

## **BC Electronic Library Network**

By Heather Morrison

Congratulations to BCLA and Editor Sandra Wong on a successful launch of *BCLA Browser*! BC ELN is a highly collaborative organization; our relationship with the BC library community through BCLA is one that we treasure, and we look forward to a long and informative relationship with the *Browser*.

Since one of the BC ELN Core Values is Innovation, it is only natural that we very much look forward to Being Curious: Thinking, Sharing, and Discovering, at the BC Library Conference this April.

Thinking is definitely in vogue at BC ELN these days! Curious library patrons are increasingly connecting from many more places on partner library websites, with help thanks to the Qwidget Revolution. <u>Qwidget</u> is quietly adding connections to AskAway: the Provincial Post-secondary Virtual Reference Service.

It seems that patrons like what they find! AskAway has a 98% patron satisfaction rate. Many satisfied patrons take the time to write thoughtful kudos after a session. For example: "I wish I had discovered this service sooner, then I wouldn't have wasted so much time searching in the wrong place. I was nervous as I have very little experience with on-line chat, but she was very nice."

For more about AskAway, click here: <a href="http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1324">http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1324</a>

Sharing and Discovering great library instructional materials is now possible through BCLA's ALPS LINK (Academic Librarians in Public Service Library Instruction Knapsack). BC ELN's Gordon Coleman developed and supports a BC ELN / ALPS portal to ALPS LINK, part of the BC campus SOL\*R repository. BC ELN has an informal partnership with ALPS LINK.

To search the portal, learn more - or contribute, go to: <u>http://www.eln.bc.ca/irl/</u>

If your curiosity is piqued and you would like to discover more about BC ELN, have a look at our website (recently thoroughly revised) at <u>http://eln.bc.ca</u>, or come to the BC Library Conference and chat with many of us in person.

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