

President's Report

By Marjorie Mitchell, BCLA President.

I started my last report by commenting on the changes I had seen at BCLA, and change continues to be the focus of the Board, and our Association. I am encouraged by the resilience and adaptability of BCLA in this, our hundredth, year.

Celebrating a Century of Association

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of an association to promote libraries within British Columbia. The Conference Planning Committee saw the opportunity to focus on the amazing accomplishments of our members and our association. When you look at the conference program, you will see sessions and events specifically designed to recognize this milestone. I would like to extend an invitation to everyone involved with libraries in British Columbia to attend and celebrate with us. The deadline for early bird registration is March 7, 2011.

Member Communications

I hope all of you, as members of BCLA, have been receiving the ED Missive, an email from our Executive Director, Errin Morrison. We decided to institute this regular, short email message from our Executive Director as an additional means of communicating information more frequently and more directly than happens here, within the Browser.

In addition to the ED Missive, I have started inviting members to meet with me at informal venues to talk about what they value about BCLA and ways we can continue into the future. I have asked Board Members in other areas of the province to host meetings in their communities with this same goal in mind. Please watch for future invitations coming to your email box, and plan to attend.

Finally, as part of the Task Force on Strategic Sustainability, we are developing a member questionnaire asking similar questions to those we are asking members at our informal meetings. Even if you have attended one of these meetings, please take the time to complete the questionnaire. It is crucial to the health of BCLA as an association to hear from its members.

A Miscellany of Topics

BCLA is investigating working with LTAIG (Library Technicians & Assistants Interest Group) to expand the very successful mentoring program they started.

Our website is getting a long overdue facelift. Errin has been working with a group of volunteers and a SLAIS practicum student to develop a website that is easier to read, easier to use, and better meets our current needs.

BCLA has been working with the other members of The Partnership on our response to the proposed changes to the Canadian Library Association. This year we are represented by our Vice President, Christopher Kevlahan, and our Executive Director, Errin Morrison, at the Partnership semi-annual meetings. The next one of these meetings will be in Toronto at the beginning of February.

For further information on any of these topics, please contact Errin Morrison at the BCLA Office.

Upcoming Board Elections

Each year we hold Board elections at our Annual General Meeting during the Conference. This year there are five positions coming open. If you are thinking of nominating someone to run for one of the positions on the BCLA Board, it is definitely time to be talking with that person, then contacting the Chair of our Nominations Committee, Ken Cooley. The deadline for nominations this year is March 1, 2011.

Resolutions

It is also time to submit any resolutions you want considered by the BCLA membership. Deadline for resolutions is also March 1, 2011.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you might have or to offer any suggestions you might have for strengthening our Association. As always, I look forward to hearing from you.

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