

26 April 2011

To all CLA members:

### **Resolution for proposed changes to the CLA Constitution and Bylaws**

**Resolution:** Moved to adopt the new CLA Constitution and Bylaws as distributed to the members on 26 April 2011.

#### **Explanation**

At the 2010 Annual General Meeting, the members of the Association charged Executive Council with addressing CLA's financial challenges, keeping the membership and broader library community informed of its progress, and presenting a full plan to the 2011 AGM.

Since that meeting, the Executive Council has worked hard to meet these commitments. The Future Committee developed a plan for restructuring the association to function more efficiently with its existing financial resources. Two drafts of the Future Plan were distributed to the members and the library community for broad consultation; a blog site was established for feedback on the Plan. CLA President Keith Walker has provided regular updates on the work being done by Executive Council and staff. Major revisions were made to the budget to make it more transparent and to align it with the priorities of the Association.

The culmination of this effort is presented as proposed revisions to the CLA Constitution and Bylaws and the 2011 CLA budget. The revisions reflect the changes presented in the draft of the Future Plan.

You will find attached:

- a document with three columns containing the existing and revised articles and bylaws with notes explaining the changes
- a copy of the Future Plan with the page numbers as referenced in the notes
- a "clean" copy of the proposed revised Constitution and Bylaws
- the approved 2011 CLA budget summary (in its new format)
- notes on the 2011 budget summary

The document outlining the revisions is set up as follows:

column 1: the existing text of the Constitution and Bylaws, approved in 2008

column 2: the proposed revisions to the texts, including new article and bylaws numbering where necessary

column 3: notes on the changes.

- FP indicates the page reference in the Future Plan which discusses the proposed change
- references to Article and Bylaw numbers are to those numbers in column 1, and the corresponding text in column 2 of the same row

The major changes made to the Constitution and Bylaws of CLA include:

1. Change of the name of the association: to bring our constitution in line with the 2006 resolution and subsequent Supplementary Letters Patent approving our bilingual name.
2. Dissolution of the Divisions and Interest Groups.
3. Introduction of Standing and Advisory Committees and Networks.
4. Reduction in size and change in composition of Executive Council.
5. Removal of the distinction between “officers” and “councillors” on Executive Council; there are now provisions for named positions on Executive Council, and former Bylaws 4 and 5 have been integrated to cover all positions. With the reduced size of the Executive Council, it was unnecessary to keep provisions for officers which allowed for them to act independently of the rest of Executive Council; this has not been current practice.
6. A new Article has been added to the Constitution (new Article 9) to allow proxy voting.
7. Changes to the annual membership duration to coincide with the calendar year.
8. Changes to timing of the election cycle to allow Executive Council terms to coincide with the calendar year.
9. Changes to timing of appointments to Committees and of Network Moderators to coincide with the calendar year.
10. Provisions for the basic functioning (including financing) of Committees and Networks.

Otherwise, there are minor changes for consistency or clarity, or to reflect current practice where it differs from the article or bylaw.

This resolution will be debated and put to a vote at the CLA AGM, to be held at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia on Thursday 26 May 2011 from 4:00-6:00pm.