



# BC Teacher-Librarians' Association

## Highlights from Fall 2009

### Executive, Council, and Committee Meetings

- BCTLA Executive meetings were held on Friday, September 25 (after school), Saturday, September 26 (all day), and on Friday, October 23 after the BCTLA conference
- Chapter Councilors and the Executive met for the annual Fall Council meeting on Saturday, October 24
- K-12 Information Literacy Framework Committee members met on Thursday, September 24 (p.m.)

### Advocacy and National School Library Day (NSLD)

- For the second consecutive year, Canadian Library Month posters were sent to all schools in the province with the help of the Public Library Services Branch
- The colloquium/webcast, "Videogames, Virtual Worlds and Real Learning", involving BCTLA participation and promotion, was held at UBC on October 26 in celebration of NSLD
- The third annual Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Challenge was coordinated and promoted:
  - Developed DEAR poster and worked with BCTF to have poster sent to schools
  - Developed an additional French-language DEAR poster for French Immersion and CSF schools
  - Sent DEAR poster and information to all MLAs and to all BCTF locals and PD Chairs
  - Arranged for DEAR readings for Carole James and Education Minister Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid
  - Worked with BCTF to have a DEAR School Staff Alert sent to all schools
  - Worked with BCTF to have the DEAR poster included in *Teacher* newsmagazine
  - Provided a copy of DEAR poster to the Public Library Services Branch; sent to public libraries
  - Promoted DEAR through the CLA and CASL distribution lists
  - Ensured DEAR was been added as an event on the NSLD (CASL) and ISLM (IASL) websites
  - BC School Trustees' Association has mentioned DEAR in the latest issue of their journal
  - BC Library Trustees' Association has featured DEAR on their website
  - Media: Press release sent to all newspapers; many DEAR articles resulted
- For National School Library Day, BCTLA visited the B.C. Legislature:
  - With support from BCTF, BCTLA arranged for BCTLA members to visit the BC Legislature for NSLD
  - Ron Cantelon, MLA for Parksville-Qualicum (Lib.) read a Private Member's Statement at the beginning of Question Period about school libraries and the DEAR Challenge
- A note of support was sent to the Association of Book Publishers of BC and the BCTLA Executive discussed joining the newly formed Coalition for the Defense of Writing & Publishing in B.C.

### Digital Initiatives and Professional Publications

- BCTLA's new webpage continued to be developed
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue of *The Bookmark* was mailed to BCTLA members and subscribers
- BCTLA's information literacy framework continued to be refined and the K-12 Committee is now in the beginning stages of considering the renewal of *The Research Quest*

### Position Statements

- The Book Levelling Position Statement was adopted by VESTA and will be taken to BCTF AGM
- BCTLA has been invited to present on the Book Levelling position statement at the BCTF's Public Education Conference in November

### Communication and Collaboration

- BCTLA was invited to the Libraries Reception at the Union of BC Municipalities and to the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the BC Public Library Commission
- BCTLA communicated and worked with the BCTF:
  - Participated in BCTF learning resources evaluator selection session
  - Forwarded information to BCTF regarding labour relations issues as reported to the Forum
  - Sent letter to BCTF Executive in regards to ongoing issues with membership including challenges

- in welcoming new members and notifying members near to expiry, and membership receipts
- Participated in a Canadian Association for School Libraries-Provincial Advisory Committee meeting
- Chapter Councilor Handbook updated; regular communication with Chapter Councilors
- Regular communication through the BCTLA Forum and postings on the BCTLA News, Virtual Bookmark and BCTLA In Circulation blogs

#### **Awards and Grants**

- Chapter Grants were awarded to BCTLA's New Westminster (SD40) and Kootenay Lakes (SD8) chapters based on their successful applications to the BCTLA Chapter Grant Program
- Draft BC New Teacher-Librarian of the Year Award and William H. Scott BCTLA Conference Grant criteria were developed and all BCTLA award and grant information was revised and/or renewed

#### **Working and Learning Conditions**

- The report from the 28th Survey was completed and the 29th annual Survey was prepared for launch

#### **Professional Development**

- The "Champions of Literacy" Conference and October Awards Ceremony was held
- BCTLA negotiated a discount for members to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> "Your School Library" virtual conference (Dr. James Henri, Sandra Lee)



## **BC Teacher-Librarians' Association**

### ***October Awards Ceremony***

Congratulations to **Karen Lindsay**, the 2009 recipient of the BC Teacher-Librarian of the Year – Diana Poole Memorial Award.

*Karen is an amazing example of what a teacher-librarian should strive to be. Her hard work, dedication, and spirit have made the Reynolds library a major part of the school community. Not only does Karen work to perfect her school library community, she also dedicates herself to working with our district's school libraries. Karen presents at many Pro-D workshops as well as being on many committees in and around our district. She is Second Vice-President Advocacy for the BCTLA and is the president of the GVTLA. Her Drop Everything and Read campaign across the province saw thousands of children, teachers, community members and politicians drop everything and read. It was a huge undertaking and Karen managed the whole campaign with grace and amazing spirit. Karen's past awards include CASL's Chancellor Conference Grant and Angela Thacker Memorial Award and the CLA/ACB Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship. She is an exemplary teacher-librarian and a wonderful colleague!*

Congratulations to **Judith Kootte**, the 2009 and first-ever recipient of the Val Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award.

*Judith's contributions to school libraries and teacher-librarianship include over fifteen years of commitment to our profession at the school, district, provincial, and national level. Recently retired from the position of Coordinator of Technology and Information Services for Richmond School District, Judith is a Past President of the BCTLA and the Canadian School Library Association. Judith is renowned provincially as an expert in the selection and provision of learning resources for teachers to use in expanding and improving student learning and she has shaped learning resources policy in B.C. She was instrumental in Richmond School District being the first district in B.C. to adopt Follett's Destiny Library Manager. She is a frequent author and contributor of articles related to school libraries, learning resources and educational technology. Judith has also contributed to the development of teacher-librarianship throughout Canada through her contribution to national-level documents including Students' Information Literacy Needs in the 21st Century: Competencies for Teacher-Librarians.*