

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO INCREASE BCLTA MEMBERSHIP FEES

WHEREAS the British Columbia Library Trustees' Association wishes to formalize the pilot position of Executive Director of the Association;

AND WHEREAS additional funds are required to support the position of Executive Director on an ongoing basis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 19 of the "BCLTA Constitution and Bylaws" be updated to read:

19. Annual Fees & Assessments

- (a) Fees for each class of membership shall be established by the Annual General Meeting by a vote of not less than sixty (60) per cent of representatives voting in person or by proxy. Such fees shall be payable on the first day of the next fiscal year of the Association.
- (b) Should the Annual General Meeting, for whatever reason, fail to set the fees, the status quo shall remain for the following fiscal year.
- (c) Annual membership fees and assessments for Institutional Members shall be based upon the annual revenue of the members, as recorded in the latest edition of British Columbia Public Libraries Statistics.
 - i. Institutional Members shall pay an annual fee of \$200 plus \$0.57 for each \$1,000 in revenue in excess of \$30,000, to a maximum revenue level of \$5,500,000.
 - ii. The maximum revenue level shall be increased annually at the average annual rate of inflation according to the Canadian Consumer Price Index.
 - iii. The maximum levy for any Institutional Member shall be \$3,000; and this amount shall also be increased annually at the average annual rate of inflation according to the Canadian Consumer Price Index.
- (d) There shall be no annual membership fee for Honourary or Life Members.
- (e) The annual membership fees and assessments for Associate Members shall be \$100.

Comments:

BCLTA's Executive Director has been operating on a trial basis since 2005, with funding for the position shared between BCLTA and the Public Library Services Branch. The Board wishes to formalize this very important part-time staff position and ensure that the Association is able to fully fund it in the future. Our Executive Director is responsible for the following:

- *Preparing all BCLTA publications – including the Open Door newsletter and electronic bulletins;*

- *Representing the Board in planning and executing joint industry initiatives (e.g., Library 2020, Joint Conference Planning Committee, WebJunction, etc.);*
- *Liaising with other association and provincial government staff people;*
- *Coordinating advocacy activities and initiatives;*
- *Organizing the annual conference;*
- *Preparing correspondence on behalf of the President and other members of the BCLTA Board;*
- *Coordinating meetings of the board and following up on action items arising out of meetings;*
- *Overseeing the general administration of the Association; and*
- *Providing general staff support to board members and to the membership at large.*

Having an Executive Director has enabled BCLTA to achieve a level of professionalism and consistency of service and representation that is not possible otherwise. Your Board members are all dedicated and hard working individuals who commit many hours to the work of the Association. However, they also have full-time jobs that prevent them from being directly involved with our stakeholder community, which does most of its business during normal office hours. BCLTA needs the ability to participate fully and have its voice heard in this community or risk being marginalized, which would hurt the interests of all our members and, ultimately, library patrons. In order to continue to represent our members effectively at the local, provincial and national level; in order to build on the good work currently underway in terms of training, communications, and relationship building; and in order to facilitate the ongoing recruitment of trustees to serve on the BCLTA Board, we need to ensure that we can fully fund this position.

In the current economic climate, it is more important than ever that we guarantee the long-term financial sustainability of the Association. A significant one-time jump in membership fees is necessary to solidify the Executive Director position, which will allow your Board to move forward with confidence on activities and initiatives of benefit to all trustees.

Please see Appendix 1 for a detailed explanation of proposed changes to the membership fees formula and a comparative chart detailing current and proposed fees for all BCLTA members.