
Appendix A: Interview Prompts

A. Biography/Background

1. How long have you been a TL? Describe your assignment(s) e.g. school(s), level(s)--elementary/secondary, FTE, etc.
2. Is teacher-librarian work what you expected? What has been the most surprising? Rewarding? Challenging?
3. What brought you to the TL role?
4. What skills and/or certification did you already have for the teacher-librarian job when you started?
5. Did you have classroom experience before becoming a TL? How did this experience influence your TL work?
6. Is the TL role something you hope to continue with in the future? Why or why not?

B. Mentorship

7. Does your school/district have a teacher mentorship program? If yes, describe it as best you can. If not, what type of mentorship program support would you like to see in your local/district?
8. Have you had formal mentorship in your TL position through a local/district mentorship program? If yes, who has provided mentorship, and what type of activities did you do? What time investment was involved? Was release or other time/funding provided by the program? Has the mentorship continued since the formal program ended?
9. Have you had informal mentorship from other TLs? Describe what that looked like (e.g. how often were you able to meet and when? What was most helpful about receiving informal mentorship?)
10. Do you work with a library clerk or library tech? What does that look like? What benefits have you experienced? What, if any, challenges have you experienced?
11. Do you contact the public library in your community/region for ideas, advice or programs? Describe.
12. Do you know if your district has a TL librarian association or meetings? Have you attended any of the meetings? Were they useful?
13. Do you have online support for some of the TL activities, like cataloguing?
14. Have you faced any barriers to accessing formal or informal mentorship? What would make it easier? More effective?

C. Communication

15. Within your district, what TL communication systems have you accessed to share information and questions? If yes, how does it work?
16. Describe any social networking tools you accessed for ideas and inspiration for your TL position (e.g. Twitter, Pinterest, etc)?
17. What communication options work best for you when seeking TL information and support?

D. Professional Development and Certification

18. Have you had the opportunity to attend workshops about teacher-librarianship? What did you find? Most helpful takeaways? Least helpful?
19. Have you taken any TL courses/degree programs? If yes, what did you find helpful/difficult about completing the course? If no, have you been made aware of any TL courses, certificates or degrees? Are there any courses, certificates or degrees you would like to undertake in the future? What are some of the reasons why you have not undertaken courses to date?
20. Do you know if there is any pro-D or course funding by your school, school district, the BCTF or BCTLA? If yes, have you been able to access this funding? If no, what are the barriers to accessing funding for TL professional development and post-secondary studies?
21. What types of support from your school, district or union would make it easier for you to attend training?
22. Are there any other factors (e.g. family commitments, geography) that might deter you from pursuing further TL training and certification?

E. General Support and Advocacy

23. Do you feel supported in your role as TL in your school? At the district level?
24. Describe a situation/scenario that illustrates how your TL role is valued and respected.
25. Describe a situation/scenario that illustrates how your TL role is not valued and respected.
26. Are there any further comments you would like to make about your needs as a new TL, or TL who wishes to increase their knowledge and expertise in the TL role?

Appendix B: Informed Consent Form

Thank you for participating in this BCTLA research project! Please read the information below and, if you consent to being interviewed according to these guidelines, sign your name, local and date below.

Purpose of the research: The BCTF Research Department is carrying out an action research project, in collaboration with the BC Teacher Librarians' Provincial Specialists Association (BCTLA), to gather teachers' perspectives on professional development and learning supports for teacher librarians. The project will document the professional development needs and challenges of new teacher librarians, and those with limited specialist training, and to identify the provisions and gaps for supporting them in their roles.

Participant Selection: Volunteer BCTLA Chapter Councillors will identify and interview new TLs and TLs with limited specialist experience and/or training.

Voluntary Participation: Your participation in this research is entirely voluntary. It is your choice whether to participate or not. The choice that you make will have no bearing on your work or involvement with the BC Teachers' Federation. You may change your mind later and stop participating even if you agreed earlier.

Procedures: Interviewers will send a list of question prompts to the participant to consider and write notes, if desired, prior to the interview. The 45-60 minute interview will be recorded, and sent to the BCTF Research Department for transcription and analysis. The audio recording will be kept on a BCTF desktop housed in the Research Department with secure log in. The information recorded is confidential, and no one else except Senior Researcher Anne Hales will have access to the audio. All audio recordings will be destroyed by April 30, 2018.

Confidentiality: The BCTF will not be sharing information about you or your responses to anyone outside of the research team. The information that we collect from this research project will be kept private and confidential. Any information reported publicly will be generalized and anonymized, if needed. All interviewers have signed a confidentiality pledge, agreeing to keep interview participation and content private.

Right to Refuse or Withdraw: This is a reconfirmation that participation is voluntary and includes the right to withdraw. You do not have to take part in this research if you do not wish to do so and choosing to participate will not affect your work in any way. You may stop participating in the discussion/interview at any time.

****I have read the above research project information, and consent to participating in the BCTLA interview discussion as described above.****

Name: _____ Date: _____

Local: _____