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Wednesday, October 5, 2022

Dear Community Members and Colleagues,

The BCTLA echoes and supports the recent [statement](#) in support for the SOGI curriculum from the BCTF, the Ministry of Education, and other educational stakeholders.

The BCTLA is committed to supporting the educational needs and social emotional wellbeing of all students. As Teacher-Librarians, we believe that all students deserve to feel seen and be accepted for who they are. As such, school library collections have been thoughtfully curated by Teacher-Librarians with the needs of their school communities in mind. Our goal is to provide a diverse collection of books that represents the wonder, challenge and diversity of the human experience and promotes acceptance of all students. As the Ministry of Education expressed in a [statement](#) made on September 16, 2022, "No student should be excluded or bullied because of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression."

In the face of recent attacks, Teacher-Librarians stand together in support of the SOGI curriculum. No educator is alone in facing challenges to this curriculum or to their collections. We condemn any attacks against individual Teacher-Librarians or school library collections. Conversely, we welcome conversations and a diversity of opinions within the context of a clearly defined process that protects the rights of all.

Schools and their libraries play an important part in our community. We encourage all community members to support the freedom to read.

In solidarity,



Tammy Le

BCTLA President

This letter is supported by:

[British Columbia Library Association](#)

[Association of British Columbia Public Library Directors](#)

[BC Libraries Cooperative](#)

[North Central Library Federation](#)

[North East Library Federation](#)

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