

BCLTA

From: BCLTA [admin@bclta.org]
Sent: Thursday, August 21, 2008 5:27 PM
To: BCLTA-Liaisons (bclta-liaisons@interchange.ubc.ca); BCLTA - Library Board Chairs (lib-bd-chairs@interchange.ubc.ca)
Subject: August Update on BCLTA Board Activities

As part of its ongoing commitment to enhance member communications, your BCLTA Board will be issuing an email bulletin following each meeting and teleconference to keep the membership apprised of its activities. This first bulletin follows the Board's Monday, August 18th teleconference – the first in a series of regular conference calls to be held in between quarterly meetings of the Board throughout 2008/09. Items on the agenda for this call included:

- Activity reports from the President, Secretary Treasurer and staff.
- Reports from BCLTA's Conference Committee, Outreach Committee and TOP Committee.
- Updates on ongoing projects and initiatives.

Highlights of the meeting are noted below:

A 2008 **Briefing Note to Minister Bond** is being crafted in preparation for BCLTA's fall meeting with the Minister. The brief is still in draft form, but likely topics on the agenda include shared-use facilities, provincial funding for libraries, library highway signs, and the potential impact of Bill C61 on the library sector. The full brief will be posted to the BCLTA website and circulated to the membership once it has been finalized.

Work on the upcoming **BC Libraries Reception** (to be held at the Annual UBCM Convention in Penticton next month) is moving along, with logistics organized, dignitaries and special guests invited, door prizes purchased and a theme selected – *BC Libraries: Looking to the Future, Building on the Past*. Members can expect a subsequent bulletin providing details on the reception and encouraging trustees to attend.

Your President provided an update on **TOP activities**, including an upcoming Board Chair Training session to be held in Whistler and a series of issue-specific "webinars" to be developed with PLSB in the interest of providing ongoing training and support for trustees. BCLTA is also hoping to hold a public library information session at the UBCM's upcoming Newly Elected Official Seminars in early 2009.

The Conference Committee is beginning to organize for the **2009 BCLA/BCLTA Conference**, to be held in Burnaby next April. The Committee is considering session/presenter ideas and welcomes any and all conference-related suggestions from the BCLTA membership. Please contact Committee Chair Arlene Yoshikawa (yoshikawa@bclta.org) to provide your input.

As part of the Association's 2008/09 Strategic Planning process, an **Outreach Committee** was formed – taking as its mandate "communicating to, and on behalf of, library boards around the province in order to better serve the BCLTA membership and to promote awareness of, and gain support for, public libraries." The Committee reported that its activities will focus on improving communications with members and key stakeholders such as local governments; building relationships and connecting agendas with various provincial government ministries, departments and agencies; gathering trustee input and fostering discussion on issues and challenges facing BC's library boards; and reaching out to regional library boards to ensure that BCLTA is aware of, and striving to meet, their unique needs. Please contact Committee Chair Natasha Brienen (nbrienen@bclta.org) with any feedback or comments on Outreach Committee activities.

Also on the agenda was a report from staff on efforts to improve BCLTA operations – one of the Board’s four strategic priorities for 2008/09. As part of this work, a review of the **BCLTA Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual** is underway, with proposed changes to be completed for consideration at the September meeting of the Board. Such changes are likely to focus on proxy voting, membership fees and quorum provisions, and will be presented to the membership prior to the 2009 AGM.

Any questions or concerns about the foregoing can be directed to BCLTA’s Executive Director, Errin Morrison, at execdirector@bclta.org.