BOARD REPORT

Date: May 16, 2018
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Meeting Date: May 23, 2018
TO: Library Board
FROM: Kyla Epstein, VPL Chair & BCLTA Director (Until May 2018)
SUBJECT: BCLTA Report, May 2018

SUMMARY
This report constitutes the regular monthly update from the BCLTA liaison.

PURPOSE
This report is for information.

RECOMMENDATION
That the Board receive the report for information.

POLICY
No policy connections.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS
The VPL 2020 Strategic Plan includes a focus on Sharing & Collaboration and seeks to foster a community that shares information, ideas & stories. The VPL board’s liaison roles, while part of our standard governance practice, also support this initiative.

BACKGROUND
Until February 2017 this report was provided verbally. In an effort to increase the efficiency of board meetings the VPL Governance Committee agreed to having the monthly updates on BCLTA and InterLINK provided via written report. Reference to “Library Partners” includes the following...
organizations BC Library Trustees Association (BCLTA), BC Library Association (BCLA), Association of BC Public Library Directors (ABCPLD), and the BC Libraries Cooperative (BCLC).

DISCUSSION

2018 BCLA conference, Governance Forum, & AGM
BCLTA took a different approach to its annual gathering this year:

- New / Sessions during Day Two of BCLA (May 11)
- New / Presented its annual awards integrated with awards lunch of BCLA (May 11)
- Day-long governance forum (May 12)
- AGM (May 12 – immediately following the forum)

Initial feedback has been that the new approach is a good one. The sessions on Day Two of BCLA allowed for intersecting learning and discussions with library staff and trustees. The sessions included:

- Talking Public Library Governance: The board and staff relationships you really want but are too busy to ask for (2-part session)
- Building Effective Relationships with Local Government
- Inspiring Libraries, Connecting Communities: Implementation of the vision and strategic plan for public library service in BC.

The awards received more attention in this format and the governance forum was very well attending.

Topics at the governance forum included:

- Inclusion – Curiosity – Compassion: BC Centre for Diversity and Innovation (Guest speaker, Meharoona Ghani)
- Equality + Justice (Guest speaker, Morgane Oger)
- Roundtable discussions on: Financial Oversight and Financial Management; Advocacy 2018 - Your Issues and Your Influence; Storytelling and Advocacy (with Daphne Wood)

The AGM saw the departure of the following BCLTA Directors: Erin Carlson (Summerland), David Carter (West Van), Kyla Epstein (VPL), Paul Tutch (Whistler). Mike Gagel (Prince George) was re-elected and the following Directors were newly elected: Barry Avis (Vancouver Island Regional), Rhonda Sherwood (VPL), and Austin Uzama (Surrey).

Advocacy: Summary of Recent Activities

- May 2, Met with ADM Squires, Mari Martin and the Library Partners
- May 11, Met with Minister Fleming and the Library Partners
- Working on a provincial framework/plan for advocacy and influence with the Library Partners
- Planning UBCM 2018 event with Library Partners

TOP

The implementation of review recommendations of the Trustee Orientation Program (TOP) is moving ahead. A group of trustees, Chief Librarians, BCLTA staff, and Libraries Branch staff are meeting on June 20th to move ahead on recommendations from the review. As a TOP facilitator, VPL Chair Kyla Epstein will be attending.
Any VPL trustees who haven’t completed the TOP training should ensure that they register for an upcoming session when announced.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

FINAL REMARKS

BCLTA is our association and the organization that represents the over 700 public library trustees from around BC. Keeping informed about the work of BCLTA supports our library and the important role we play as trustees. As the BCLTA seeks to improve its resources your feedback is invaluable. Don’t hesitate to get in touch directly with the BCLTA or through myself to ask questions or provide suggestions.