

LTAIG Celebrates 2011!

By Tamarack Hockin.

October 21st was the 2011 date for Canadian Library Support Staff Day. This day is proclaimed by the Canadian Library Association in order to recognize the important and essential work done by all non-MLIS folks in our libraries.

LTAIG chose this special day to bring our colleagues together for our Annual General Meeting. The AGM was jointly hosted by our Vancouver and Fraser Valley chapters at Surrey's new City Centre Library. Our Prince George chapter met locally at University Hospital of Northern B.C. (UHNBC), and joined the Surrey group via web-conference.

Celebrating the Past Year

The 2010-2011 year has been a year of hard work. LTAIG made its bid to become a section within BCLA at the 2011 BC Library Conference, but fell short by a narrow margin of votes (remember to renew those memberships, folks!). The work towards section status continues, and LTAIG expects to reach success in 2012.

LTAIG's communications have been the focus of much of 2011: We have a blog (ltaig.wordpress.com), a [discussion forum](#), an active list serve, and a growing social media presence (visit us on Facebook and [Twitter](#)). B.C. is a vast province and we are all so busy that having a virtual way to connect is important. LTAIG members can look forward to new blog contributors, additional voices on our Twitter feed, and a new Publications Liaison for 2011-2012.

Looking Forward to 2012

LTAIG is looking forward to 2012 with many new hands to make lighter work. Our Continuing Education Coordinator position has been expanded into a Continuing Education *Committee*, and with additional members working we expect LTAIG to be offering some great in-house opportunities for members (in addition to our continued coverage of what's on about town).

LTAIG will also have a liaison to keep the group abreast of development in the accreditation and credentialing of library technicians in B.C. and Canada. This important advocacy work was

identified as important to our members during our province-wide dialogue (held June 8th, 2011) as part of the way library technicians can gain greater recognition for our education and work.

LTAIG's Mentoring Program (since 2010) will be accepting applicants throughout November for its winter session (January to mid-March). We are excited to let members know this session will be the last hurrah for LTAIG Mentoring: In 2012, BCLA will be launching an association-wide mentorship initiative, inclusive of all members. LTAIG Mentoring has worked closely with BCLA's Mentorship Working Group, and is anticipating the benefits of have one larger program. Anyone interested in LTAIG's next mentoring intake is encouraged to visit [the website](#) to find out more.

Most immediately, members can look forward to LTAIG's biennial salary survey of technicians and assistants in B.C. Technicians and assistants are encouraged to [complete the survey](#), or contact ltaigchair@gmail.com for more information. The survey closes November 21st, and results will be compiled and released thereafter.

Thanks

There are so many thanks to be extended to all who helped make the 2011 AGM a wonderful success. Most especially, thank you to the technicians and assistants who made the time to participate on the 21st – in person and via web-conference.

LTAIG would like to extend thanks to BCLA for their support, both financial and administratively. We would also like to extend our thanks to UHNBC and Surrey Libraries for making our meetings physically possible.

Minutes and a list of the 2011-2012 LTAIG Board will be up on [the website](#) shortly. Anyone looking to find out more about ways to participate can contact ltaigchair@gmail.com.

LTAIG is looking forward to a successful 2011-2012 year!

Tamarack Hockin is Convener for LTAIG and works with teens at Surrey's new City Centre Library.