

**Kootenay Library Federation  
LDAG Meeting Minutes  
16 October 2009**

**Location:**

Grand Forks Public Library  
7342 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Forks  
(250) 442-3944

11:30 am – Lunch

12:27 pm – Meeting start

**Attendance:** Heather Maisel, Amy Veysey, Marie Onyett, June Stockdale, Ene Haabniit, Joanne Richards, Heather Buzzell, Judy Foucher, Stephanie Boltz, Jim Bertoia, Indira Wickremasinghe, Ursula Brigl, Helen Graham, Eva Kelemen, Karin von Wittgenstein

**Minutes:** Helen Graham, KLF

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion: To approve agenda. Judy Foucher, Second, Ursula Brigl
2. **Approval of minutes from 1 May 2009:** Motion: To approve minutes of 1 May 2009 meeting. Jim Bertoia, Seconded: Indira Wickremasinghe
3. **Correspondence:** no correspondence
4. **Ali Wassing: Executive Director, CBAL**

**– CBAL Organization, Activities and Plans.**

(Organization Chart handed out.) Ali Wassing from Invermere gave a PowerPoint presentation.

CBAL's mandate to:

- support literacy programs and services
- assist communities to build literacy support
- facilitate further community collaboration and partnerships.

In each community, the Literacy Advisory Committees usually have library representation. Each community has completed community literacy plans, which now have become part of the school district literacy plans.

CBAL's community involvement includes: adult ESL, one-to-one tutoring, seniors computer classes, family night, out, stress free reading at home, tutoring, youth programs, Love to learn, Girls Night

Out, gray area students, homework clubs, and Write Out Loud. CBAL manages many of the Strong Start centres.

Evaluation and accountability is becoming more important to funders. CBAL Funding comes from: the Columbia Basin Trust, Ministry of Advanced Education, BC Gaming, Literacy Now, Literacy BC, Selkirk College, College of the Rockies, School Districts 5,6,8,10,19,20,51,57, local foundations, service clubs, businesses and donors. Still have a strong budget this year, because of CBT. CBAL would like to find more ways to collaborate with Libraries. For more info check out their website at: [www.cbal.org](http://www.cbal.org)

### **Ene Haabnitt – PLSB Up-Date**

**Introduction:** Ene has been with PLSB for 18 yrs. She works out of the Vancouver Office and is recently been appointed as library consultant for the Kootenays. The Kootenays were her region when she first started and she has worked with the libraries in Northern BC most recently. Other duties include the Community Library Training Program.

**Funding Cuts:** How were they made? Minister of Education (Dr. MacDiarmid) went through every line item but also went to bat for libraries to preserve funding where possible. Because the Government wants to deal with deficit, funding cuts could be worse next year. Libraries are advised to be prepared and budget conservatively and try to put BC One Card and Resource Grants toward next year. Traditionally the provincial funding is announced in the spring, but this year funding was frozen or taken back compounding the difficulties for planning.

**Fund Distribution:** - see handout. Rational for fund distribution was to protect smaller libraries. Smaller libraries, including all KLF libraries, had grants decreased by 1.3%, but larger libraries experienced up to 20% cuts. Some programs such as Summer Reading Program and Teen Reading, were left off the Continuing Grants and Programs list. Funds for these two programs can come from the Literacy Grant to PLSB. Library Literacy Grant not targeted this year, so you can use it for anything that allows you to do programs. Approach other groups in your community (CBAL example) to partner with so Literacy Grant can go further. No individual Technology Grants this year. The funding was redirected to Sitka, PLOT, and purchasing databases.

**Community Library Training Program** is no longer funded as line item from the ministry. Fee only covers 10% of cost. PLSB will continue to offer program in-house but will reduce the number of courses offered.

**Core Databases:** will no longer be funded by province starting January 1, 2010. PLSB working at keeping cost to a minimum for Libraries.

**Askaway** – Heather Maisel is the Kootenay rep to the AskAway committee, Ene is the PLSB rep.

Vancouver and Surrey will continue AskAway service regardless of other libraries' participation. At least 50% of other Libraries will have to contribute to AskAway for it to remain a provincial service. Less than 50% participation will mean Vancouver and Surrey will be forced to authenticate usage and will likely charge other Libraries for the service. How many more libraries will contribute to the service remains to be seen. This service is very popular with youth and people who never go into libraries.

**BC One Cards:** shortage of BC One Cards so PLSB is planning to use stickers on home library cards to brand the service. All libraries are now using cards that are unique to each library and usually use Codabar barcodes. The unique coding of the patron cards will allow ILS in each library to identify visiting patrons, so separate OneCards are not necessary.

**Every Child a Card** funding cut. Some libraries are choosing to continue free library cards to children from unserved areas. It is a tricky question. It is not nice to cut service to children but providing services to patrons that do not contribute financially to library service creates inequities. Can Libraries use Literacy Grant to fund children's cards? Yes.

**Webjunction** - BC's subscription <http://bc.webjunction.org/home> will end Mar. 31, 2010. Until that date, many courses are available for free or for a \$25 US fee.

After March 31, 2010, courses will available at the main WebJunction site - <http://www.webjunction.org/home>, but fees will likely increase to \$40 US

**Visunet Canada** (CNIB) will end as of March 31 2010. See Ene's notes. The CNIB wants to build a new library services for the visually impaired and has asked the governments \$630,000 for new program. This is \$600,000 more than current cost.

Almost half the libraries in BC use the current Visunet Canada service. The service can be used for people with learning disabilities. People can self indentify their need. KLF libraries may have to decide if they want to continue to offer this service.

**Reading Rooms** – all local reading rooms are no longer receiving funding from the province (PLSB). Libraries may wish to contact local reading rooms as this can be an opportunity to serve unserved areas. Some reading rooms may have local funding. KLF libraries may wish

to contact reading rooms in adjacent communities or areas to see if an agreement for service can be arranged.

**Library Act:** Legislative review of Library Act continuing. Next year Libraries will be asked for further input. Free internet access for Library card users identified as need.

5. **ABCPLD:** Ursula Brigl. Met in Vancouver with an amazing turnout of 40 Library Directors. Indicative of issues to be discussed vis a vis the Provincial Government cuts. Hosted UBCM Reception with BCLA and BCLTA and will continue to host this event. The cost of the reception is approximately \$6000. Over 400 people attended this year, probably because of advocacy done over provincial cuts. The reception is a valuable advocacy event that needs to continue but costs must be contained. Edel Toner Rogala was awarded the 'ABCPLD Library Director of the Year Award'. Andy Ackerman of BCLTA, gave talk on joint advocacy done over the summer. (BCLTA, ABCPLD, BCLA). See <http://bclabrowser.ca/index.php/browser/article/view/95/129> for more details.

2010 will likely be more difficult than 2009. Libraries must be kept in public eye leading up to budget in order to maintain or increase funding. MLAs want to know numbers, children being helped and benefits of other programs. It is important to evaluate and quantify programs. Collect the statistics. ABCPLD received funding for 2009 before the cuts, anticipates a 66% reduction in funding in 2010. It may be necessary to increase membership fees. New directors should see if they have membership.

Reports given at October 1<sup>st</sup> ABCPLD meetings:

Jacqueline van Dyk, PLSB; SITKA (Evergreen); BC One Card policies and procedures

Jim Looney on database subscriptions. Databases: What is the best way to provide services to libraries and what kinds of services are wanted?

Books for Babies program is cut, but other funding sources are being explored.

Next meeting will be on April 20 or 21 in Penticton at BCLA.

## 6. Old Business:

- a. **Programming Boxes:** 20 boxes will be distributed at the October 20 Children's meeting. Helen will contact Selkirk College and College of the Rockies to enquire about a shipping agreement with them. Do we need to build more boxes? It cost \$4,000 to build 20 programming boxes.

- b. **Playaway shared collection:** Currently in Salmo. Castlegar not happy with product. Batteries and ear buds an issue and an expense. Nelson Library has its own collection and they are well used. NML uses rechargeable batteries and lends ear buds or sells them to patrons. Kimberley doesn't provide ear buds but there have been no issues. Cranbrook - ear buds should be provided by patrons. Grand Forks likes Playaways. Lending ear buds could be a health issue. Joanne will re-distribute the KLF units in the new year.
- c. **Reading Link Challenge:** No provincial funding after this year. In the KLF, only Midway and Greenwood are participating this year. BCTF has a different reading challenge this year which may account for lack of interest in other KLF communities.
- d. **Circulation Policies** – handout
- e. **Author Tours** – Writer's in Libraries Grants cut. It costs about \$10,000 per year cost to do 3 author tours (\$3,000 per author). Joanne applied to Canada Council for two tours – Stuart Ross and Linda Demeulemeester. KLF will look at hosting local authors. Ann Alma would like to visit KLF libraries but she has had several visits to certain KLF libraries.
- f. **KLF Evergreen Users Group up-date** – Ursula Brigl and Rachelle Mandel's KLF Evergreen User Group Final Report, handed out. Evergreen – what do we want? KLF should have a strong collective voice at the user group table. Conference call to follow.
- g. **OBOK (One Book One Kootenay) Up-date:** – Angie had good reception in Cranbrook, did adult program in library and student session at high school. Grand Forks will host the finale. Angie was well received wherever she went. The Bone Cage initiated a lot of discussion at all of the participating libraries. Joanne's comment – we need to host an OBOK for 3 years to assess the impact. Will start next year's committee soon. Consider alternate events that can be linked to the themes of the books such as movies or craft projects.
- h. **KLF Library Conference:** Should we still do a KLF conference since the BCLA Conference is in Penticton in 2010. Would it take away from BCLA conference?

Total cost of 2008 KLF Conference \$30,000, with grants covering \$20,000 of costs. Secondment grants have been cut and there is a lot of competition for remaining funds.

BCLA has also experienced funding cuts therefore we should support their conference as much as possible. KLF could have some regional training and workshops for staff. KLF will encourage people to attend BCLA.

Motion: That we because of the provincial budget situation, and with the BCLA Conference in Penticton in 2010, we propose that the next KLF Conference will be held in spring 2011 and that KLF will have regional workshops in 2010. Moved: June Stockdale. Second: Heather B carried

- i. **ILL Mail Bags:** A small canvas mail bag, with mailing label window, was passed around. The large canvas bags, made in China, cost \$7.67each/500 bags and \$7.17each/1,000 bags. Will cost \$3600 to \$7500 to purchase depending on the quantity. Proper comparison quote needed. Bags are easy to use and simplify the ILL packaging process. Recommend that bags be used for ILLs within the KLF region. KLF may not be able to support this purchase in its entirety so it may be a cost sharing with Libraries (25% KLF, 75% Libraries).
- j. **Imagine Canada vs Big Online:** Big Online costs \$5,000 per year, but has an extensive list of foundations and corporations including those in the US. Imagine Canada has smaller list of Canadian sources; costs \$1,200/yr. Imagine Canada is available to the public in the Library.

KLF will help pay for Imagine Canada. Joanne has sent the funding formula for Imagine Canada to Libraries. Interested libraries have responded to her. Discussion: Marlene Davies from Big Online gave a presentation to Kimberley. Karin was not comfortable with presentation wondered if it was worth the money. Other libraries were not impressed with the product. Proposal to contact Jim Looney to see if others in the province are interested. Joanne proposed that we try Imagine Canada for one year. As this is another online database subscription, it was suggested that a decision on this product be made after the information about cost of replacing the core suite is available.

- k. **Labelopes:** Staples only supplier, but they are difficult. They don't supply the whole order at one time. Some Libraries still waiting for their order.

- l. **Booklist Online** - tabled

7. **ULS Purchase Agreement:** KLF libraries agree to purchase \$300,000 worth of books per year from United Library Services. Currently agreement discounts listed on handout. Should we change to have a flat discount of 38% discount on hotlist and 35% on all other ULS purchased books? Confirm with Ren Speer to change discount arrangement.
  - a. **Shelf ready materials:** Should KLF subsidize shelf ready material from ULS as this service may ease workload in libraries. Discussion: Evergreen does not have MARC uploading capacity. Is it worth it if Evergreen doesn't have this capacity? Discussion. Tabled.
  
8. **Provincial Funding Cuts:** Databases, Virtual Reference participation and scheduling: VR wants to do more training. KLF will not be doing scheduling. More discussion needed regarding VR. Databases: Joanne will ask Jim for KLF group costs for the Core databases. Code books may be available through PLSB. According to a province wide survey by Jim Looney Auto Repair, Canadian News Stand, EBSCO Master File Première and Novelist are the most used databases.
  
9. **2010-2011 KLF Budget:** projects and recommendations – think about and e-mail ideas for projects, staff training, etc. Ene: think about proposals for BCLA Conference.
  - a. Literacy Grants: partnering for more effective use of money. KLF can help coordinate something.
  
10. **KLF Strategic Plan Draft:** KLF needs policy manual, especially when money is tight. Strategic plan mostly an administrative, technical document. The original KLF Service Plan served us well for the first 3 years. Need to establish working group to review and finalize the draft strategic plan.
  
11. **Round Table:** What's new at your library? Recommended reads? **Heather Buzzell, Grand Forks**, is developing a strategic plan and is willing to share with other KLF members. Attended a Collective Bargaining Workshop by Jay Sharun from Western Industrials and recommends this workshop to the group. This may be a good idea for BCLA or local workshop. Joanne Richards will pass idea on to BCLA for conference suggestion. Grand Forks: a lot of programming, poetry café (12 people) Oct. 15, Couple of free author events, change in staffing.
 

**June Stockdale, Nelson:** Talked about library expansion, fund raiser, Nelson Leafs hockey reading buddies. Added benefit - teenage girls coming into Library to see hockey players.

**Marie Onyett, Beaver Valley:** Mother Goose back at Library after being at Strong Start for a year, after school program going well.

**Eva Kelemen Kaslo:** Annie extended her maternity leave until the spring, finishing rebarcoding, building undergoing renos (very cold), appreciated regional district funding talk at spring meeting. Eva and her board did presentation to Kaslo Village and requested mil rate funding increase from 0.08 to 0.10 cents per \$1000 of assessed value. Village thanked them for a good presentation.

**Amy Veysey, Salmo:** shelf read and found many un-catalogued items due to problem with Evergreen.

**Heather Maisel, Castlegar:** migrated to Evergreen end of September. Likes it, especially reports.

**Helen Graham, Trail:** Funding problems, due to change in local funding. Open only 26.5 hours per week – down from 49.5 hours. Helen recently retired from Trail.

**Ursula Brigl, Cranbrook:** toddler program funding continued, Friends got BC Gaming Grant for Aboriginal Story Telling in the Park (55 to 80 people attended each), looking at ways to continue the Aboriginal Story Telling, planning program in Nov. with Band, home service extended to Strong Start (deliver board books), Monday openings approved for mid-way 2010.

**Indira Wickremasinghe, Rossland:** City funding same level RDKB funded last year. Area B should we service them? Inventory. UBCM disappointed no Rossland council members at reception.

**Jim Bertoia, Sparwood:** Fernie laid off their story teller in the summer, Sparwood got grant to hire her. Enjoyed having adult SRC.

**Judy Foucher, Greenwood:** rebuilding the MARC records in L4U, almost finished rebarcoding. Reading link challenge. SRC student great. Quilt raffle went well. Open one more day BC One Card grant.

**Karin von Wittgenstein, Kimberley:** heat in Library, CAP grant employee, Library Renovations - reading room and storage room upstairs, because stacks can't go up there. Recommended Diana Kawatski, author of ***Stocking the Wild Heart***, to do a tour in early May, 2010. She is from Shuswap area and willing to travel.

**Adjournment:** 5:13 pm

**Next Meeting:** May 2010, date, time and place to be announced.