



DRAFT Minutes - *Approved by Executive Council*

**Canadian Library Association
70th Annual General Meeting**
Shaw Convention Centre
Ottawa, Ontario
June 4, 2015

Agenda 1: Call to Order and Welcome

President Marie DeYoung welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 3:37 pm. She advised that material for the meeting was posted on the CLA Website, and copies were available at the entrance to the room. The minutes were being recorded by the Executive Assistant, Agnieszka Arkuszewski.

Agenda 2: Quorum

According to CLA bylaw 4.04, the quorum for a CLA Annual General Meeting is 10% of members which was 113 members. The President asked the Convenor of the Monitoring Committee, Andrea Nicole Kampen, whether or not there was quorum. Ms. Kampen confirmed that there was quorum. With quorum achieved, the President declared that the 70th Annual General Meeting was duly and properly constituted and in session.

Agenda 3: Rules of Order

The President indicated that the rules of order were "*The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*". It was noted that as per Bylaw 4.05 voting will be by a show of voting cards unless a vote by ballot is demanded by a majority of members in attendance, that all motions require a majority vote of the members present and voting, and that if the results of a vote by show of hands was in dispute, there would be a formal count.

David Bennett, Parliamentarian, was asked to speak to the rights of members. He encouraged members to speak, debate, and vote and stated that his role is to ensure that the will of the majority is understood by all.

Agenda 4: Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was declared approved as presented.

Agenda 5: Introduction of Executive Council/Past Presidents

President DeYoung introduced the head table: Sandra Singh, Vice-President/President-Elect; Michael Ridley, Treasurer; Pilar Martinez, Past-President; Jim Bennett, Councillor-at-Large; Peggy D'Orsay, Councillor-at-Large; Jane Schmidt, Councillor-at-Large; and Valoree McKay, Executive Director and

Secretary. The President also acknowledged past Councillors-at-Large from January 2014 through December 2014, Lorna E. Rourke and Marc Truitt.

The President invited the Past-Presidents to stand and be recognized. She thanked Past-President Pilar Martinez and Councillors Jane Schmidt, Jim Bennett and Peggy D'Orsay for all their efforts as CLA Councillors and presented them with a token of appreciation from CLA.

Agenda 6: In Memoriam

A moment of silence was led by President DeYoung to recognize and honour those members of the Canadian library community who died over the last year.

Agenda 7: Approval of the Minutes of the 69th Annual General Meeting

Copies of the draft minutes from the 2014 Annual General Meeting in Victoria, British Columbia were available and had been pre-circulated. There being no amendments to the minutes as presented, the President declared the minutes approved as circulated.

Agenda 8: Update on Proposal for Restructuring CLA

President DeYoung asked Vice-President Singh to come forth and provide an update on the Proposal for the restructuring of CLA.

Vice-President Singh delivered an update on the work of the Future Federation of Library Associations Working Group. Much work had been done over the past year with the library community, and the assistance of an external consultant, which had resulted in a recommendation that a federation of library associations be created.

The first draft of the proposed new model had been posted on the website in January 2015 for membership to review. Further, the Vice-President stated that in late January 2015, representatives from multi-sectoral associations from across the country and major national associations gathered to discuss the rationale of the CLA restructuring to provide feedback on the concept paper.

Upon conclusion of the meeting, the Stakeholder representatives proposed the creation of a Working Group for further review of the concept paper with the goal of bringing the proposal to the next level. The Working Group was formed, with a mandate to develop a proposal to provide to the CLA membership and the library and information community for consideration.

Vice-President Singh stated that the Working Group had a partial draft of the proposal and were committed to having a draft to share with the community in late September 2015.

Following the September release of the draft proposal, Vice-President Singh indicated that the Working Group would take on broad based consultation among the library community in Canada through its partner associations and directly through CLA members. With this feedback there would be further revisions made to the proposal for release in December. The final proposal will be presented in January 2016 along with a notice for a Special Meeting of members to consider dissolution of CLA. This will be held adjacent to OLA in Toronto, Ontario

The advocacy role of a national organization remains very critical for libraries in Canada. The membership of this association would consist of associations from across the country. Individual members would inherit the right to participate in the national work through their provincial/territorial, regional, or national association provided it was a member of the new federation.

The proposed purpose of the new federation is to be the national voice of Canada's library communities.

Our organization:

- *Advances library excellence in Canada.*
- *Champions library values and the value of libraries.*
- *Influences national and international public policy impacting libraries and their communities.*

Vice-President Singh expressed her gratitude to all the Working Group members. She then opened up the floor for questions and comments.

CLA Member, Shelby Mceachern asked for clarification regarding an annual conference and how she might participate in it in the future given the proposed change in the membership model. Vice-President Singh briefly reviewed the proposed ideas for a future national gathering highlighting the concept of a policy forum where the community could gather and discuss policies issues that affect the library community and how to address them. Another recommendation would be to have policy sessions within other conferences, i.e.: OLA. She stated that CLA did recognize the importance of networking and connecting with all the library community at conference and hopes that this will be considered in the new model. Member Todd Kyle expressed his hope that this proposed model would strengthen the provincial conferences and that he looked forward to attending other provincial conferences he might not otherwise have attended.

Member Nancy E. Black applauded the Working Group for all the work that had been done in developing the proposal. Ms. Black asked the Vice-President to comment or discuss further the financial model that the proposed new federation would have. Vice-President Singh stated that the

final proposal would definitely include financial models for the proposed federation. Potential models will be discussed by the Working Group. She also noted that there would need to be a diversified approach as member fees alone would not support the activity of the federation long-term. The new association would not be a direct membership association therefore bringing administration costs down, there would be no general interest conferences or fees associated with member services. The initial thought is that library associations would pay a member fee and that their members could participate nationally. The Vice-President stated that more information would be provided in the proposal in September.

Member Melanie Burton thanked all the volunteers who worked on this proposal. She also made a plea that CLA keep their existing brand and name as it has become well recognized among the library community in Canada. She did state that she realized the organization must innovate to sustain itself and supports the work that must be done.

Member Peter McNally expressed concern about losing personal memberships within the new federation model and therefore proposed a motion that individual membership be a part of the proposed membership model for the proposed federation.

Motion: THAT there will be added to section E1 of the document entitled “Toward a Federation of Library Associations in Canada: Creating a new national voice for Canadian Libraries – partial draft” the following: Individuals are eligible for full membership in the association.

As this was a draft document that the motion was being presented against, there was concern as to the whether this action was appropriate. Dave Bennett, Parliamentarian, responded and informed the membership that all motions are welcome at any time during the meeting. He stated that a seconder was needed for this motion in order for it to be discussed. He did caution members that any motion put forth during the draft stage of a proposal would not be guaranteed to be included in the final paper.

Member Marc Truitt seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued.

Member Peter McNally was concerned about the motion not being heard in the final stages of the proposal development. He stated that it was important for individual membership to be included in the new model for greater participation of the community. He was skeptical of the proposed model and stated that it is only through membership that there is a greater opportunity for members to participate in the association.

A few members spoke against the proposed motion, others commented on the new opportunities that the new association would bring and that there would be new avenues for the membership to pursue in the future.

Member Marc Truitt raised concern around the assumption that all library community members belong to the provincial sector which disenfranchises those individuals. He also stated that he felt that the proposed federation should not keep the CLA brand given CLA is currently known as a membership model with personal members and it would create confusion and expectation if the name and brand were maintained.

After a few more comments from members, the vote was called.

Motion: THAT there will be added to section E1 of the document entitled “Toward a Federation of Library Associations in Canada: Creating a new national voice for Canadian Libraries – partial draft” the following: Individuals are eligible for full membership in the association.

Moved: Peter McNally

Seconded: Marc Truitt

DEFEATED

The floor was open for further discussion on the draft partial proposal.

Member Pat Riva agreed with the new model and provided the Italian Library Association as a successful organization that has similar properties to the new national organization proposed by the Working Group. She did ask the Vice-President about The Partnership and how they would be associated to the new model. The Vice-President responded by indicating that the new organization does not include general professional development as the new model would focus on advocacy, values, policy and national standards. They have different mandates.

Member Nancy Black acknowledged that the membership had just discussed and defeated a motion that addressed concerns around the loss of personal memberships in the proposed new federation however she still had concern and wanted to express this concern again and her hope that the Working Group does not lose sight of this perspective. The Vice-President stated that it would be important to empower individuals to be able to participate in through the association of associations, providing clear and easy ways for individuals to be able to participate in the Federation.

Vice President Singh expressed her thanks to the Working Group for their excellent work and collaboration.

Agenda 9: Treasurer's Report

A. Financial Report / 2014 Audited Financial Statements

Treasurer Michael Ridley was called upon by President DeYoung to present his report. The Treasurer provided an overview of CLA's financial situation for 2014, with a summary of the audited financial statements. His presentation also included a review of the 2015 and 2016 budget.

Treasurer Ridley stated that the purpose of his report was to outline the financial challenges and opportunities for CLA in the coming years. He noted that for some time CLA has struggled to establish a solid financial foundation on which to build and sustain the services members expect and want. He stated that although the situation has been difficult, CLA has been preparing for whatever the future might hold.

Currently, he indicated, CLA is not sustainable as a membership organization. CLA was running deficits resulting in challenges around how to finance the organization. The Treasurer proceeded to display the trend in decline in membership on the screen and stated that CLA does not have the financial resources to cope with this decline.

Year	Personal	Institutional	Associate	Corporate	Total
April 2015	879	239	25	46	1,189
December 2014	957	249	27	50	1,283
December 2013	1,035	306	31	68	1,440
December 2012	1,025	378	10	84	1,467
December 2011	1,147	366	9	64	1,586
December 2010	1,813	477	10		2,300
December 2009	2,089	473	10		2,570
December 2008	1,868	489	13		2,370
December 2007	1,849	485	11		2,345
December 2006	2,087	473	10		2,570
December 2005	2,137	471	9		2,617
December 2004	1,928	459	4		2,391

Treasurer Ridley reported that CLA has taken steps to reduce costs, making difficult changes to staff in the office and changes in programs in order to retool the office to be more effective. The objective of these changes was to prepare the organization for the new model. He did indicate that one of the difficult topics that did come up in regards to the finances of CLA was that there could be a possibility that the organization would have to wind up. Therefore one of the objectives was to leave resources aside in case of this occurrence.

He reported that CLA has been managing investments of the association and using these investments to fund the transformation of the future CLA. Part of this transformation includes creating a new infrastructure as in the past CLA did not have the information technology tools to do work well. One of the projects that had been launched was an IT rebuild which involved providing new tools and infrastructure to the association. Some of these tools were added and changed the way CLA did conference and other aspects of association work. For a while there was an anticipation to create a management project system. Over time it became clear that as CLA was moving towards a different future there was no need for this project therefore this project focus was shifted. The focus was now to find series of tools that provide a more general use for engagement with membership and partnership and communications. Essentially this open platform would focus more on engagement rather than association management. Part of this project will be fixing the website to make it more engaging.

The Treasurer moved on to discuss the 2015 budget. He reported that there was a significant deficit showing in the 2015 budget. That deficit was entirely comprised of costs associated with the organizational transformation. Some of these costs were due to staff changes while others were part of working with consultants, bringing the Working Groups together and the expenses involved in those meetings. He concluded that the costs were demonstrating the restructuring of the organization expense. The Treasurer stated that in discussion with the auditor, they suggested that CLA transfer the funds from the reserves to balance the budget. However the auditors recommended that it would be better for CLA to wait until the fiscal year to show the balanced budget. This way the budget shows the changes from last year to this year and how things have changed over the time period. The reserves hold about \$500 000, these reserves will be depleted the longer the transformation process continues. The Treasurer advised the Executive Council and membership to come to a decision as soon as possible to provide the new association with more resources.

The Treasurer explained that in the budget report, there are two years shown for the members to review. The statement shows a 2016 budget which was created to show the differences in expenses and revenues that CLA anticipates to see in the finances due to the changes made in the organization. He said this was significant to show as there will be an assumed drop in membership which will affect the revenue and he also said he anticipated that the conference meetings will not be as profitable as in the past. The Treasurer stated that those were the two main sources of income for CLA which have

the influence over financial state of the organization. Therefore he asserted that this fact would have to be considered when building the future budgets. The Treasurer then opened up the floor for questions from the members.

Member Terri Tomchyshyn raised several concerns:

- the draft budget for the CLA Conference and Tradeshow, she wondered if the document provided was a proposal or an actual budget;
- the numbers of paid delegates that were present at conference;
- she indicated that last year's conference staff was fired and wanted to know the description of the procedure in the hiring process of the new contract staff for conference and what difference was there between the two conference staff;
- the concern over the \$100 000 that was set aside last year and wanted to clarify what was used for the organizational renewal project from that fund.

The Treasurer confirmed that the budget was a proposal document created for the upcoming conference with set targets and cost. He stated that at the time the Executive Council did not have the numbers of paid delegates as this information was still in its developing stage. This information would be provided when the conference was complete. He clarified that CLA has always hired contractors for the Conference and Tradeshow. That due to the changes in the organization there were different needs for the conference going forward. Therefore Executive Council reviewed contracts and made the appropriate changes to fit the needs of CLA and its future. Lastly, he spoke to the \$100 000 that was set aside. He explained that this amount was used to aid in the restructuring of CLA which Included staff changes and the Future Federation Working Group.

Member Clare Appavoo asked Treasurer Ridley to clarify where the restricted assets fell into the financial statements. Treasurer Ridley stated that these restricted assets, as the Executive Council decided, were going to stay in reserves for the wind up costs. Therefore this amount would not show in the budget as it is set aside as an emergency fund.

The Treasurer proceeded to speak to the audit provided for 2014. He stated that it was a clean audit, which meant no management letter was associated with the statements. This letter would notify CLA of any concerns or issues with the financial aspects and processes that were reviewed. He noted that this was the first audit that shows the costs that would incur for the organizational renewal. There was also a demonstration of changes in investments which some of these will be used for the restructuring work of CLA, affecting the variance in numbers in the financial statements. He reported that the good news was that the ROI was much stronger this year than previous years which is important to CLA as this will help cover operational costs and keeps the investments healthy.

Motion: TO adopt the 2014 Treasurer's Report

Moved: Brenda Mathenia

Seconded: Alvin Schrader

CARRIED

B. Appointment of Auditors for 2014

Treasurer Ridley stated that Parker Prins Lebano has been hired by CLA since 1998 and it is normal financial practice is to review your financial auditors periodically. He stated that a few years ago CLA discussed reviewing different audit firms to meet the needs of the organization. However this firm has come to know CLA very well and with the restructuring in place Council decided it would be best to keep Parker Prins Lebano. He reported that the audits had been led by different auditors within the firm throughout the years yet there was still continuity there which will serve the organization well through the major changes that come forth. Treasurer Ridley suggested that in the future the auditors should be reviewed and that CLA make appropriate changes to meet the organization's needs.

Treasurer Ridley asked the membership to approve the appointment of the auditors for fiscal year 2015.

Motion: TO appoint Parker Prins Lebano as auditors for the 2015 fiscal year.

Moved: Maggie Weaver

Seconded: Peter Webster

CARRIED

Agenda 10: Elections Committee Report

The President called on Nancy Black, Chair of the Elections Committee, to present results of the CLA election. She stated that there were four positions to be filled. In 2014, two names of candidates were put forward to the membership via the Executive Director the names of candidates for the positions of Vice-President/President-Elect and one Councillor-at-Large. In early 2015 the Nominating Committee also put forward names of candidates for two additional Councillor-at-Large positions. Voting for the two additional Councillor-at-Large positions took place in the spring of 2015 for Executive Council terms starting in June 2015. She reported that the Committee was satisfied that the elections were conducted as per the corresponding Bylaws. All positions are to take effect immediately following the AGM.

The results:

Vice President/ President Elect	Rosemary Bonanno	Acclaimed
Councillor-at-Large	Virginia Clevette	Acclaimed

Election for two Councillor-at-Large positions:

Jim Bennett	82
Todd Gnissios	50
Christina Hwang	126
Colleen Murphy	119
Dianne Oberg	67

Christina Hwang and Colleen Murphy were declared elected as Councillors at Large

Motion: TO destroy the paper ballots for 2015 to delete the electronic votes for 2015

Moved: Nancy Black

Seconded: Jeff Barber

CARRIED

Member Terri Tomchyshyn inquired about the length of the term of the Councillor-at-Large position. The President confirmed that they have been appointed for a two year term. Ms. Tomchyshyn proceeded to share that bylaw 5.02 states that the Councillor-at-Large positions are to be staggered to ensure continuity for the transition of the board. She then suggested the CLA had contravened its own bylaw and asked what would be the implications of that. The President stated that Ms. Tomchyshyn was correct in her observation. She further explained that the decision had been made by Executive Council to replace all vacant positions, thereby not staggering the Councillor-at-Large positions, in order to ensure have a full board. She stated that Executive Council felt that having a full complement of Directors was critically important to CLA at this stage in light of the transformation of the organization.

Agenda 11: Report from Executive Director

Executive Director Valoree McKay stated that she had been with CLA for over a year and has learned many things over the course of the term. She discussed the many adjustments that the organization has gone through. Some that she noted were: the structure of CLA's National Conference and Tradeshow, CLA's publishing activities and changes to Feliciter and Digest. This year, she stated that Feliciter and Digest will be replaced with a new blog style magazine that will feature CLA's communication and publishing activities.

The Executive Director reported on several highlights of CLA's accomplishments in 2014-2015:

- Celebrated the best of the best in children's and young adult literature by awarding the CLA Book of the Year for Children Award, the CLA Young Adult Book Award, and the Amelia Frances-Howard-Gibbon Illustrator Award as well as leadership in the library and information community via the presentation of the CLA awards.
- Established an e-Book Task Force, which had representation from across all library sectors, to investigate and make recommendations regarding the e-book situation in Canada and recommendations on CLA's advocacy role.
- Released of *Leading Learning: Standards of Practice for School Library Learning Commons in Canada*.
- Assisted in the creation of 100 summer jobs and 4 internships for students, from all parts of the Country via the Young Canada Works program.
- Continued to co-publish RDA with the American Library Association and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. Efforts to internationalize the standard continue.
- Released official statements on a wide variety of issues including: The Funding of Prison Libraries; Budget Cuts to Statistics Canada and the Long Form Census (Bill C-626); Bill C-13, Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act; Rural broadband access; Bill C-51, The Anti-Terrorism Act; and a response to the Royal Society Report of libraries.
- Delivered Advocacy Bootcamp in 2014 and again yesterday followed by a reception for MPs during the opening ceremonies. Thank you to all members who agreed to be present to host an MP, we had a wonderful response and anticipate follow up and meetings at constituency offices in the coming months.
- Built and enhanced relationships provincially, nationally and internationally.
- Developed a Code of Conduct for CLA events which will be released at the CLA National Conference and Trade Show in Ottawa, Ontario in June 2015.
- (Soon to be released) update of the *Intellectual Freedom Position Statement* by the Intellectual Freedom Advisory Committee.
- Communicated to Parliament recognizing the second anniversary of the Copyright Modernization Act and outlining some of the additional changes that should be considered during the anticipated review of the Act.
- Maintained observer status at the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights.
- Advocated for Canadian Government signing of the WIPO Marrakesh VIP Treaty.
- Responded to LAC regarding the proposed replacement of AMICUS and hosting of the NUC using OCLC; continued dialogue with LAC regarding the negotiations with OCLC on this matter and ensuring that the concerns of the community are being considered.

The Executive Director took a moment to express her gratitude to the following:

- the membership for their support, honesty, and passion,
- CLA's organizational and stakeholder partners for their faith, support, and guidance,
- CLA's committees and networks for their guidance, hard work, dedication and passion,
- Executive Council for their faith, guidance, patience, and collaborative approach and the CLA staff and contractors.

She stated that none of the work could have been accomplished without each of those groups and members and thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts.

Member Karen Ranalletta raised concern that the Executive Director's report did not mention library workers. She stated that there was a continuous misunderstanding of the Canadian Library Association and who is presented by this organization. She stressed that the Canadian Library Association embodies librarians but also library workers. The Executive Director apologized for this inaccuracy and stated that Ms. Ranalletta was correct; the Canadian Library Association represents all those who work in a library.

The President stated that the meeting was going over the time that was initially published in the agenda therefore she proposed a motion to extend the meeting.

Motion: TO extend the Annual General Meeting until business is completed.

Moved: Alvin Schrader

Seconded: Rosemary Bonanno

CARRIED

Another motion was proposed by the President.

Motion: THAT be it resolved that thanks and appreciation be extended to the CLA Conference Program Committee, Local Planning Committee, the CLA staff, the volunteers and those many individuals and institutions, sponsors and companies whose efforts and generosity have contributed to the great success of the 2015 CLA National Conference and Trade Show.

Moved: Marc Truitt

Seconded: Gillian Byrne

CARRIED

Agenda 12: Resolutions

President DeYoung stated that no resolutions were received. She opened up the floor for motions. There were none brought forth.

Agenda 13: President's Address

President DeYoung reported that during her 18 month term, there were both challenging and exciting proceedings on what is important to her as a professional and within the library community. She stated that she would discuss 4 themes in her address: change, challenge, community and celebration.

President DeYoung noted that change was constant. She stated that Libraries were continually changing and going in new and exciting directions for service: makerspaces, community hubs, innovative services such as the Truro and Yukon seed libraries, and bike lending at McMaster University, to name but a few.

She stated that this year CLA started the process of reviewing Position Statements. Comments and suggestions had been received for the Intellectual Freedom Position Statement, and these were under consideration by the Committee. Other Statements are in the process of being reviewed.

The President declared that 2016 annual conference would not be held in Halifax. She stated that the new convention centre would not be ready to host CLA and as a result a decision was to move the conference to Ottawa in order to take advantage of the access to Parliament.

The President noted that there were many challenges over the past two years. The Council of Canadian Academies Expert Panel report leading in the Digital world, opportunities for Canada's memory institutions, was a complement to the RSC Expert Panel Report: The future now, Canada's Libraries, Archives and Public Memory. These two extensive reports identified issues and concerns about service, sustainability and ability to innovate fast enough to meet the needs of Library professions and the communities served. She stated that the E-books presented unique challenges to all types of libraries. In response, CLA created the E-Book Task Force which was ready share and move on recommendations as well as a strategy to move forward. She indicated that members should stay tuned for a news release on June 15th on this important issue. She also stated that Langley Teachers' Association had provided strong support for teacher librarians and the important role of school libraries as well as the need for freedom of expression and intellectual freedom in Canadian school libraries.

She reported that in the previous month members were asked to help CLA determine the top priorities of the community for the 2015 federal election and that the top 3 ranked priorities were:

- Support for Library and Archives Canada
- Reinstatement of the long form census
- Government recommitment to investing in library infrastructure

The President noted that this would shape the strategy that CLA will be developing, with the assistance of Impact Public Affairs, to help all establish awareness of library issues during the upcoming election campaign.

The President also reported on Dr. Guy Berthiaume , National Librarian and Archivist, in sharing his thoughts on where LAC would be going in regard to service and accountability. She stated that LAC has demonstrated a willingness to be more transparent through improved communication, information sharing, and development of a Federal Science Library which is an exciting collaboration of 8 federal agencies and departments, and having open dialog regarding the OCLC contract. That their strong presence and support for the CLA conference was a clear indication of their willingness to step up and demonstrate leadership within our community.

She reported that this year the Community Led Library Services Network developed 8 papers to share and recognize the many aspects of community led library services. These papers can be found on the network blog.

In regards to celebrations, the President stated that there was continued excitement around new spaces, in both public and academic libraries, she noted that:

- Toronto Public Library opened its 100th branch, a remarkable achievement
- Antigonish Town and County Library was recently named the recipient of the Canadian institute of Planners, “Great Places in Canada” award
- Ryerson University opened its new student learning centre
- Halifax celebrated the opening of its new central library and with luck Ottawa will soon be announcing the funding for a new central library.

She stated that *Leading Learning: Standards of practice for school library learning commons in Canada* was the recipient of the 2015 OLA Presidents Award for Exceptional Achievement. Victoria Owen was elected to the IFLA Governing Board, she stated it was a tremendous acknowledgement of the hard work and consistent representation she has made on behalf of Canada’s libraries.

She also cited that it had recently been announced that the iSchool @Toronto had introduced and award for library leadership in honour of Wendy Newman, a fitting tribute to the hard work, dedication and leadership that Wendy has given to the promotion of advocacy.

She expressed her sincere appreciation for the support and hard work provided by members of Executive Council and Valoree McKay as well as staff at the CLA Office. She also thanked the membership for their support of the association and the important role it plays as Canada’s national voice for libraries.

In closing, the President shared a quote from Wendy Newman, from her CILIP blog on 4 March 2015 - “If we believe that librarianship matters to people and communities, and not just to us and our jobs, it’s time to raise our game, and become much more strategic, evidence-based, disciplined advocates.”

She acclaimed that this was something she had taken to heart and hoped the membership will join her in the challenge.

Agenda 15: Other Business

Councillor-at-Large, Jane Schmidt, stated that she was inspired by member Sarah Depont who expressed appreciation to the indigenous grounds that we are located on and introduced a motion to be considered by membership. The motion was as follows.

Motion: THAT at all conferences, CLA Executive Council and members express gratitude for the indigenous grounds upon which the meeting was taking place.

Moved: Jane Schmidt

Seconded: Marc Truitt

CARRIED

President DeYoung called upon for the Vice-President Singh to pass on the CLA gavel. After this notion was complete, Sandra Singh was welcomed by the membership as the new President of CLA. She proceeded to provide a short incoming speech.

The President expressed her deep appreciation for Past-President DeYoung's leadership and shared a small token of gratitude on behalf of the council and CLA.

President Singh thanked the past Executive Council for all their work and contributions. She also thanked Executive Director, Valoree McKay as well as the staff for all their work. She expressed gratitude to Pilar Martinez and Jane Schmidt for all their contributions and knowledge and to Jim Bennett and Peggy D'Orsay for stepping in for the past few months to fill in the two Councillor-at-Large positions that became vacant unexpectedly in late 2014.

She welcomed Rosemary Bonanno, Virginia Clevette, Christina Hwang and Colleen Murphy, the new Council members.

She reported that the upcoming year was a critical time for CLA. As Treasurer Michael Ridley noted, CLA will have two parallel tracks of work. She stated that CLA will need to continue their work as the national association - update their values, policy and position statements to ensure they continue to provide relevant guidance for the library community, provide opportunities for members to connect on these important issues, represent the library community's interests to federal decision-makers. She also stated that CLA will need to continue to do all of this within a broader trend of declining membership and declining revenue.

Alongside this ongoing work, CLA will have a parallel track of planning for the organization's future because the track CLA is on is no longer sustainable. She stated that CLA's current structure and approach are not working. That a national association with less than 900 personal members and less than 300 institutional members which is a fraction of our national community.

She stated that it was time for more than just minor surgery or tweaking around the edges. CLA was in need to revision, restructure, and retool; and that CLA was too important to libraries and Canadians, whether the latter know it or not, to fail.

She presented some key interests that CLA must be built into any future:

- A powerhouse of our community are the smart, resourceful, and committed individuals that work in all positions across our libraries across this country. They have contributions to make and there must be clear and easy places for those contributions and for their voices to be heard.
- Networking with professional development and learning; the future must provide the members with opportunities to connect with colleagues across the country on important issues, both virtually and in person.
- Research and evidence to back up the values-based proposals and advocacy of the organization.

She stated that these were just a few of the interests that must be met in any future vision and the CLA will build them into the forthcoming proposal. She acknowledged that change for any organization was hard - especially big structural changes, especially for organizations with long memories, and especially when all previous changes have been tweaking around the edges. She stated that CLA was suggesting that some approaches and traditions need to end: that they were good approaches and traditions for many years. They were the right ones then. But the world has and continues to change. However, she stated that the heart and mind was still there and intact in our abiding interests, in our sector's inclusive culture, and in our core values. These will be brought forward and met through the new structure that will be proposed.

President Singh asked the members to think of the structuring of CLA as a rebirth. A rebirth of a national library organization that will truly represent the whole country, that will have the capacity to engage many more individuals than has ever been engaged, that has the potential to turn the library community into a powerhouse of influence in national and international matters. She requested that the membership hang in there with CLA as the organization continues to work along CLA's two parallel tracks. She stated that their membership - as individuals and institutions - was more important now than ever.

President Singh reminded the membership that CLA will present them with an updated proposal for consideration. CLA will gather the feedback, revise as appropriate and then come back to members for a vote in late January.

She stated that this was a historic moment in CLA's life cycle and it was time to renew. CLA's values and culture of inclusivity have remained true for 68 years, through periods of growth and change. CLA could do it again. And on the other side of the change, in the new world CLA would be aiming for, a national voice be stronger, more representative, and more influential. And CLA will have a better chance of success in its efforts to promote libraries, library values, and information rights for all Canadians.

She thanked all of the working group members and summit participants who worked so collaboratively to get CLA this far in envisioning a new future.

Agenda 16: Adjournment

There being no other business, new President Singh declared the meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm.

Recorded by Agnieszka Arkuszewski, Executive Assistant

Preliminary draft approved by S. Singh

Approved:

[by Executive Council]



Date: July 6, 2016

Sandra Singh
President



Date: July 6, 2016

Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director