

BCTLA  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2007/2008

## **Presidents' Report**

**Submitted by Bonnie McComb and Heather Daly**

### **Executive Retreat (September 2007)**

For the first time in fifteen years, the Executive went on a weekend team-building retreat. We did some significant work on the BCTLA goals that appear at the beginning of the Chapter Councilor handbook. We spent time discussing two questions: What makes the BCTLA strong? What small things can we change to make a big difference? The main ideas that emerged were that our communication and collaboration are what make us strong, but effective communication is also one of our biggest challenges. Bonnie created a *BCTLA Executive Handbook* to facilitate the transition for new members.

### **BCTLA Conference and National School Library Day (October 2007)**

The Surrey chapter hosted a very successful BCTLA provincial conference. Surrey teacher-librarians also initiated a *Drop Everything and Read Challenge* which took place at 1:00 pm on National School Library Day. Many schools around the province participated in this and shared their stories. The BCTLA Executive made a motion to support and adopt this advocacy idea as an annual challenge and monitor the growth over the next three years. Thank you to Surrey's teacher-librarians and especially Daphne Elwick who graciously hosted our Fall Council meeting in her library the following day.

### **Library 2020 Symposium (October 2007)**

On Monday, October 22nd, we had a group of 24 teacher-librarians and other educators represent school libraries at *Library 2020 Symposium: The Future of Library Collaboration in BC*, a symposium with 200 representatives from public, academic, school and special libraries, as well as Ministry personnel. Keynote Dr. Ray Doiron proposed the idea that in today's world we need to support the full development of a strong, integrated, accessible continuum of libraries. His keynote address is worth reading at <http://bclibraries.pbwiki.com>. The symposium fortunately dovetailed with our own conference and Fall Council meeting so we were able to have some representation from around the province, but we mainly drew on lower mainland coordinators so we did not need funding to release people to attend. The impetus to include school libraries in this new vision came directly from the public and post-secondary library communities. This is an exciting and challenging venture in collaboration, communication and advocacy. Bonnie McComb worked on the organizational committee and spoke on a response panel. Heather Daly and Moira Ekdahl attended follow up meetings and with the assistance of Judith Kootte and Judith Comfort helped draft a vision. For more information or to follow the progress, see the Library 2020 website at <http://library2020.bclibrary.ca/>.

### **David Cubberley Meeting (December 2007)**

On National School Library Day, David Cubberley, NDP education critic, spoke articulately in the legislature about the value of school libraries. In particular, he drew attention to inadequate 0.1 and 0.2 library positions and how this impacted an enthusiastic Aaron Mueller, a Vancouver TL, who was unable to find work in a school library. This speech is available on YouTube. On December 4, Bonnie met with MLA David Cubberley to thank him for his support of school libraries in the legislature and to have a conversation about how we could generate more school library support in BC. Cubberley's perception was that we have a marketing problem and we seem to be divided into two camps (literacy or information skills). He suggested we need to be

able to capture the essence of our role in one or two sentences that are memorable. He also mentioned that telling our literacy stories would have the most appeal.

### **PSAC (Provincial Specialist Association Council) and the BCTF (Throughout Year)**

The Professional and Social Issues Division of the BCTF hosts three PSAC (Provincial Specialist Association Council) meetings a year so that the presidents of all the associations can share concerns and have input. The BCTF Executive attends these meetings. Issues include such things as a discussion about the length of time it is taking to get online registrations for conferences. We are waiting for a report back on the motion to last year's BCTF AGM that asked for a TL to be hired in the Ministry and for TLs to be included in Ministry literacy and curriculum committees. This year the BCTF has supported the BCTLA by providing two TOC days so we could release some key people to attend Library 2020 and by providing tremendous assistance on the Working and Learning Conditions Survey.

### **BCTLA Executive Changes (January 2008)**

On January 25 and 26, we had an Executive meeting at the BCTF building in Vancouver. At this meeting, Bonnie McComb expressed a need to step down as President for medical reasons. After some discussion, the Executive shifted some positions to accommodate the situation: Heather Daly stepped up from First Vice-President, Chapter Relations to serve as Co-President; Sylvia Zubke moved from Conference Chair to replace Heather as First Vice-President, Chapter Relations; and Bonnie Chapman from Surrey agreed to be appointed to Conference Chair.

### **“BCTLA - In Circulation” Blog (February , 2008)**

Heather Daly created the “BCTLA - In Circulation” blog in February, to improve the amount and timeliness of the communication of important information to BC teacher-librarians and to enable more interaction between members and the BCTLA Co-Presidents. “In Circulation” was formerly the title of the President's page in *The Bookmark* which now carries on in this digital form. The blog is available at <http://bctlaincirculation.blogspot.com/>.

### **New Teachers' Conference (March 1, 2008)**

A special thank you to Heather Daly, Amanda Hufton, Moira Ekdahl and Val Hamilton who represented the BCTLA at the New Teachers' Conference on March 1 in Richmond. They manned a display and handed out materials. Their commitment to this annual Saturday event is really above and beyond. We appreciate their dedication very much.

### **CMEC Pan Canadian Literacy Forum: *Literacy: More than Words* (April 13-15, 2008)**

With the help of fifty technicians, streaming video, and sixty computers, all ten provinces were simultaneously connected to hear a variety of speakers: Lieutenant Governor Steven Point, Adrienne Clarkson, Linwood Barclay, Susan Aglukark, Sylvia Tyson, Paul Belanger, David Asper, Charles Coffey, Dr. Fraser Mustard, Frank McKenna, a variety of filmed community vignettes, a panel of experts, and all ten Ministers of Education. Each province had a theme, but the overall focus was on pre-school literacy, aboriginal literacy, and adult education. At the BC site, Hazelton, Revelstoke and the Columbia Basin communities shared information about their unique and exemplary literacy programs. Businessman Tung Chan shared insights about cultural literacy, his own experiences arriving in Canada, and the subtle shapes and colours of words that can cause miscommunication between cultures. Director of Multiculturalism and Immigration Deb Zehr provided a snapshot of immigration statistics with the message not to get hung up on numbers but to get curious ([www.welcomebc.ca](http://www.welcomebc.ca)). Dr. Fraser Mustard's sobering message was

that Grade One is too late. We should have a Ministry of Human Development and provide the same kind of early childhood support as Sweden, Cuba, and Australia ([www.founders.net](http://www.founders.net)). A recurring message from many speakers was that literacy is a basic human right that transcends our provincial borders and entrenched positions, relationships are important for learning, and we need to get out of our silos and work together. Bonnie McComb represented the BCTLA at this forum and put up a display with our logo and the words “School libraries are at the heart of literacy.”

### **BCLA Conference (April 17-20, 2008)**

Bonnie McComb was part of a panel at the Library 2020 session at the BCLA *Off the Shelf and out of the Box: Creativity in Libraries*. As we talk about how we can collaborate with public and academic libraries, this excellent conference is an opportunity for us to get to know what is going on in the library world outside of the K-12 system. Keynote speakers, cartoonists Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum of *Unshelved* fame ([www.unshelved.com](http://www.unshelved.com)), were fall-off-your-seat funny. There were sessions on social networks integrated into catalogues, YouTube, Web 2.0, manga, library architectural space, and even initiatives to build collections including games such as *Dance Dance Revolution* to meet the needs of teen clients. There were also great displays. We encourage all teacher-librarians to consider attending at least one day of this annual April conference for a wonderful professional development experience.

### **CLA Conference (May 23, 2008)**

Heather Daly will represent the BCTLA at the CASL-PAC breakfast at the CLA conference on May 23rd. At this conference, representatives from each province report on what we have been doing. The BCTLA President has not attended this national conference very often. The cost is often prohibitive and the President's personal responsibility. If our association believes it is important to be part of the national voice, we need to consider helping to fund the President to attend this meeting.

### **Literacy Focus Group (May 7, 2008)**

Jacqueline van Dyk, Director, Public Library Services Branch, and Jacquie Taylor, Superintendent of Achievement (Literacy and Learning) are “planning a focus group session to explore the opportunities that are provided by school and public libraries to support literacy learning from the early years through adulthood. The group will be limited to about 35 people including teacher-librarians, public librarians, school district administrators, and post-secondary resource people.” Jacqueline is a school library supporter and has been one of the key figures in the Library 2020 initiative. Nine current or past members of the Executive are invited as well as Keith McPherson and Marlene Asselin from UBC. This meeting will provide us with an opportunity to talk about how school libraries support literacy.

### **Online Communication: A Brave New World**

Thank you to our Executive members who are pulling some of us into the 21st century with their creative uses of online communication. We also congratulate many of our chapters such as GVTLA and COTLA who are utilizing wikis and other Web 2.0 tools. Using our online communication, our print publications, and our face-to-face meetings, we strive to maintain and develop the communication and collaboration that make the BCTLA strong.

## Library 2020 PARTICIPANTS (24 in alpha order by last name)

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## **First Vice-President, Chapter Relations's Report**

**Submitted by Sylvia Zubke**

At the January BCTLA Executive meeting, I agreed to take on the Chapter Relations position, as the First Vice-President, Chapter Relations while Heather Daly became our new Co-President. I am new to this job and am very grateful for Heather Daly and Angie MacRitchie's help, as well as Pat Parungao's advice. Thank you very much, ladies. I feel well supported.

My first job was to get an updated BCTLA membership list from the BCTF. Michele Steele from the BCTF sent me a list in March, and I was surprised to discover my name was not on this list. I checked my cheque book, and could see that I did pay for both the conference and the membership fee in October. I emailed Michele and asked her if there were more members to add. She sent back an April 10 and an April 14 membership list. I was not on the April 10, but was on the April 14, so please do check for your name. I've asked Michele to please send in an updated list for our April 26 meeting.

My next job has been to make contact with all of the Chapter Councilors and find out their concerns. I have heard from over half of our Councilors and hope to have made contact with everyone before the end of the school year. It will be very nice to put a face to a name!

As you get to know me better, you will find out that I am all about the food, so if you have any suggestions for what items you would like best at our meeting, please do let me know! I am happy to have the responsibility of ordering the food for our meetings, and am open to suggestions.

I check my email regularly, so please feel free to contact me with any concerns you have.

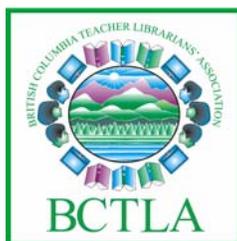
Some information about me: I have been a teacher-librarian since 2001, all at an eastside elementary school in Vancouver. I joined the VTLA that year, and have served on the Pro-D committee and as VTLA President. I chaired the Conference committee when Vancouver held the BCTLA Conference in 2004. I am a passionate reader, traveler and baker. I love my job and working with people.

## Second Vice-President, Advocacy's Report

Submitted by Karen Lindsay

The role of the Second Vice-President, Advocacy is to support teacher-librarians in their districts, keep the role of teacher-librarians in the public eye, and raise public aware of our issues successes. To this end, since my last report I have:

- Supported BCTLA members whenever required on the listserv.
- Gathered information from schools that participated in the October DEAR challenge in order to be able to track our progress over the next three years.
- Provided ongoing liaison with CASL by posting messages of interest to our members and bringing issues of interest to the attention of the Executive.
- Attended the Library 2020 meeting to assist in representing our unique needs and offerings.
- Written a letter to the BCTF regarding our concerns about the effect of block funding on non-enrolling teachers.
- Purchased for the BCTLA a copy of the Colorado State DVD *Your School Team Deserves a Star Player*, an excellent advocacy tool to use with Principals, Superintendents and Trustees.
- Put forth a motion at the January 2008 Executive meeting that Chapter concerns be moved as close as possible to the beginning of our agenda. Motion carried.
- Written to Auditor General John Doyle and Education Minister Shirley Bond regarding Mr. Doyle's report *Literacy: Creating the Conditions for Reading and Writing Success*. I recommended that better funding and staffing of school library programs would go a long way towards achieving the government's stated goal of making British Columbia Canada's most literate province – a goal toward which they have made no measurable progress to date. Mr. Doyle responded; Ms. Bond did not.
- Created a template for members to use to write to their M.P.s regarding Mr. Doyle's report.
- Wrote a letter to the editor of the Victoria Times Colonist suggesting that the BC Ministry of Education follow the example being set in Ontario where they have committed \$40 million dollars to school library programs over the next five years.
- On the recommendation of Sandra Hughes, encouraged our presidents' involvement in CASL-PAC group.
- Wrote to the BCTF Executive enlisting their support with our DEAR challenge and our desire to have the fourth Monday in October declared BC School Libraries Day.
- Promoted the cause of school libraries, school library programs and teacher-librarians in my own district.



## Ideas *DEAR* to a teacher-librarian's heart

This is the shared wisdom of our membership about how to engage the maximum number of people in our DEAR challenge.

- Promote the event in the school newsletter
- Put up posters around the school
- Make sure the DEAR challenge is on your billboard
- Send an "all e-mail" to parents inviting them to DEAR wherever they are at 1:00 on October 27.
- Get your Superintendent a library account and send him the URL of your WebPAC
- Invite him/her read at your school... anytime.
- Make the Superintendent a Literacy Package. Include:
  - a copy of the first and this year's annual (archival role)
  - a copy of a manga book plus a current best-seller from your library
  - a copy or two of a magazine from our library
  - The letter from Don Hamilton (next page)
- Alert the media. If they can't come to you, give them an article you write yourself. Include a picture.
- Educate your Trustees. These are business people with an interest in educational issues. Invite them to attend a DEAR event in one of their schools, AND to encourage their office/business to read, too.
- Hold a library open house with food and a display of new books and student research
- Invite parents to read at your school
- DEAR several times during the day.
- Take lots of pictures. Get them in the paper and/or share them via PowerPoint at an assembly.
- Get lots of adults involved - secretaries, custodians, parents, trustees...
- Create an "All you can Read" event. (I'm not sure what this is, but I can't wait to find out!)
- Have lots of fun and tell us all about it!

From: Donald Hamilton <donaldhamilton@shaw.ca>

Date: October 10, 2007 10:35:29 AM PDT

I wondered how long it would take for the news to break that the Riesman overture in Ontario would be shown to have serious problems. While I was immediately stuck by the question of competition in the marketplace, I was much more concerned that the school library was once again misunderstood.

While Ms Riesman must be commended for her passionate concern, she is perpetuating that myth that a school library spins around good books. If we cling to that notion then the school library will be simply that nice place for nice kids that always needs donations of books and money.

The school library is part of the orchestrated thing that we call school. The school library is simply part of a measured educational process that applies best practice to the task of meeting learning needs in all its charges. School libraries are not simply nice places that nice children who want to read may visit. They are focused, planned, designed, and implemented laboratories for learning and thinking that have evolved in our schools as perfect opportunities to engage children and youth in all the literacies: reading, watching, listening, appreciating, judging, comparing.

The school library is an extension of the classroom, of the teacher, of the school. In Heather Riesman's view it seems to be a small public library situated in a school without program, money for books, or perhaps, personnel. The teacher-librarian is the missing ingredient in much of this discussion, for in this individual the program is developed and nurtured (including the provision of quality literature) that will relate the objectives of the school to the resources available in the library.

While the Indigo/Riesman overture is faulty it has pointed out those huge misunderstandings about the school library that confound the schools today. Even the schools that have received Ms Riesman's fine collections are in trouble. How long will it take until those books are old? Will anyone measure the effectiveness of the gift? Will anyone be teaching children about those books, their variety, complexity, range, and differences? Will adequate funding be in place to provide the earning program that will provide children with the tools to actually engage those materials in their learning?

Can we seize this opportunity to engage those who make the decisions that have reduced funding for school libraries across the country? Can we show them the results of all those studies that confirm the educational value of the school library? Maybe we should talk to Heather Riesman about other strategies that would ensure that all kids get to engage really good school libraries and the treasures they provide.

--

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## **Past President's Report**

**Submitted by Pat Parungao**

### **Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

Three Executive members have been in communication regarding constitution and bylaws revision. The notice of a proposed amendment to the bylaws of the BCTLA was published in the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of *The Bookmark* and will be voted on at the Spring 2008 AGM. The notice is as follows:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF BCTLA THAT: BYLAW 4, NO. 5, WHICH READS, "Elected officers shall be eligible for Election to one additional consecutive term but later may be elected to any other position" BE DELETED IN ITS ENTIRETY.

If anyone else is interested in joining this committee, please contact Pat at [parungao@shaw.ca](mailto:parungao@shaw.ca).

### **Nominating Committee**

No official nomination forms have been received. The following people have allowed their names to stand for the following elected Executive positions:

*President* – Heather Daly (Coquitlam)

*First Vice-President, Chapter Relations* – Sylvia Zubke (Vancouver)

*Second Vice-President, Advocacy* – Karen Lindsay (Victoria)

*Communications Officer* – Daphne Elwick (Surrey)

*Recording Secretary* – Al Smith (Kelowna)

*Treasurer* –

*Working & Learning Conditions Chairperson* – Amanda Hufton (Richmond)

The following members have put their names forward for appointed positions:

*Archivist, Publications Coordinator, and Web Steward* – Val Hamilton (Vancouver, retired)

*Senior Editor, The Bookmark* – Angie MacRitchie (Kelowna)

*Conference Chair* – Bonnie Chapman (Surrey)

*Continuing Education Chair* – Lynn Turner (Terrace)

*Liaison Chair* – Moira Ekdahl (Vancouver)

### **Chocolate mold**

A corporate logo mold that reads "SCHOOL LIBRARIES: The (heart shape) of LITERACY" was developed at Charlie's Chocolate Factory and is available for any Chapter to use to purchase chocolates. You can order various or specific colours – see <http://www.charlieschocolatefactory.com/foils.htm> for colours. A sample will be provided to attendees of the Spring Council and AGM. To order, contact Ellen at [charlieschocolatefactory@telus.net](mailto:charlieschocolatefactory@telus.net) or 604-437-8221. Orders can be picked up or shipped to you. Current cost per chocolate is \$1.00.

## **BC Coalition for School Libraries**

The Coalition is an advocacy group that supports strong school library programs across the province. Please encourage membership in your district/Chapter. Membership includes anyone or entity that supports school libraries, e.g., individuals, associations, businesses, institutions, corporations. There will be a joint fund-raising “Own a Piece of the Magic” art extravaganza with the Canadian Children’s Book Centre on May 21 in Vancouver. More about the coalition, including the fundraiser and membership form can be found at [bccsl.ca](http://bccsl.ca).

## **Communications Officer’s Report**

### **Submitted by Daphne Elwick**

This has been a difficult year due to deaths in my family, co-chairing the 2007 BCTLA Conference in October and acting as musical director for a production of “Grease” which is coming up in May. I’m also Co-President with Bonnie Chapman of our Chapter in Surrey. As a result, I’ve been pre-occupied and failing in my duties as Communications Officer.

One of my duties is to send a letter to the principal and superintendent of each member of the Executive, acknowledging the contribution of the executive member. I haven’t done that yet, but the letters will be sent out by the end of May, after “Grease” is over. I did send letters to our honorary life members, inviting them to attend the AGM.

On the subject of BCTLA awards, I encouraged Chapter Councilors at the Conference to put forward nominations and another reminder was sent out to Chapter Councilors in February through Chapter Relations. Unfortunately, the number of nominations was rather low this year. Perhaps I should have been sending out monthly reminders in order to garner more nominations. This would be my recommendation for the coming year.

To be truthful, my heart is not in it, and even though I agreed to stand as Communications Officer for another year, I would prefer to stand down. I started out as a Chapter Councilor 7 years ago in my first year as a TL and I’ve been on the Executive for 4 years, which isn’t a long time, but it’s enough time. I enjoy Executive meetings, but I’m not fulfilling my duties adequately and the Executive needs to find someone who can.

## **Working and Learning Conditions Chair’s Report**

### **Submitted by Amanda Hufton**

(full *The Bookmark* report and individual local reports to follow...)

The survey was launched with National and International School Library Day on October 22, 2007. The questions on the survey were left the same as the year before as both the BCTF staff and I were new to the organization and implementation of the survey. During the summer of 2008, BCTLA members and the experienced research staff of the BCTF will look at improving the quality of the questions asked on the survey.

There were some glitches in collecting the data. As yet, it is unknown why some completed surveys were not received. Duplicates occurred that were noted because the data was slightly different. The question regarding budget delayed some respondents even though there is the option to tick that the budget is not yet available. The effort by Chapter Councilors to have schools in their districts complete/correct the data was very much appreciated.

After taking closed school, could not contact fax #, and programs which do not belong in the database out of the data, the response rate to the survey is 65%, which is very good for a survey. Our goal would be to increase this rate. If there are any suggestions by Chapter Councilors on how to do this, or any ideas as to why the response rate isn't 100%, please email me at [kaela2@shaw.ca](mailto:kaela2@shaw.ca).

This year, there will be one paper publication that will show the data from 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. There will also be some charts comparing earlier years and an extremely thorough analysis of the qualitative data (an area of expertise for the BCTF researcher).

## **Liaison Chair's Report**

**Submitted by Moira Ekdahl**

**Association of Book Publishers of BC (ABPBC)** – We continue to support *BC Books for BC Schools* and *Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools* and BC Book and Magazine week.

**BC Book Prizes** – Judy McConnell may be leaving this position. Word is, there may be no BCTF representative TL needed on this committee. FREE Soiree, April 19; Gala, Apr 26 \$70 Waterfront.

**BCLA** – Bonnie McComb attended and co-presented, as per her report; Sylvia Zubke and Bonnie Chapman met with Michael Burris, BCLA president: could BCTLA and BCLA have a joint conference? No. **YAACS** report from Sharon Freeman – no report; TL Janet Mumford is also on this committee. **Library 2020** – Presidents' Report provides updated information;

**BCCSL** – See the Past President's Report regarding the joint fund-raising event "Own a Piece of the Magic" art extravaganza with the Canadian Children's Book Centre on May 21 in Vancouver.

**Bookworks/ArtStarts** – Pat Parungao and Moira Ekdahl attended a focus session on how to promote more Canadian literature in curriculum, classrooms, and the learning experiences. Jean Baird has contacted Libraries and Archives Canada about building onto the present author databases, such as PIKA.

**CASL**– This year's TL of the Year (Follett International/CASL Award) will not be a BC TL. Our nominee Michele Farquharson is long overdue for this national recognition and had both Ken Haycock and Marlene Asselin as "glowing" referees. CASL Breakfast and AGM on May 23 in Vancouver; Heather Daly will represent BCTLA.

**CCBC** – Joint sponsorship with BCCSL – “Own a Piece of the Magic”, May 21

**CLA** – Heather will attend the CLA Conference on May 23; this year’s conference at the Sheraton-Wall – “LIBRARIES & PUBLISHING 3.0: Connecting authors to readers in the digital age, May 21-4”.

**IASL** – Sandra Lee/James Henri will be here in July, co-teaching two teacher-librarianship courses at UBC. James will also teach a Summer Institute in conjunction with BCTLA and with VSB. The IASL "World Class Learning and Literacy through School Libraries" conference will be held this summer on August 3-7 at University of California at Berkeley, California.

**IFLA** – Conference in Montreal August 10-14: "Libraries without borders: Navigating towards global understanding"

**Red Cedar and Stellar Book Awards** – TL rep needed; must be BCTLA member from Lower Mainland due to meeting schedule.

**Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK)** – BCTLA represented at WTK by Pat Parungao; Moira Ekdahl attended one meeting. Would like to know that these sessions are strongly connected to school library programs but remain unclear about how they are working within schools! Information required.

**Afterthoughts on Liaising for a Year!** Concerns that we need to be clear in sending the message that TLs selected by organizations for the purpose of being “representative” without reference to the representative body, either the BCTLA or the BCTF, are not representatives!

## **Senior Editor, *The Bookmark’s Report***

**Submitted by Angie MacRitchie**

Al Smith and I met several times over the winter to produce our first issue (online February 15th) with another to come out in June (online and print). Though we have several regular contributors (see below) we have not had as many units/lessons submitted from around the province as we would hope. At the spring meeting I will ask for some Chapter Councilors who can commit to sending unit or lesson plans for the fall issue. Having your units published in *The Bookmark* is a great way to show what you are doing in your Chapter!

While going through the production process Al and I have had many debates about print versus online issues. We have yet to come to a final conclusion though we are considering going completely electronic by 2010. I would greatly appreciate any feedback and discussion on this idea.

Finally, I would like to thank the following people for their contributions to *The Bookmark* this year:

Al Smith – page layout, *Virtual Bookmark Manager*, contributor

Pat Parker – Book Reviews  
Carolyn Cutt – Book Reviews  
John Goldsmith – New on the Net  
Stew Savard – Savard’s Stars  
Greg Smith – Greg’s Top Ten

Editors/Proofreaders (your work is yet to come but thanks for being ready!):  
Nancy Zegarchuk  
Halia Hirniak

This has been my first year as Senior Editor of *The Bookmark*. I have enjoyed taking it on and wish to continue for at least another year. If you have any comments on the above or submissions for *The Bookmark* please send them along to me at [amacritchie@telus.net](mailto:amacritchie@telus.net).

## **Conference Chair’s Report**

### **Submitted by Bonnie Chapman**

The theme for this year’s conference, hosted by Surrey Teacher Librarians, was *Cultivate the “I” in Library*. As co-chair of Surrey’s steering committee and recent appointee to the BCTLA executive, I am proud and pleased to thank my fellow committee members and the many Surrey teacher-librarians involved for their outstanding contribution and hard work. Our keynote speakers, David Bouchard, author, educator and presenter and Simon Jackson, founder of the Spirit Bear Youth Coalition were truly inspiring. Delegates expressed their appreciation of the opportunity the Advocates Forum gave them to hear how other organisations support BC’s school libraries and teacher-librarians. Perhaps a forum will become an integral part in future conferences. A highlight for many was the Thursday evening book launch of David’s book *I am Raven*, Andy Everson and his brother’s performance of traditional dances and the performance of the story by Guildford Park drama students!

There weren’t as many conference delegates as in the past few years. A contributing factor was the calendar year that had Spring Break and the Easter holidays so close. Many schools chose to take summer Pro-D making the October PSA day unavailable. Thank you to the Greater Victoria Teacher-Librarian’s Association for volunteering to host the 2008 Conference. They have been hard at work and I’m hearing something about a “twist” for Thursday evening! Sounds exciting.

On March 17th, Sylvia Zubke and I met with Michael Burriss from the BCLA to discuss the possibility of a combined BCTLA/BCLA conference. Such a partnership has its benefits but the constraints both parties have regarding the date of the conference are all but insurmountable. We agreed to promote the idea of TLs attending the BCLA conference and invite BCLA members to attend or present at ours.

## **Continuing Education Chair's Report**

**Submitted by Lynn Turner**

A list of BCTLA members who are able to present workshops has been established and is posted on the web site. Additions are welcome anytime. Please email me the information. It also helps to know the locale so presenters can be recommended for specific areas of the province.

The web sites of all colleges and universities in Canada have been checked to determine the ones that offer teacher-librarian courses, diplomas, certificates, or Masters degrees. There is a distinct lack of training for teacher-librarians in Canada, although some can be done online.

I have encouraged teacher-librarians to work with pre-service teachers wherever and whenever possible. Rather than waiting for PDP instructors to request a presentation on library services and programs, more success is gained by approaching student teachers when they are in the schools observing or doing a practicum. The word is spreading, slowly but very surely.

Two presentations requested by colleges that I am aware of were in Cranbrook at the College of the Rockies and at the University of Northern B.C. in Terrace.

A recommendation that arose from the "Bridging the Gap" workshop at the BCLA conference a couple of years ago was to establish a committee to construct a K-16 framework of skills for information literacy. Jo-Anne Naslund suggested that members of the BCTLA begin with K-12 skills, and that academic librarians be brought in when the initial framework was well established. Throughout this year, I have tried without success to make a start with a committee of members who expressed interest in such an undertaking. When I expressed my frustration at the January Executive meeting, it was suggested that I call a meeting of the committee for April 25 to make a start on the skills document. This meeting will be taking place, at which time I hope we can: (a) develop a general overview of our task; (b) begin to examine learning outcomes from IRPs, scope and sequence charts from various chapters, and information literacy "curricula" from other jurisdictions; and (c) decide on tasks and deadlines for the next phase of the project.

## **BCTLA Archivist's Report**

**Submitted by Val Hamilton**

The BCTLA created an Archives Committee in 1987 and the first members were Glen Pinch, Blair Brown, Doug Trounce, Dale Lauber and Mel Rainey.

The Archives Committee shall:

(a) maintain the existing collection of archival materials, which consists mainly of written records (periodicals, pamphlets, letters, minutes of meetings etc.) giving information about the origin and development of the BCSLA and BCTLA. The Archives also include a few non-print items.

- (b) arrange these materials in a systematic manner appropriate to such a collection.
- (c) accumulate materials that will continue to document the activities of the BCTLA.
- (d) endeavour to find items missing from the earlier years of the Archival collection.
- (e) allow any BCTLA member or other authorized person, by arrangement, to have access to the collection.
- (f) consider proposals for the establishment of a permanent base for the BCTLA Archives.

An article in the March 1988 *Bookmark* sums up the basic principles adopted by the committee:

The Archives will consist of:

- (1) copies of *The Bookmark* and its predecessor *The Newsletter* since the latter began publication in November 1959;
- (2) a file of materials such as correspondence, reports, and minutes of meetings, arranged according to year;
- (3) a separate file of items that seem to lend themselves more to a subject than a chronological treatment. These include the Demonstration Library Project, Proposals for a Provincial School Library Coordinator, and articles, papers etc. on Copyright.

The collection houses only one copy of each item, unless there is a particular need to have more than one copy. Its purpose is to be a resource to provide information about the origins of the BCTLA and its development during the half-century of its existence.

I began phoning retired teacher-librarians to find these resources. Several calls later, I knew that the many boxes of material went from storage in Kitsilano to the houses of various Executive members. Unfortunately, it appears that the last person threw them in the garbage when no one would volunteer to store them.

I have scanned the following minutes:

|                   |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| AGMs              | 1983 – 1989, 1991 – 1993, 2003 – 2006 |
| Chapter Councils: | 1984 – 1987, 1991 – 1993, 2002 – 2006 |
| Executive:        | 1985 – 1986, 1991 – 1992, 2003 - 2006 |

If you have any of the missing minutes, please contact me.

## **Web Steward's Report**

**Submitted by Val Hamilton**

The BCTLA has a wide-ranging presence on the World Wide Web:

- A website that shares links of interest to members and to Teacher-Librarians in general <http://www.bctf.ca/bctla/>
- A Google Calendar of upcoming BCTLA, library and BCTF events <http://tinyurl.com/2c2tuv>
- News blogs that automatically post to the listserv or can be subscribed to using an RSS feed <http://bctlanews.blogspot.com/> and <http://bctlabctfnews.blogspot.com/> and the President's "BCTLA - In Circulation" <http://bctlaincirculation.blogspot.com/>
- Wikis on how to use wikis <http://bctlawikis.wikispaces.com/> and on Professional Development <http://bctlaprod.wikispaces.com/>
- Two listservs or Groups – the public BCTLA Forum (230 members) <http://groups.google.com/group/bctla-forum> and a closed Group for the Executive
- A Facebook page <http://tinyurl.com/479nab>

Several people post to the BCTLA Forum without joining. In the future, I am not going to accept those postings. Instead, I will send a form letter explaining how to join. By visiting the site, you can control how you do or do not receive the messages, read all the postings, see documents and check out who the other members are.

## **BCTLA EXECUTIVE 2007-2008**

**Co-Presidents:** Bonnie McComb (Saanich) and Heather Daly (Coquitlam)

**First Vice-President, Chapter Relations:** Sylvia Zubke (Vancouver)

**Second Vice-President, Advocacy:** Karen Lindsay (Victoria)

**Past President:** Pat Parungao (Vancouver)

**Communications Officer:** Daphne Elwick (Surrey)

**Recording Secretary:** Al Smith (Kelowna)

**Treasurer:** Evelyn LeRose (Vernon)

**Working and Learning Conditions Chair:** Amanda Hufton (Richmond)

**Continuing Education Chair:** Lynn Turner (Terrace)

**Bookmark Publications Coordinator:** vacant

**Senior Editor, *The Bookmark*:** Angie MacRitchie (Kelowna)

**Conference Chair:** Bonnie Chapman (Surrey)

**Liaison Chair:** Moira Ekdahl (Vancouver)

**Web Steward:** Val Hamilton (Vancouver, retired)

BRITISH COLUMBIA  
TEACHER-LIBRARIANS'  
ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2007





## SPECIAL NOTES

BOOKMARK Spring/Summer printed version \$ 4888.31  
BOOKMARK Virtual \$ 78.22  
- Book Review \$60.66  
- Mailing Books \$17.56

CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIPS 187  
CONFERENCE PROFIT \$12627.45  
CONFERENCE GRANT \$2500.00 returned

BCTF grant for next year with 449 members to date (on phone with Michele Steele)

449x \$18.50 = \$8306.50 this is \$70.00 less than this year (April 15 is deadline)

Executive meeting #1 cost \$2741.63 11 reimbursed

Executive meeting #2 cost \$2305.83 13 reimbursed

Chapter Councillor Meeting #1 cost \$6118.05 17 reimbursed (9 CC, 8 Exec)  
- Food \$650.00

Chapter Councillor Meeting #2 cost TBA

Library 2020 TOC COSTS \$545.45 REIMBURSED BY BCLA \$545.45

Other

BCTLA LOGO \$500.00

TROPHY \$83.20

KEN HAYCOCK AWARD \$350 to IRIS MENNIE

MOIRA GIFT TO MARY LOCKE (BCCSL) \$22.59