

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

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful and restful holiday season.

December was fairly quiet for the BCLTA board, except that we accomplished one very important thing – the hiring of our new Executive Director. We had many good applicants but there was one who really stood out – so we hired her!

I am so pleased to welcome Barbara Kelly, who joined us January 4th. Barb has extensive experience in board governance, building partnerships, community engagement, and business management (and lots more). Much of that experience has been gained working with libraries large and small across Canada. Barb has a Master of Library and Information Services from UBC, and more recently earned an MBA from Royal Roads.

Barb's MBA thesis topic was: *Public Library Trustee Recruitment and Development: Outcomes-Based Approaches and Strategies for Stronger Public Libraries*. How perfect is that! Barb has a genuine enthusiasm for trustees and their role in building resilient and inspiring libraries and communities.

We're all looking forward to an exciting and productive time with Barb at the helm.

Going forward, we've decided to send the Bulletin in the second week of each month. So please look for it in your inbox, and if you are receiving it for your board of trustees, please ensure you

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forward it to them. It only takes a click!

Wishing you the best for 2016.

Donna Macdonald,
President, BCLTA

Step Up to the Big TOP

BCLTA is offering two TOP sessions in the near future, with trainer Colleen Chambers:

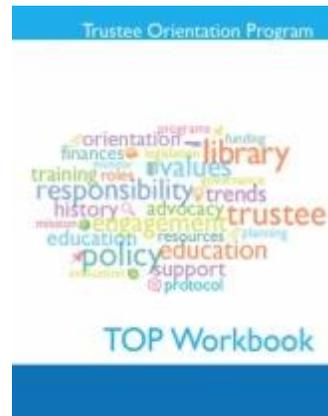
February 6, 2016 at North Vancouver City Library
March 12, 2016 at Surrey Public Library

Our revised TOP training has been well-received and we encourage you to take advantage of both the information presented and the shared learning with other trustees.

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!

2016 Conference

Yes, it's happening! Once again our conference and AGM will follow the BCLA's conference at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond. Details are still being worked on, but there will be a TOP training session on Friday, followed by an evening reception and keynote speaker, and a Saturday full of workshops and our AGM. Please mark **May 13 and 14** in your calendars, and plan to attend this annual gathering. We intend to offer an irresistible program.



Executive Director's Message

Hello everyone and a huge thank you for all the welcoming messages! I am extremely pleased to be working with the BCLTA and to be serving all of you as the Executive Director.

We have some great work ahead of us and while you might think that the BCLTA conference isn't until later this spring, for us it is now! Conference planning and dreaming is fueling us at the association as we plunge into arranging speakers, workshops, food, AGM procedures, awards, and more food. I look forward to meeting many of you at the conference.

The conference is a unique opportunity to meet with trustees from all over the province and to strengthen your network of community leaders. You all make a difference to your libraries and communities and this event supports and celebrates your work. More information about the conference program will be coming to you soon.



Trustee Recruitment and Development

Some of you may be wondering if the new ED is *that* Babs Kelly, the one who was asking all those questions last year. Yes it is! I promised to share my research back out to this group, but some of you may not have seen the results last summer and so here is the report [*Relationships, risk, and relevance: How Trustee recruitment and development makes a difference in public libraries.*](#)

I am very grateful to all of you for your kind support and to the many trustees who filled out the survey and sent in emails of encouragement.

I welcome any questions about the report, as I appreciate that academic research can, at times, feel disconnected from the lived experience.

We want to hear from you!

Contact the New ED

As said, we have some great work ahead of us, and it is all about you and the work you do for your communities and public libraries. And since it is all about you, please let me know how the BCLTA can best meet your needs, or perhaps even delight you – you matter to us.



Kind thanks and miigwetch,

Barbara Kelly
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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.
