



bctla

bcteacherlibrarians
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHER-LIBRARIANS' ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015-2016**

President's Report

Submitted by Heather Daly

We continue to undertake our work in an environment that is undergoing rapid change. This presents challenges and opportunities for our members and the association. Continuing challenges include the ongoing lack of funding for the public K-12 system. We continue to wait with hope for a Supreme Court ruling that will restore public school teacher-librarian ratio language into the collective agreement. New and ongoing opportunities include the new and revised curriculum; the interest in and development of learning commons and makerspaces throughout BC; and the development of digital libraries including the BCTF's TeachBC and a Provincial Digital Library.

In focus and/or of concern this year:

Functionality

BCTLA membership numbers have been falling year after year and are currently at 239, down 60 from 2013. One ramification of consistently falling membership levels is that as revenue from membership fees decreases, we run the risk of being increasingly dependent upon income from the conference to maintain our programs and initiatives. Centralizing the organization of the conference, which began this year, has eased the burden that had been placed on our Chapters but has had the expected corresponding effect on the capacity of the Executive.

Streamlining

This year, the BCTLA Constitution and Bylaws document, including Executive roles and terms of references, were reviewed and updated. We have also embarked on a project to make some of our processes easier to initiate and complete for members and the Executive. This year, the conference registration and evaluation forms, the working and learning conditions survey form, and the awards and grants application forms were updated and made available in the online forms tool. These actions are part of what will be an ongoing process over at least the next few years to absorb the conference organization into the existing provincial structures in a sustainable way.

Thank you to the 2015-16 BCTLA Executive: Marilyn Lunde, Rhea Woolgar, Heather Daly, Grahame Rainey, Leisbet Beaudry, Devika Chudy, Moira Ekdahl, Keely Thornton, Emiline Downs, Patricia Baisi and Gordon Powell.

Once again, thank you also to the BCTLA Chapter Councillors and to all of our Chapter Executive members, to our formal liaison representatives to other associations and agencies, and last but not least, to all of the teacher-librarians in BC for everything you do, and to all of those locally and abroad who have provided support to us in our efforts, but most especially to our Members and Subscribers.

Some highlights from 2015-2016:

Executive and Council Meetings

- BCTLA Executive meetings were held on October 3 (all day) and on January 7-9 (all day).
- The constitution and bylaws including the BCTLA Executive terms of reference were revised.
- Chapter Councillors met for BCTLA Council meetings on October 24 and April 23.

Advocacy

- The Lieutenant Governor declared October 26, 2015 as School Library Day in BC!
- The annual Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Challenge was coordinated and promoted:
 - Developed English- and French-language DEAR posters and bookmarks
 - DEAR t-shirts were available at the conference
 - DEAR poster and information was sent to BCTF locals, PD Chairs and news outlets
- Love Your School Library Day and Freedom to Read Week were also promoted and celebrated.
- BCTLA Awards were presented to a number of amazing teacher-librarians!

Curriculum

- Feedback on the ADST K-9 curriculum was submitted to the BCTF.
- Curriculum was a focus of Council meetings and several sessions at the 2015 BCTLA conference.

Collaboration

- BCTLA was represented at PSA (Provincial Specialist Association) Council meetings.
- This winter, the Canadian Library Association voted to dissolve. BCTLA is monitoring the development of the new Canadian Library Federation, and there has been a proposal for a new national school library association.
- Planning for the 2017 PSA "Superconference", involving over 20 PSAs, continues.
- BCTLA was represented at two Provincial Digital Library meetings.
- Representatives of BCTLA provided support on a number of committees, including the Red Cedar Awards (YRCA), The Learning Partnership's Welcome to Kindergarten Advisory Committee, and BCLA YAACS (Young Adults and Children's Services).

Communication

- There was regular communication with BCTLA members through the BCTLA Forum, BCTLA Facebook page, and Twitter (@BCTLA). Newsletters were emailed throughout the year.
- The Working and Learning Conditions Survey was conducted, and had a 25% response rate.
- BCTLA forms, including those for conference registration and evaluation, awards and grants, and the Working and Learning Conditions Survey, were centralized and refined.

Professional Development

- Prince George was the host site for the 2015 summer institute on makerspaces.
- Our 2015 conference, “Charting New Paths”, was held in Surrey; 300 people attended.
- BCTLA coordinated a webinar series focused on promotion and communication, “Newsflash”.

Membership


- Our April 15 BCTF membership count is 239. This means that there has been a significant decrease in our membership as compared to the previous school year.
- Online membership registration continues to be available through the BCTF website. Members and subscribers can go to <http://tiny.cc/JoinBCTLA> to renew and join.

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Grahame Rainey

At March 31st, 2016, BCTLA's total assets were \$74,185.54. BCTLA is currently in good financial shape.

The 2015 conference revenue was \$16,240.35. Due to declining membership revenue, BCTLA is becoming increasingly dependent on conference revenue. While this is not an issue in the short term, it is something that BCTLA will need to consider further in long term planning.

	
British Columbia Teachers' Federation	
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A Union of Professionals	
BC TEACHER-LIBRARIANS' ASSOCIATION	Y490
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS (Note 1)	
FOR THE YEAR ENDED June 30, 2015	
Balance, July 1, 2014	\$ 52,981.94
<u>Receipts</u>	
BCTF grant	5,360.00
Membership/subscription fees	8,604.95
Interest	439.96
Other	30.83
Conference fees	(5,548.05)
	<u>8,887.69</u>
<u>Disbursements</u>	
Meeting-executive	3,495.47
Meeting-TTOC costs	7,362.01
Other	339.40
Operating	525.85
Chapter support	7,119.14
Affiliation fees and meetings	484.00
Miscellaneous Exp	1,108.91
Committee costs	373.00
Speakers	5,057.50
	<u>(25,865.28)</u>
Balance, June 30, 2015	\$ <u>36,004.35</u>
Notes:	
I.	This statement reflects only funds held by the BC Teachers' Federation on behalf of the BC Teacher-Librarians' Association.

Vice-President, Chapter Relation's Report

Submitted by Marilyn Lunde

Chapter Relations through the 2015 to the 2016 year have been continuing. The reorganization of the BCTLA Executive has ensured that there is still a communicative role and liaison for individual Chapters in the province through their Chapter Councillor.

The April and October 2015 meetings were held as scheduled with issues and concerns forwarded through the meetings. Chapters that have had questions have forwarded them through the BCTLA Executive. Those queries have revolved around chapter existence and contacts, advocacy and membership.

Professional Development Chairperson's Report

Submitted by Gordon Powell

This year we have once again offered our Webinar series. Using the Blackboard platform (via LearnNowBC) we are able to extend Pro-D opportunities to teacher-librarians across the province without members needing to travel, arrange accommodation, etc. For the modest registration fee of \$20, TLs get login credentials for the Blackboard rooms, as well as an archive link in case they are unable to attend the live sessions. In some areas, teacher-librarians are teaming up to listen together, and then discuss as a local PSA group. Sometimes that even involves dinner!

Our sessions this year have been:

- 1) *Marketing with Biblio-tech*, where we explored some tools and techniques for promoting library programs to students and staff. We also looked at how to screencast how-to videos, whip up book reviews (iPad apps), create fun promotional materials with bighugelabs and Superimpose, and redecorate with blockposter.
- 2) *Go, Go, Genrefication!*, where we discussed how to breathe new life into a fiction collection and jumpstart a library's circulation statistics by looking at the process and perks of genrefying a reading section!
- 3) The final two sessions were *Reporting out with Infographics* and *COTLA's Journey to Advocacy*.

There are also great plans afoot to offer this year's Summer Institute in Nanaimo/Ladysmith with interesting educational technology tie-ins. For more information, check out <http://bctla.ca/info/pro-dev.html>.

Vice-President, Advocacy's Report

Submitted by Rhea Woolgar

Mark your calendars for October 24, 2016! The fourth Monday in October is our “official” DEAR date.

Last year 189 schools reported their participation in DEAR—that means over 70,000 students participated! The best part of this is not the reading (yes, that is of course great!), but the attention that was brought to the Library Learning Commons. At least half a dozen schools made it into their local newspapers for DEAR.

Stay tuned for a DEAR package to be sent out in late August to early September. It will include everything you need to have a successful DEAR. Many have asked about doing at another time as the Monday after the conference is a little awkward. GO ahead, choose a time that works for you and make it happen!

I am in the process of collating and updating our advocacy materials. There are some available at the BCTLA site and others that are in hard copy or in other places. If you need help finding advocacy materials, please contact me and I will be happy to help you find or write the resource you need. I have had a few queries this semester about TL prep time and use of EAs in the Library Learning Commons in lieu of TLs. In both instances our contract stood up at the local level and the situation was remedied. Please keep us (me) in the loop about the situation in your district.

Working and Learning Conditions Survey

Submitted by Heather Daly

The BCTLA Working and Learning Survey has gone through several iterations in the last few years, including being split into several smaller components.

This year, the form was re-centralized via the Jotforms platform and was launched in the spring of 2016. The response rate from public schools was 25%. A report on the results was created and shared at <http://bctf.ca/bctla/info/workinglearning.html>.

When the Survey was split, one component was meant to replace the year end Chapter Report. A new online Chapter Report form will be developed due to the recentralization of the Survey.

Conference Chairperson's Report

Submitted by Keely Thornton

This past year, the annual BCTLA conference was held in Surrey, BC, at Fraser Heights Secondary School. Thanks to the efforts of a small planning committee (Heather Daly, Grahame Rainey, Devika Chudy, and Keely Thornton) as well as amazing hosting school support and a team of volunteers, we were able to run a successful, fun, conference for all of our 320 attendees. With Lyn Hay speaking as keynote in the morning, and Lee Watanabe Crockett speaking after lunch, as well as amazing break out session ranging from new curriculum talks, to book battles, to activities within our individual learning commons, there was knowledge to be gained throughout the conference.

Moving to more open participation where attendees could choose their breakout session freely throughout the day was a new approach to registration and proved very successful. There were a few sessions with low attendance which had to be cancelled the day of, and in the future we will be looking to possibly reduce the number of workshops offered in the sessions in order to ensure that all workshops are well attended.

Selling fabulous new "Keep Calm and Ask a Teacher-Librarian" t-shirts was a hit, and keeping apprised of networking and activities throughout the day on social media through Twitter (#bctla), Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bctlaofficial/timeline>), and the conference website help people stay connected and informed even if they were unable to participate in the event. All in all, a successful conference put together by a great team of volunteers!

Membership Report

Submitted by Heather Daly

2015-2016 membership count: **239**

2014-2015 membership count: 268

2013-2014 membership count: 275

2012-2013 membership count: 299

2011-2012 membership count: 273

Liaison Chairperson's Report

Submitted by Moira Ekdahl

ERAC Learning Resources Advisory Committee

As representative of BCTF, I have continued to seek answers from Ministry representatives to the committee about any plans to select resources to support teachers implementing new curriculum; ERAC might have a role to play with that process and discussions are on-going. ERAC is promoting its Digital Classroom and professional learning and curriculum correlations.

YAACS (Young Adult and Children's Services)

BCTLA co-reps Frances Renzullo-Cuzzetto and Angela Monk attend four meetings a year and provide reports. The YAACS group includes reps from SLAIS and BCLA (public libraries). Most recently Frances has recommended a "Get Graphics" Workshop with James McCann and Virginia Natalie Shemby (see YouTube) and another on Makerspaces.

Provincial Digital Library

This is a continuation of the Digitization initiative some of us participated in several years ago. The goal will be to establish a shared vision, firm a governance structure, as well as deepen discussions in areas such as infrastructure, meta data, and fund raising. BCTLA representatives will attend at Kwantlen Polytechnic University on May 10.

ADST (Applied Design Skills and Technology)

The BCTLA provided feedback to the proposed new curriculum that provides a new framework for teaching Home Economics, Technology, Information Technology, and related areas. It adds expectations for elementary curriculum planning and teaching. Additionally, it draws on a STEM model and on a DESIGN model and concepts (such as ideation) that are, we believe, unnecessarily confusing for our youngest learners, particularly if there is a concurrent inquiry model being used in the school.

UBC / TL Diploma Program

The core courses for the UBC TL Diploma have been updated and/or revised by practicing TLs including Gordon, Aaron Mueller, Jennifer Delvecchio, and me. In revising LLED 469 Resource-Based Teaching, I have shifted the focus to finding current, relevant, and engaging resources in a variety of formats to support student inquiry. The course will be renamed Inquiry in Community and School Libraries. [For your information purposes, of the 50 curriculum documents that represent Social Studies, Science, Math, English/Language Arts, and Arts Education, 47 use the word "Inquiry" but there is no mention of school libraries as the collaborative partner and educational support for resources and re/design.]

BCTLA EXECUTIVE 2015-2016

President: Heather Daly (Coquitlam)

Past President: vacant

Vice-President, Chapter Relations: Marilyn Lunde (Kootenay-Columbia)

Vice-President, Advocacy: Rhea Woolgar (Prince George)

Vice-President, Resources: Devika Chudy (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)

Secretary: Patricia Baisi (Surrey)

Treasurer: Grahame Rainey (Coquitlam)

Working and Learning Conditions Chairperson: vacant

Professional Development Chairperson: Gordon Powell (Richmond)

***The Bookmark* Chairperson:** Keely Thornton (Greater Victoria)

Conference Chairperson: vacant

Liaison Chairperson: Moira Ekdahl (Vancouver)

Member-at-Large (Membership): Leisbet Beaudry (Prince George)

Member-at-Large: Emiline Downs (Surrey)

Member-at-Large: vacant