



To develop and support library trustees to advance public library service in British Columbia

August 14, 2007

To: Library Board Chairs and BCLTA Liaisons
Please pass along to your boards.

BCLTA Board Goals for 2007/2008

The new 2007/2008 BCLTA Board held its first business meeting in June to identify the goals that would provide a focus for our activities over the next year. All our efforts continue to be driven by the mission of our organization:

"To develop and support library trustees to advance public library service in British Columbia."

During the planning session, five goals emerged for our organization for the upcoming year. These goals are listed below but are not ranked in order of importance.

- **Improve consultation/communication with library boards.** This year we hope to increase dialogue with local boards in a number of ways. To begin, we are conducting a membership survey to understand how well BCLTA is meeting members' needs and to get your input on the most important issues for trustees around BC. We will also be increasing the contact between individual Directors on the BCLTA Board and local library boards. As well, we hope to draw upon the expertise of trustees around the province to serve on ad hoc committees for BCLTA.
- **Continue to develop BCLTA's relationship with PLSB/Government.** Our organization will continue to develop a positive working relationship with the provincial government as the implementation of the Provincial Strategic Plan for Libraries continues into its final year. We need to ensure that our organization has a complete understanding of the changes occurring and the implications of these changes for public libraries, and that we can articulate the position of our association regarding these changes. Depending on the timing of the review of the Library Act, this topic may move to the top of the agenda. Additionally, we will continue our efforts to increase library operating grants.
- **Facilitate trustee development.** We see trustee education as one of the most important services we offer to our members and we have made a lot of progress in the past few years. In the upcoming year we will strive to have as many trustees as possible participate in the regional TOP programs and we will continue to develop new training programs. We also intend to expand our website to include resources on best practices.

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Have you Heard?

- **Advocacy.** In this area we plan to facilitate and improve local government support for public libraries as well as continue our work at the provincial level for increased funding. It is also our goal to increase the profile of public libraries with all three levels of government.
- **Develop a sustainable funding plan for BCLTA.** A working group will be formed to develop a five year funding plan for our association.

The activities and details associated within each of these goals will be identified over the next few weeks and we will report our progress in the fall newsletter.

If you have any questions, please contact any BCLTA Board Member or the Executive Director. Full contact information for these individuals can be found on our website: www.bclta.org.



BCLTA 2007/08 BOARD: (L to R) Natasha Brienen, Shannon Daub, Lawrence Lavender, Peter Wainwright (President), James Draper, Christine Lattey, Arlene Yoshikawa, Philip Mantler. Missing - Andy Ackerman.