

September 2019

President's Message

Kristie Oxley

As we head into another school year, I'm sure bargaining efforts are foremost in everyone's minds. We've made so many positive gains in teacher-librarianship over the past few years. In many districts, teacher-librarian positions grew. In some districts, this was simply the return of teacher-librarian positions that hadn't even existed in over a decade. There has been a general recognition of the important role teacher-librarians play in facilitating inquiry, teaching information and digital literacy skills, promoting reading programs and so much more. Even a cursory look at BC's redesigned curriculum reveals the need for teacher-librarians and their specialized skill sets. Skills such as locating credible print and digital sources of information, ethically using information by understanding and adhering to copyright law and protecting one's information online are no longer residual consequences of learning but key goals for students. Teacher-librarians are central to this learning.

Last Spring, the BCTLA supported members by sending letters to Minister Fleming stating the continued need for guaranteed class size and composition numbers as well as specialist teacher to student ratios. Copies of these letters are available to chapters wishing to use them as a model for further advocacy. For those of you who are wondering what else you can do, please continue to reach out to your MLAs as well as parents and other stakeholders in your district. Tell them of the amazing work you've been doing in your Library Learning Commons or of the fabulous plans you have for this year. Make sure you show how your efforts support student learning and engagement. Feel free to point out that the Library Learning Commons is one place high school students consistently identify as a safe spot in their school - such an important consideration in an educational environment that views mental wellness as a priority for our students. Include how your Library Learning Commons is supporting efforts to indigenize the curriculum and help move towards reconciliation in schools, as I've seen through progressive collection development plans and initiatives such as social justice weeks in schools throughout the province. Above all else, make sure everyone knows that these efforts disappear if the role of teacher-librarian disappears from schools.

Thank you to all of you for all you do!



The BCTLA is challenging you to take a book with you this summer!

Even though we're back in our schools, there are still a few weekends left for summer adventures. Tweet a picture of yourself (#BCTLA) on vacation with your favourite book. Remember to include your location and book title in your post on either Twitter or Facebook. We hope to see some fantastic locations and even more remarkable reads!

BCTLA Conference – October 25, 2019

Ecole Salish Secondary School is eagerly anticipating hosting our conference in October.

We look forward to presenting our very own Dominique Sullivan as the Keynote Speaker. She will be discussing how to overcome compassion fatigue.

We've changed it up this year! Sessions include discussion groups for sharing ideas and information and asking questions. (Notes for all discussions will be posted after the conference on our website.) The afternoon workshop will be longer and have hands on activities and takeaways.

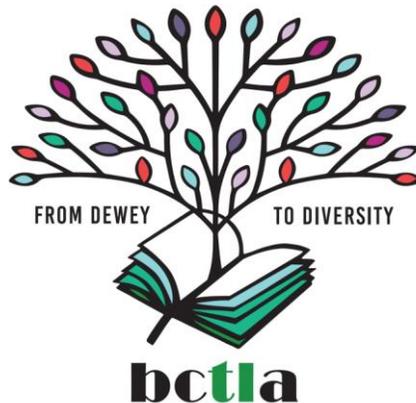
There will also be more vendors this year so be prepared to take things back to your library. The Vancouver Public Library's 'Bookmark' store will be bringing fun items connected to reading and books. The Tikun Olam GOGO supporting the Stephen Lewis Foundation and connected to the BCTF will also be among the vendors. Check out this link to see some of their handmade creations. <https://www.paulasimsonphotography.com/Personal-Galleries/Gogos/Bags-outdoor-lifestyle/n-FJnBkc/>

Please note, ALL sessions require pre-registration. More information can be found on our conference website at <https://bctla.ourconference.ca/>

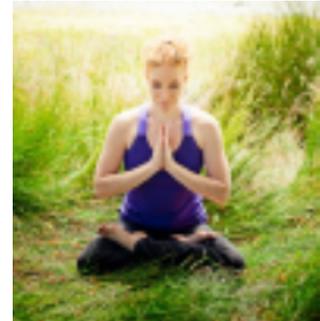
Remember to renew your BCTLA membership along with registration.

Enter to win the Early Bird contest!

Deadline is September 20. Get a chance to win free conference registration for 2020 (Langley), or for second place, a \$50 gift certificate to a local book store! You must be a BCTLA member to enter this contest. Winners will be selected randomly and notified by late September. Winners will also be announced at the conference itself. Register today!



Meet the Keynote



A dedicated teacher-librarian from Nanaimo, BC, Dominique Sullivan will start this year's conference with her message on compassion fatigue.

Compassion fatigue is a reality for all who work in education.

Dominique's inspiring and energizing message around self-care recognizes the efforts we all make to honour diversity and support wellness in our students, while at the same time reminding us to give ourselves permission to take care of our own wellness.

Dominique's website

<https://zenlibrarian.ca/>

BCTLA Presentations

The BCTLA is available to present workshops on the following topics:

- Inquiry/BCTLA Points of Inquiry
- Information Literacy
- Digital Literacy
- TLs Are Back! What Can They Do for You and Your Students?
- Resource selection, including cultural concerns
- Website and Database Evaluation and Use
- Makerspaces
- Academic honesty/bibliographies & citing sources
- Collection evaluation and development

If you are a member of the BCTLA, have specific expertise in one of the above areas and are interested in helping to create presentation materials on one of the above topics, please contact the BCTLA executive at psac49@bctf.ca to volunteer.

Members of the executive or general membership will be available to facilitate these sessions starting in Winter 2020. To book a session, contact us at psac49@bctf.ca or through our contact page on our website <https://bctla.ca/>. Workshops will be delivered for the cost of a leave of absence, travel and accommodation for the presenter.

Workshop materials will eventually be available to BCTLA members who wish to facilitate a session in their own district.

More information will be posted to our BCTLA Professional Development page (<https://bctla.ca/professional-development/>) as it becomes available.

Contest!!

If you are planning on coming to our October Conference, register before September 20th and get a chance to win free conference registration for 2020 (Langley), or for second place, a \$50 gift certificate to a local book store!

You must be a BCTLA member to enter this contest. Winners will be selected randomly and winners notified by late September. Also, the winners will be announced at the conference itself and our website. Register today!

<https://bctla.ourconference.ca/>

October is Library Month

Monday, October 21st is BC School Library Day.

Share-Celebrate-Advocate.

Everyone can participate:

- Drop Everything and Read!
- Participate in the BC DEAR challenge.
- Visit your school library soon!

BCTLA DEAR: Drop Everything and Read

The 2019 Drop Everything and Read Challenge will be held on Monday October 21, 2019!

BCTLA is excited to offer large pdf's to promote the event. We have offered two choices in English/French. Posters may be downloaded and printed in any way by anyone in any jurisdiction!

However, if you wish to make alterations to the content included on any of the posters, please contact BCTLA regarding the necessary copyright permissions. We will have our new posters soon for you to download

Want an easy way to promote DEAR?

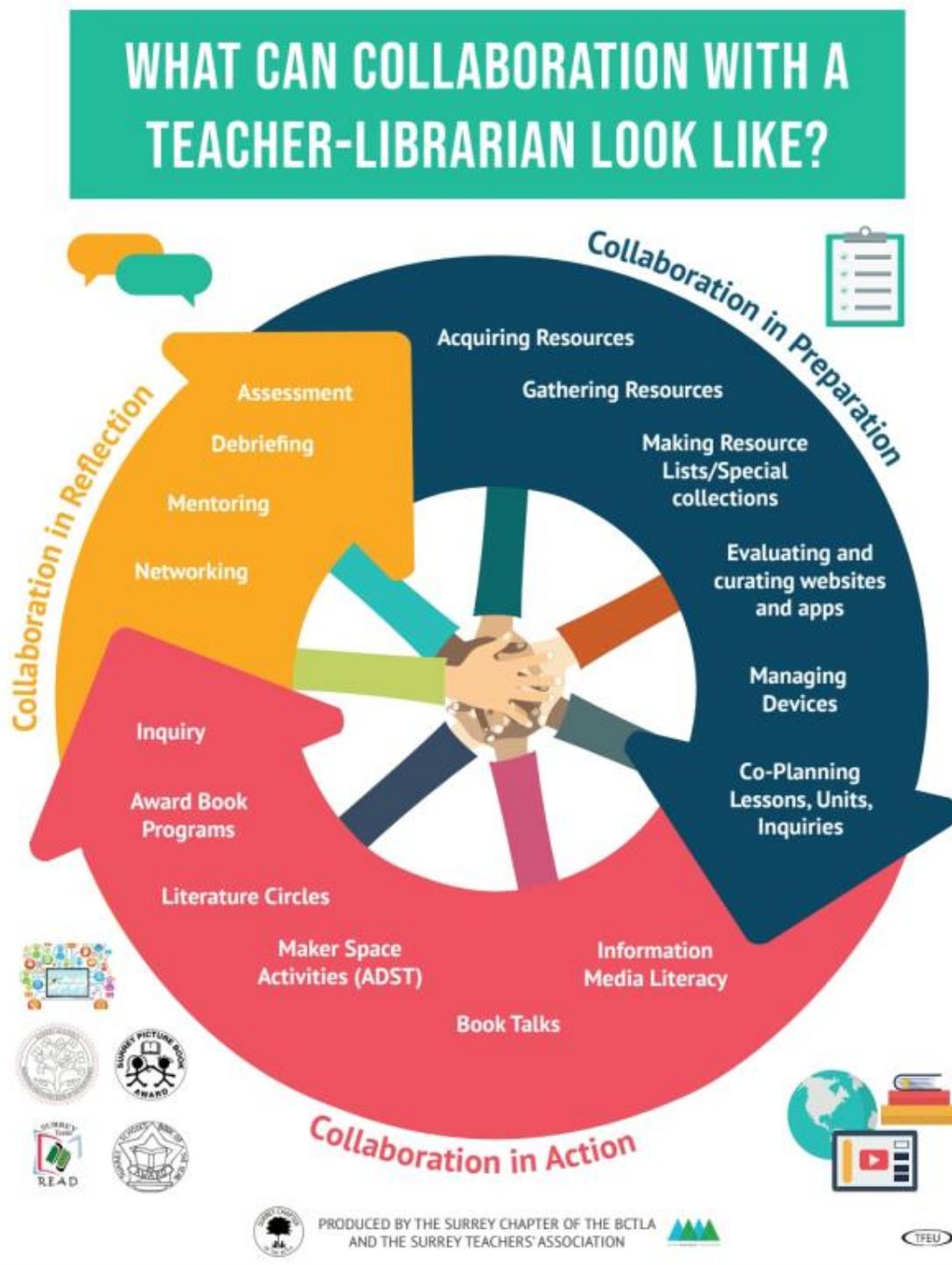
Share this video:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63alXqsJRmo&feature=youtu.be>

What does Collaboration Look Like?

The Surrey Teacher-Librarians' Association released this infographic on collaboration in 2019. It has been used by numerous teacher-librarians around the province and is available for download from the BCTLA website.



For more information, please visit <https://bctladotca.files.wordpress.com/2019/02/teacher-librarian-infographic-final.pdf>

Meet Your 2019-20 Executive

Position	Name	School District	
President	Kristie Oxley	New Westminster	
Vice President	Sarah Wethered	New Westminster	
Treasurer	Lisa Seddon	New Westminster	
Secretary	Tammy Le	Surrey	
Coordinator, Membership and Surveys	Leisbet Beaudry	Prince George	
Coordinator, Chapters and Sections	Marilyn Lunde	Kootenay-Columbia	

Coordinator, Advocacy	Sheri Kinney	Cowichan Valley	
Coordinator, Professional Development	Doni Gratton	West Vancouver	
Coordinator, Conference Committee	Jennifer Fox	Peace River South	
Coordinator, Social Media and Communication	Lorraine Powell	Greater Victoria	
Coordinator, Websites	Chris Janzen	Langley	
Coordinator, Special Projects and Events	Keely Thornton	Greater Victoria	