



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: February 20, 2020
Author: Rhonda Sherwood, VPL Trustee
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Meeting Date: February 26, 2020

TO: Library Board
FROM: Rhonda Sherwood
SUBJECT: BCLTA Liaison Report

SUMMARY

This report constitutes the regular monthly update from the BCLTA liaison.

PURPOSE

This report is for information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receive the report for information.

BOARD POLICY

No related policy.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The VPL 2020 Strategic Plan includes a focus on Sharing & Collaboration and seeks to foster a community that shares information, ideas & stories. The VPL board's liaison roles, while part of our standard governance practice, also support this initiative.

BACKGROUND

Until February 2017 this report was provided verbally. In an effort to increase the efficiency of board meetings the VPL Governance Committee agreed to having the monthly updates on BCLTA and

InterLINK provided via written report. Reference to “Library Partners” includes the following organizations BC Library Trustees Association (BCLTA), BC Library Association (BCLA), Association of BC Public Library Directors (ABCPLD), and the BC Libraries Cooperative (BCLC).

DISCUSSION

BCLTA 2020 Forum and AGM

April 18, 2020

Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond

8:30am coffee and connecting with a 9am sharp start for a full day of speakers and roundtable discussions.

Registration is open and the Forum theme is Governance and Intellectual Freedom. Please visit the BCLTA website for an outline of the Forum and AGM details. Email Babs Kelly with any questions about the event or with any of your comfort or personal needs for your enjoyment of the event.

Public Library Trustees: Making a difference in BC’s communities 1 hour at a time This campaign was inspired by, and with approval borrowed from, the LGMA campaign “100,000 Hours“. Throughout 2020 we are asking trustees to track their volunteer hours and to record those hours through the BCLTA website. The recorded hours will be part of the story of how BC public library trustees give to their communities as volunteers. We want to share the value and importance of trustee volunteer work. We want others to know, particularly the provincial government, how public library trustees build BC communities one volunteer hour at a time.

At the end of 2020 a BCLTA report, informed by this campaign, will be made publicly available and will be delivered to the provincial government with our ongoing message that trustees are community builders who make a difference to community well-being and resiliency across BC. This report will support BCLTA’s continued request that the Ministry of Education, in their responsibility for the Library Act, fund public library board and trustee governance development.

Updates and New Resources

The BCLTA website has details about the new BCLTA Governance Workshops, an updated for 2020 and downloadable Governance Workbook, and the new BC Public Library Governance: A quick guide for trustees.

BCLTA Re-organization BCLTA has posted the position of Executive Director and has begun receiving applications. The BCLTA is looking for an ED with not-for-profit senior management experience, a demonstrated skill in fund development, and a high level of political and business acumen.

This re-organization will happen with the current budget for BCLTA staffing contracts. Jan Thomas will continue as the Bookkeeper and Babs Kelly will move into her new role as Director for

Communications and Engagement. Babs will focus on delivering value to the membership through services such as the website, the Bulletin, governance resources, workshops and other board and trustee development initiatives.

Representing

As shared in the January 24th, BC Public Library Partners update, the Partners are preparing for the BC provincial budget lock-up, happening Tuesday, February 18th in Victoria. The Partners will share the budget news and our shared response as soon as is possible after the lock-up. The Partners are making a final push on the \$20M in 2020 campaign, meeting with key MLAs and sharing through our networks and communication channels, including social media accounts, good news stories about how public libraries support provincial goals.

The BCLTA invited Minister Fleming to the Forum to meet with trustees and to learn more about the responsibilities and impact of public library board work. The Minister declined due to a scheduling conflict, but we are hoping that ADM McCrea will attend. ADM McCrea joined the BCLTA directors at their board retreat this past September and she expressed an interest in learning more about public library governance. We have encouraged her to attend the Forum as a unique opportunity to meet with trustees and library directors from across the province.

As reported last month, BCLTA will continue to communicate the value of public library boards to the Ministry of Education. We have reissued our invitation to the Minister and the ministry to meet with the BCLTA and to participate in a brief public library governance workshop so that they might better understand the role of trustees and the governance of BC public libraries.

At their February board meeting the BCLTA board approved the wording of a statement that proposes a shared BCLTA and Ministry commitment to the ongoing support of public library board excellence across BC. The BCLTA will be asking the Ministry to meet with us to discuss and to adopt this shared commitment statement that outlines the role of the Ministry's responsibilities for the Library Act and BCLTA's responsibilities to the membership for governance support and development.

Connecting

As BC's professional association for public library boards and trustees we rely on our members to inform our services and the overall strategic direction of the BCLTA. Make 2020 the year that we get to know you better by contributing to the Bulletin, attending a BCLTA workshop, being part of the Forum, and by letting us know what we might do to support your board work.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

FINAL REMARKS

BCLTA is our association and the organization that represents the over 700 public library trustees from around BC. Keeping informed about the work of BCLTA supports our library and the important role we play as trustees. As the BCLTA seeks to improve its resources your feedback is invaluable. Don't hesitate to get in touch directly with the BCLTA or through myself to ask questions or provide suggestions