

President's report

By June Stockdale.

It's been such an exciting year for BCLA with many accomplishments achieved and initiatives underway. It is really interesting to be involved in the association at this time of great change, and extremely rewarding overall. With the board's dedication and varied skills, Annette's expertise and deep connections to the library community, and our many strong partnerships with our partner groups we are making great strides on many fronts.

Partnerships growing

Our inter-agency advocacy partnership continues to move forward though not always in a linear fashion. Dr. Ken Haycock's process to bring BCLA, BCLTA, ABCPLD, Interlink and the Coop together in support of a common advocacy initiative at the provincial level has had a positive effect on the relationships between our organizations. We will continue to build in this direction through regular meetings and communication, and intend to work together to ensure we have a cohesive strategy and consistent messaging for the upcoming provincial election.

BCLA participated in and co-hosted many events over the past few months. Vice-President Gwen Bird attended the UBC SLAIS graduation in November on behalf of BCLA and spoke to the new graduates about the field and the benefits of joining BCLA. Thanks for stepping in for that Gwen, and congratulations to all the new grads!

Libraries Summit

Held in December, the Changing Times: Inspiring Libraries Summit was a great success, with more than 250 people in attendance. The event was co-hosted by Libraries and Literacy, the iSchool at UBC and BCLA and featured such notable speakers as David Lankes and Ken Roberts (coverage of the event is in this Browser issue). The seven minute Pecha Kucha talks were super interesting as you got a snapshot on a variety of topics from different speakers in a very short time. Access the various presentations and speakers at the new LLB Commons website <http://commons.bclibraries.ca/inspiringlibraries2012/>.

Exploring the future

I was fortunate to attend the Future of Libraries conference hosted by the Fraser Valley Regional Library with presenter Thomas Frey of the DaVinci Institute. We were given a comprehensive glimpse into the future of technological innovation and how that might impact libraries. From spy-bots



June Stockdale

to 3-D printing, the future is filled with many weird and wonderful things reminiscent of the Jetson's animated cartoons from the 1960s. Frey's message centered around the need for libraries to be at the forefront of embracing technological innovation in our communities through the creation of maker spaces, business colonies, and of course by continuing to play a key role as social centers.

Budget news

I've saved the best for last. As we all know, BCLA was not immune to the financial challenges we all face in these times of rapid change and shifting priorities. Fortunately, through some excellent work on the part of the Board Finance Committee and much diligent work on the part of Annette, we've been able to achieve a balanced budget in 2012. The success of the 2012 conference was a key factor as were things such as reviewing existing practices to ensure financial viability. Thank you to the 2012 Conference Planning Committee, Dragonfly Consulting, and Chris Kevlahan and Errin Morrison for setting us up for future success with a static venue. And a great big thank you to Heather Comepeau and Carla Graebner for their work on the Finance Committee, as well as to Annette for delving in and helping to sort out a new approach. We are a great organization with a beautiful future ahead and it's truly exciting and interesting to be part of it. I wish you all well in your work in your library communities.

June Stockdale is BCLA President, 2012-2013.