



BCTLA
ANNUAL
REPORT
2009-2010

President's Report

Submitted by Heather Daly

Executive, Council and Committees

Your 2009-10 Executive went above and beyond in support of B.C. school libraries and teacher-librarians! Members of the Executive spent hours working on projects and communications and met for a record number of meetings, including for a full weekend in January! Thank you to the 2009-10 BCTLA Executive: Sylvia Zubke, Karen Lindsay, Bonnie McComb, Halia Hirniak, Al Smith, Chris Evans, Amanda Hufton, Lynn Turner, Angie MacRitchie, Bonnie McComb, Moira Ekdahl, Michele Farquharson and Val Hamilton. Thank you also to the BCTLA Council comprised of Chapter Councilors who are teacher-librarian representatives from across B.C. Work continues on finding more Council representatives in more districts. Finally, thank you to BCTLA's formal representatives to other associations and agencies including Mary Locke (representative to BCLA's Young Adults and Children's Services Section) and to the members of BCTLA Committees including the K-12 Information Literacy Project team (Moira Ekdahl, Lynn Turner, Julie Robinson, and Michele Farquharson) for their continuing work.

Constitution and Bylaws Revision, New Awards and Grants, and Chapters Online!

A major initiative for the year continued to be the modernization of BCTLA's governance and operations. A revised BCTLA Constitution and Bylaws was finalized and taken to the 2010 BCTLA AGM. Additional new awards and grants were added, including "BC New Teacher-Librarian of the Year" available yearly through application by April 1st and the "New BCTLA Chapter Start-Up Grant" which may available upon request to the Vice-President, Chapter Relations. BCTLA also explored the Chapters Online! Project, which would be, "an online platform that integrates functions and members' needs into a single common environment, including core BCTLA communication like alerts, special events, documents, etc. but also including supplementary services like Forums, Blogs, Messaging, Calendars, that could benefit all Chapters. This centralized platform would nurture common experiences, share skill sets, and nurture a common online culture from essentially one URL".

Position Statements and Professional Documents and Standards

Throughout 2009-10, the position statement on book levelling continued to be well received. By invitation, BCTLA presented on the position statement at the BCTF's Public Education Conference in November and the statement was used as a model by TALCO (The Association of Library, Media, Information Technology Coordinators and Consultants of Ontario). It was adopted by VESTA (Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association) and was also sent to members of the American Association of School Librarians via their listserv. The development of additional position statements including one on, "School Library Programs, Teacher-Librarians and Effective Teaching and Learning", is underway. Other initiatives underway include a possible revision of *Developing Independent Learners...* and the 29th annual Working and Learning Conditions Survey. BCTLA continues to finalize the provincial Information Literacy framework, now designed to be a replacement for BCTLA's *The Research Quest* model. This new "Cycle of Inquiry" model is expected to be in draft form in fall 2009.

Thank you again to the BCTLA Executive, Council, Committee Members, Representatives, and all of BCTLA's Members and Subscribers!

First Vice-President, Chapter Relations's Report

Submitted by Sylvia Zubke

September

- Organized the BCTLA Executive Meeting at La Quinta in Richmond.
- Booked the Fall Council meeting room and lunch for October. Reminded Councilors of the upcoming meeting at the Sandman Signature in Richmond – date, time, venue, etc. Asked for RSVP before meeting.
- Contacted chapters that did not submit their previous year's report.

October

- Finished updating the Chapter Councilor Handbook and printed enough copies for all the Councilors as well as each Executive member.
- Contacted BCTF for a list of current BCTLA members. Attached the list to the Handbooks so that Chapter Councilors can gently remind TLs in their district to become active BCTLA members (or renew).
- Helped to prepare the agenda for the BCTLA Fall Council meeting and prepared a report to give at the meeting. Made name tags for members as well as a master sheet of Chapter Councilor information for them to update.
- Following the meeting, sent Chapter Councilors that didn't attend the meeting their envelope (reports and handbook) with an update of what they missed and updated the Chapter Councilors' list and email listserv.

November / December

- Met with BCTLA's BCTF liaison, Jane Turner, along with Moira Ekdahl, Michele Farquharson, and Heather Daly.
- Mailed the BCTF Executive a letter of our concerns about membership data.
- Booked rooms and food for the BCTLA Executive meeting in January.
- Sent holiday cards to Chapter Councilors with an update and also sent holiday cards to school districts without a Chapter, asking any TL in the district to contact the BCTLA Executive.

January/February

- Encouraged chapters to nominate people for the various BCTLA awards.
- Encouraged Chapter Councilors to remind schools to complete the online Working and Learning Conditions Survey and to remind members to renew BCTLA memberships before the memberships lapse.
- Booked rooms at Vancouver Holiday Inn for the Spring Council/AGM.

March/April

- Reminded Chapter Councilors to RSVP for the Spring Council/AGM.
- Requested an up-to-date membership list and emailed it to Chapter Councilors.
- Prepared for the Spring Council/AGM meeting – rooms, food, name tags, and report.

May/June

- Reminded Chapter Councilors to submit chapter reports; sent copies to our web steward.

Advocacy

Submitted by Heather Daly

In 2009-10, BCTLA worked on three major advocacy campaigns and initiatives. BCTLA also took supportive actions for:

- The Coalition for the Defense of Writing & Publishing in B.C., which came about in reaction to provincial funding cuts for the Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia, BC Bookworld, and the BC Association of Magazine Publishers and,
- For public libraries, which were affected by funding cuts that reduced provincial grant funding to 78% of the previous year's total -- <http://www.stopbclibrarycuts.ca/>.

National School Library Day: DEAR and Legislative Visit

In celebration of National School Library Day, the colloquium/webcast, "Videogames, Virtual Worlds and Real Learning", involving BCTLA participation and promotion, was held at UBC thanks to the efforts of UBC librarian Jo-Anne Naslund. National School Library Day was also celebrated as the third year of the Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Challenge. This year, a French-language poster was developed in addition to the English poster and BCTLA arranged for MLAs including Robin Austin, Carole James and Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid to read in schools. With support from the BCTF, BCTLA also visited the BC Legislature on National School Library Day. BCTLA Executive members met with MLAs including Education Critic Robin Austin, MLA for Skeena (NDP) and Diane Thorne, MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville (NDP). Additionally, Ron Cantelon, MLA for Parksville-Qualicum (Lib.) and Diane Thorne, MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville (NDP) read Private Member's Statements about school libraries and DEAR in the Legislature.

Stop the Contracting Out of Teacher-Librarian Positions

The BCTLA Executive has recently heard of individuals who are not teacher-librarians, and not even teachers, "running" school libraries in B.C. public school districts. This year, BCTLA worked to stop the contracting out of teacher-librarian positions. Information was forwarded to BCTF Field Services and BCTLA Executive members presented to the BCTF Executive Committee in January. Four motions were carried by the BCTF Executive, including, "That locals be encouraged to file contracting out grievances, or, where the local believes it may be estopped from bringing forward such a grievance, serve notice to the employer that it will henceforth be enforcing the contracting out clause in its collective agreement". The BCTLA Executive, BCTF Executive, and BCTF Field Services continue to work to ensure that contracting out of teacher-librarian positions in B.C. is ended.

Spring 2010 Campaign to Reverse Proposed Cuts to Teacher-Librarian Staffing

In April 2010, BCTLA became aware that reduction of teacher-librarian staffing was being recommended in 2010-11 budget proposals in some B.C. school districts. A BCTLA news release was immediately distributed by the BCTF which was followed up with a "Note from the Teacher" bulletin to MLAs about what is happening in school libraries across the province. A request for support was sent to partner agencies across B.C. and Canada.

Professional Development and Conferences

Submitted by Heather Daly

The Richmond Teacher-Librarians' Association provided members with a fantastic conference in October 2009. The "Champions of Literacy" Conference and October Awards Ceremony was held at Richmond Secondary School and featured a social event at the Richmond Olympic Oval. In other conference news, a BCTLA Representative Speaker Grant that, "recognizes the need to share the expertise of BCTLA members with other institutions, organizations and associations by giving a grant to be used to represent the BCTLA as a speaker/facilitator at a course, workshop, conference, or program other than the annual BCTLA conference", was proposed as a new BCTLA grant option. 2009-10 also featured virtual conferences. In the fall, BCTLA arranged a discount for members to attend the 3rd "Your School Library" virtual conference.

In 2009-10, several BCTLA Chapters engaged in teacher inquiry. Kootenay Lake (SD8), a BCTLA Chapter Grant recipient, used their grant funding to examine how Elluminate could be used to foster a sense of greater community among the teacher-librarians of the very geographically-large Kootenay Lake school district. With BCTLA grant funding, the Langley Teacher-Librarians' Association held a series of professional development meetings in which the inquiry learning model from Alberta Learning called *Focus on Inquiry* was introduced. In several of the sessions the Langley team Skyped with Dr. Jennifer Branch and Diane Galloway-Solowan, two of the *Focus on Inquiry* authors and each participant designed/revamped an inquiry lesson he/she might use with a class and shared this with the group.

Working and Learning Conditions Chair's Report

Submitted by Amanda Hufton

(full *The Bookmark* report to follow...)

In 2009-10, the Working and Learning Conditions Survey was launched in February 2010. The questions on the survey mostly stayed the same with the exception of the question regarding the formula for identifying "flexibly" scheduled library time, which was further fine-tuned for better understanding and accuracy. This question has been problematic over the years as we have tried to get closer to a comparable number between all districts. The budget information was expanded to get a greater understanding of the allocation of the funding. The qualitative questions were reduced as last year's data was thorough. Some questions were eliminated.

As of April 2010, there were 712 responses, although duplicates have not yet been removed. Chapter Councilors have been advised of the schools in their district that have completed the survey and their help in getting more responses is greatly appreciated. If there are any suggestions by Chapter Councilors as to how we can improve the response rate, please email the Working and Learning Conditions Chair. This year, there will again be one paper publication that will show the data for the year, as well as a comparison to earlier years. The qualitative data while less, will continue to be analyzed. As the BCTF is involved in other projects, the estimated time for the publication is June 2010.

Continuing Education Chair's Report

Submitted by Lynn Turner

1. The main focus for this year has, again, been the K-12 document. Our committee has met four times, on some occasions for two days, with the goal of having the project completed this spring. A large part of the work has been done by distance. At this point in time, the main part of the document is coming into its final draft form, with the benchmarks originally decided upon. The emphasis is on information literacy, with criteria for literacy in general being included. This approach was taken with the hope that classroom teachers would understand the connection between the library program as presented by teacher-librarians and their own individual curricula.
2. It is time to update the list of teacher-librarians who are ready, willing, and able to present workshops to colleagues in teaching, to administrators, to school boards, to parents, and to student teachers. A request at the October council meeting brought a couple of names; a general mailout to the Forum resulted in three replies. Chapter Councilors have been asked to bring any further information to the Spring Council meeting so that we will have a comprehensive list for the fall. Please send the information to lyturner@uniserve.com.
3. Attempts have been made to organize a chapter or chapters in the Northwest, but this is proving to be difficult. Our numbers have been reduced by the use of administrators in the role of teacher-librarian. Library time has been reduced in some areas, and those who retire are sometimes not replaced. I look forward to continuing with this in the hope that, in some way, those who are teacher-librarians in the Northwest will have a voice in the BCTLA.

Communication

Submitted by Heather Daly

BCTLA maintained regular communication with Chapter Councilors (emailed Updates) and members and subscribers. Two mail-outs (Freedom to Read poster and text of the revised Constitution and Bylaws) were sent all members and Canadian Library Month and Drop Everything and Read posters were sent to all public schools. The BCTLA again received press coverage this year due to the Drop Everything and Read campaign, National School Library Day and the Spring 2010 Advocacy campaign to reverse proposed cuts to teacher-librarian staffing. This press coverage has been linked to some of BCTLA's Web 2.0 tools, such as BCTLA's blogs. The "BCTLA - In Circulation" blog, BCTLA Twitter, BCTLA News, Virtual Bookmark, and BCTLA Forum have all been very active this year.

Liaison

Submitted by Heather Daly

In 2009-10, BCTLA continued to liaise with our fellow provincial and territorial school library associations through the Canadian Association for School Libraries-Provincial Advisory Committee (CASL-PAC) and with the other Provincial Specialist Associations through the BCTF's Provincial Specialist Association Council (PSAC).

Due to funding cuts throughout the B.C. library community, this school year did not see a continuing focus on liaison with public, academic, and special libraries and other provincial library associations through initiatives such as Library 2020 although there were some collaborative efforts such as BCTLA being invited to the BC Libraries Reception at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention and to the 90th anniversary celebration of the BC Public Library Commission. The funding cuts to our partner library associations unfortunately led to the closure of services that were celebrated just last year, including WebJunction BC. BCTLA has continued in working with the B.C. Digitization Coalition and with the BCLA's Young Adults and Children's Services Section.

Funding issues in 2009-10 also affected ERAC (Educational Resource Acquisition Consortium). BCTLA participated in a BCTF learning resources evaluator selection session to nominate individuals to work with ERAC on selecting learning resources for use in schools.

BCTLA EXECUTIVE 2009-2010

President: Heather Daly (Coquitlam)

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

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

Past President: vacant

Communications Officer: Halia Hirniak (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)

Recording Secretary: Al Smith (Kelowna)

Treasurer: Chris Evans (Vancouver)

Working and Learning Conditions Chair: Amanda Hufton (Richmond)

Continuing Education Chair: Lynn Turner (Terrace)

Publications Coordinator: Al Smith (Central Okanagan)

Senior Editor, *The Bookmark*: Angie MacRitchie (Central Okanagan)

Conference Chair: Bonnie McComb (Saanich)

Liaison Chair: Moira Ekdahl (Vancouver)

Web Steward: Val Hamilton (Vancouver, retired)

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHER-LIBRARIANS' ASSOCIATION

2009 – 2010 BUDGET To MARCH 31, 2010

INCOME ACCOUNTS:

99921	Income June 30, 2009	\$ 56 628.61
99930	Membership/subscription fees:	\$ 10 428.68
99931	BCTF Grant	\$ 5457.50
99932	Advertising	\$ 0.00
99934	Interest	\$ 178.20
99939	Other	\$ 3836.95
99940	Conference Fees	\$ 693.91
99949	Conference Miscellaneous	\$ 51864.94

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 121414.89**

EXPENSE ACCOUNTS:

99950	Meeting - Executive	\$ 9949.66
99958	Meeting - TOC Costs	\$ 4589.76
99960	Publication - Journal	\$ 6146.12
99962	Publication - Other (3 Newsletters)	\$ 1263.10
99970	Operating (office expenses)	\$ 27.25
99972	Chapter support	\$ 5802.56
99974	Curriculum development	\$ 99.72
99979	Miscellaneous	\$ 6025.43
99999	Conference – Miscellaneous	\$ 32431.75

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: **\$ 66335.35**

BUDGET REMAINING **\$ 55079.54**

Owed to Richmond (Conference Profit): \$8170.95
ACTUAL BUDGET REMAINING **\$ 46908.59**