

January 21, 2009

## **BCLTA Proposes Changes to Constitution & Bylaws – Member Feedback Requested**

Attention Library Board Chairs/BCLTA Liaisons:

In June of 2008, the BCLTA Board identified four strategic priorities to guide its activities for 2008/09. One of these priorities was to improve BCLTA operations by attending to several long-overdue housekeeping tasks, including a full review of the Association's Constitution, Bylaws and funding structure. This process is now complete and proposed changes to the foregoing have been approved for consideration by the membership at the 2009 AGM. With the exception of the following major points, most changes are minor revisions in the interest of clarity, grammatical accuracy, and consistency:

- 1) **Constitutional purposes** updated to better reflect the activities and work of the Association;
- 2) **Quorum** for General Meetings reduced from 10% of voting members to no less than 12 voting representatives;
- 3) New **proxy voting** provision will allow member boards to appoint a trustee from another board to carry the institution's vote at General Meetings of the Association;
- 4) **Membership dues** increased in the interest of ensuring the long-term operational and financial stability of the Association (see Appendix 2 for a detailed explanation of proposed changes to membership fees).

All proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association must be presented to the BCLTA membership by way of a special resolution requiring a favourable three-quarter vote at the Annual General Meeting. Members are hereby invited to provide preliminary comment on the proposed changes noted above and detailed in the appendices to this bulletin. Your feedback will guide our preparation of the special resolution to be brought forward to the 2009 AGM, and is crucial to ensuring that the updated Constitution and Bylaws reflect the will of the membership.

**Please see the attached appendices for further details:** [Appendix 1](#) provides further details on points 1 - 3 above, while [Appendix 2](#) provides a full explanation of the proposed increase to BCLTA's membership dues. [Appendix 3](#) contains the full text of the revised Constitution and Bylaws.

Any questions, concerns or comments can be directed to BCLTA's Executive Director, Errin Morrison, at [execdirector@bclta.org](mailto:execdirector@bclta.org). Alternately, please feel free to contact your regional designate on the BCLTA Board (check the BCLTA website at [www.bclta.org](http://www.bclta.org) > About BCLTA > Board).