go quickly!) and reservations must be made by April 14th, 2016.

The rooms are \$155 per night based on double occupancy, plus applicable taxes. Rates are for traditional guest rooms, with the option of 1 King or 2 Queen beds. To reserve, call 1-800-663-0299.



Be Involved with Your Conference

The conference needs you! Help us create sessions that reflect the diversity of trustee experience and insight – this includes being a new trustee, we want to hear from you!

Let Barbara know at execdir@bclta.ca if you would like to be part of a session panel. Your contribution could be a story, a visual presentation, or an interactive game, and it can be as quick as you like and up to about 10 minutes. You can review the session descriptions in the February Bulletin and we will, beginning March 21st, update the session information on the BCLTA website.

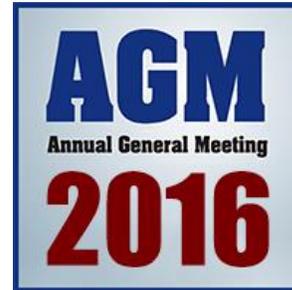
Regional Library Trustees, please email Barbara at execdir@bclta.ca with what you would like to discuss and achieve during your session *Connecting with Regional Library Trustees*. We want to support this unique opportunity to meet with other regional library trustees from across the province.

Trustee Lightning Talks. We know you have stories, ideas, and library trustee wisdom to share and we want to give you four minutes of fame, during the Friday evening reception, to do so. In four minutes you can be inspiring, funny, heart wrenching, or instructive. All we ask is that you talk about your work as a trustee and your library. If you have a Trustee Lightning Talk that is burning up inside you, or questions about the Trustee Lightning

Talk, email Barbara at execdir@bclta.ca.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place on May 14th. We are hoping to move the meeting from the traditional late afternoon time slot to a breakfast AGM. Starting the day with coffee, muffins, financial reporting and voting is a good way to connect with each other and the business of the association. We will have more details, as they are confirmed, posted to the website.



Resolutions can be made in writing (pdf attachment preferred) to the Executive Director who will forward the resolution to the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions are to be received by April 4th. Please see the BCLTA [Constitution and Bylaws](#) for more on resolutions.

Apologies for the tight time-line and let us know if you are in a resolution writing panic.

The Nomination Form for BCLTA Director positions will be available on the website by March 21st. Nomination forms are to be received at the BCLTA office by April 12th. Nominations will be accepted from the floor until immediately prior to the election of Officers at the Annual General Meeting.

The following positions are open for nominations:

- President (2 years)
- Director (2 years)
- Director (2 years)
- Director (2 years)
- Director (2 years)

Annual Awards

Is there a trustee on your Board or someone associated with your library whose service and commitment is truly "above and beyond"? Do you know a trustee who has made a real difference to library serviced in your region or at the provincial level? BCLTA is accepting applications for three awards for outstanding library trustees and library supporters. Find out more [here](#).



Deadline for annual award nominations is April 13th.

TOP and Chairing the Board

Upcoming sessions:

April 23, 2016 at Chetwynd Public Library

May 13, 2016 at the Richmond Public Library (registration to open by March 21st)

May 28, 2016 at the Prince George Public Library

The Critical Role of the Board Chair (Chairing the Board) will also be offered on May 13, 2016 at the Richmond Public Library and will be conducted by Denise Baker from Vantage Point (registration to open by March 21st).

And don't forget to check out the TOP Webinars available in the Member section of the website!

Part 1 covered areas such as trustee responsibilities and governance versus management. Part 2 then continues the orientation with core board responsibilities such as external relations, oversight of the library, and establishing practices for board development.

To find out more about TOP training and to register, please visit our website bclta.ca/trustee-education. If you would like a TOP session in your area, please click on the "Request a Training Session" link and Jan, our Administrative Assistant, will respond to your questions and ensure that everything is in place for a successful session. A minimum of 10 participants is required for the session to proceed. It's affordable! It's enjoyable! It's valuable!



Board Liability Insurance

As one of our services to BCLTA members, we have partnered with Trisura Guarantee Insurance Company as arranged by Metrix Professional Insurance Brokers Inc. to give our members exclusive access to an affordable, premium directors' and officers' liability insurance plan. Premium savings for BCLTA members can be as significant as 30 per cent less than an individual plan. Find out more [here](#),



Linking with your Library World

Surrey Libraries Chief Librarian Wins Award!

Melanie Houlden, Surrey Libraries Chief Librarian, who is also the Chair of ABCPLD and the BC Libraries Cooperative, won the [Surrey Women in Business award for Not-For-Profit Leader](#). Congratulations Melanie!



Penticton Public Library to End Sunday Hours

An important part of trustee work is providing leadership and strategic decision making.

From the Penticton Public Library website,

Library Board Chair, Linda King, says: "We strive to provide the best possible service to our community, and while we regret this decision, increasing costs require us to shift resources, investing in key areas to improve our services overall. [More ...](#)

Reports and Plans

We all want to know what other boards are up to and so each month we will bring you a few select links. BC is large, diverse, and has over 700 trustees – we have much to learn from each other!

GVPL's new plan includes videos!

[Community-Inspired Library Service, Greater Victoria Public Library's Strategic Plan 2016 to 2020.](#)

[Penticton Public Library Strategic Plan, 2015 – 2018](#)

Fraser Valley Regional Library
[2016 - 2018 FVRL Strategic Directions](#)

Libraries as the "heart and soul" of community

A thoughtful and inspiring read from the *Atlantic* (March 2016), "The Library Card", by Deborah Fallows

As we traveled around the U.S. reporting on the revival of towns and cities, we always made the local library an early stop. We'd hit the newspaper offices, the chamber of commerce, city hall, and Main Street for an introduction to the economics, politics, and stresses of a town. The visit to the public library revealed its heart and soul. [More ...](#)

Provincial Digital Library

As this project grows, it will be present some great opportunities for public libraries, particularly those in smaller communities, in regards to connecting libraries with economic, social, and creative development. You may find it to be an interesting talking point with local government and provincial officials as it is aligned with goals and objectives of cross-ministry frameworks, OCPs, and regional economic development plans.

Start [here](#) and do follow through to the November 4th Provincial Digital Library (PDL) report.

Board Development Resources

We will regularly share a few resources to support your trustee and board development.

UBCM

Many of you are familiar or involved with the [UBCM](#) and know that the website is a great resource for local government news and updates. Subscribing the UBCM weekly newsletter, *The Compass* is an easy way to stay on top of UBCM news.

The Commons

<http://commons.bclibraries.ca/>

An online space, managed by the Libraries Branch Important information such as the upcoming SOFI (requires Board approval!) deadline of on or before May 16th,



Final Words and Thank you

The Bulletin is our way of connecting with you and supporting the important work that you do for your library and community. Help us strengthen that connection by discussing the Bulletin and BCLTA with your Board and then letting us know what we can do better.

The BCLTA mission is "to support and represent trustees in advancing public libraries"; as the Executive Director I'm here to be of service to the Board and the Association and I look forward to hearing from you.



Kind regards and miigwetch,

Barbara Kelly
execdir@bclta.ca

If you have feedback about this Bulletin or would like to contribute an item to the Around BC news, please contact us at bulletin@bclta.ca.
