

**Ratification of Electronic Votes
February & March 2016**

The following motions and decisions were undertaken electronically by the CLA Executive Council in February and March 2016. These decisions must now be ratified and recorded in the minutes.

**Electronic Vote: Digest
March 14, 2016**

Executive Council agreed to an electronic vote.

It was agreed by consensus that the Canadian Library Association would continue to publish Digest as its main communication and advertising vehicle.

From: Valoree McKay [<mailto:vmckay@cla.ca>]
Sent: March-14-16 4:17 PM
To: Christina Hwang_personal <christinahw@gmail.com>; Colleen Murphy <Colleen.Murphy@uregina.ca>; Marie DeYoung <Marie.DeYoung@smu.ca>; Michael Ridley <mridley@uoguelph.ca>; Rosemary Bonanno <RBonanno@virl.bc.ca>; Sandra Singh <sandra.singh@vpl.ca>; Virginia Clevette <vclevette@epl.ca>
Cc: info <info@cla.ca>
Subject: FOR DISCUSSION - ECMtg Mar 4, 2016: Continuation of Digest as a Communication Tool

Good afternoon,

At the EC meeting on March 4 you agreed to deal with several agenda items via email. I will send a separate email for each item so that the discussion is clear and traceable.

**Item 13c, March 4, 2016 Executive Council Meeting
Dissolution: Next Steps & Updates – Continuation of Digest as a Communication Tool**

The details for discussion:

Executive Council had discussed ending both Feliciter and Digest. We have not undertaken any new activity with Feliciter other than to update the archives on the website (www.community.cla.ca) and will not pursue any further publication of the magazine. However we have continued to use Digest for a variety of reasons and I am asking Executive Council to consider permitting us to continue using it as a communication and marketing tool for CLA and for the Forum.

- It is the only real method that we have and use to communicate to our membership, which we promised to continue doing, during this wind up period and as the Federation establishes itself
- It is one of the only ways in which we promote Forum and is the key platform for promoting Forum
- It is a fantastic tool for promoting Forum sponsors and exhibitors which is one of the benefits that they receive
- It has the highest open rate on anything we send out including email
- It is also tied to career ads which is one of the only revenue generators at the moment and one of the main reasons that people open the Digest
- It is one of the key platforms used to promote books which are still a source of revenue for us

- As of the end of this month, we no longer have Constant Contact (email platform) and will be using a new platform run through the new database – we are still working out the details on that – however there is no extra platform costs that we are aware of should we continue to produce Digest.

I asked Ann for some statistics

- We have a distribution list of 1048
- Average open rate is 48-50% (extremely good rate)
- Of the opens we get about a 10-15% click through rate on the links: 40% of click-thrus are to conference website/info; 25% is to careers section on cla.ca. The others are usually to links about people in the news or cla agenda

It is my recommendation (with support from Ann) that we consider keeping Digest as a communication tool until after the June Forum. It is a very valuable communications tool.

Let the discussion begin.....

Cheers,

Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director

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**Electronic Vote: Network Dissolution and Use of Teleconference Services by Networks
March 14, 2016**

Executive Council agreed to an electronic vote.

Executive Council acknowledges and accepts the requests of the CLASY Network and the Human Resources Network to dissolve. Executive Council thanks the moderators of said Networks as well as their membership for their efforts on behalf of the CLA and the library and information community.

It was agreed by consensus that the teleconference capabilities would no longer be made available to the Networks due to CLA's pending dissolution and its current financial position.

From: Valoree McKay
Sent: March-14-16 2:58 PM
To: Christina Hwang_personal; Colleen Murphy; Marie DeYoung; Michael Ridley ; Rosemary Bonanno; Sandra Singh; Virginia Clevette
Cc: Agnieszka Arkuszewski
Subject: FOR DISCUSSION - ECMtg Mar 4, 2016: Dissolution - CLA Networks and Network Engagement Policy

Good afternoon,

At the EC meeting on March 4 you agreed to deal with several agenda items via email. I will send a separate email for each item so that the discussion is clear and traceable.

**Item 13a, March 4, 2016 Executive Council Meeting
Dissolution: Next Steps & Updates – CLA Networks and Network Engagement Policy**

Background Material Attached (EC 16-03-20)

The Request for discussion:

In February 2016 an email was received from the CLASY network notifying CLA that it will dissolve itself. In October 2015, we also received a notification from the Human Resource Network that they wished to dissolve as well. Upon receiving this request, Executive Council asked to review the Network Engagement Policy. This document specifies the actions Executive Council takes when a Network exhibits inactivity.

Executive Council needs to formalize the requested dissolution of these two Networks. Normally Executive Council would move to dissolve an inactive Network; this is the first time we have received a request from the Network to dissolve.

I would also like for Executive Council to discuss the issue of teleconference activity between now and the dissolution of CLA. Will we provide access to teleconference functionality given there is no new business to be undertaken? It is unlikely that we will receive a request however I would like to be prepared should we receive one. We have already received requests for remote access to meetings

during the Forum and we have said it is not available due to the high cost of teleconference and internet access within a hotel. It just isn't in the budget.

Let the discussion begin.....

Cheers,

Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director

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**Electronic Vote: Formal Request to Comment on National School Library Association Proposal
March 14, 2016**

Executive Council agreed to an electronic vote.

It was agreed by consensus that CLA was not in a position to comment on the proposal for the creation of a National School Library Association due to CLA's pending dissolution. Executive Council wished them success and encourages them to reach out to the New Federation once established.

From: Valoree McKay
Sent: March-14-16 2:49 PM
To: Christina Hwang_personal; Colleen Murphy; Marie DeYoung; Michael Ridley ; Rosemary Bonanno; Sandra Singh; Virginia Clevette
Cc: Agnieszka Arkuszewski
Subject: FOR DISCUSSION - ECMtg Mar 4, 2016: National School Library Association in Canada

Good afternoon,

At the EC meeting on March 4 you agreed to deal with several agenda items via email. I will send a separate email for each item so that the discussion is clear and traceable.

**Item 12, March 4, 2016 Executive Council Meeting
Request for Formal Comment on Proposed National School Library Association in Canada**

Background Material Attached (EC 16-03-018 and EC 16-03-019)

The Request for discussion:

As you are aware, there was a special session at the end of Treasure Mountain Canada to discuss the potential for forming a new national school library association. The consensus of that meeting was to gather broader input from the community via a survey. We have now sent the email and survey link below to a list of school library leaders from across the country.

Because this exploration is so connected to the dissolution of the CLA, we would really welcome a response from you and members of the Executive Council, individually or with one response representing the CLA's point of view. I leave it to you to decide on which course would be best.

Will Executive Council formerly comment?

What will be the response?

Who will volunteer to draft it?

Let the discussion begin.....

Cheers,

Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director

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**Electronic Decision: Cuts to 2016 Budget
February 29, 2016**

Executive Council agreed to an electronic discussion and decision.

It was agreed by consensus that the Canadian Library Association would cease working with Impact Public Affairs effective March 2016; that CLA will not award those CLA Awards that are without sponsorship in 2016 with the exception of the Intellectual Freedom Award as it has been awarded already; and that it would not renew its membership with IFLA.

From: Valoree McKay
Sent: February-29-16 1:10 PM
To: Christina Hwang_personal; Colleen Murphy; Marie DeYoung; Michael Ridley ; Rosemary Bonanno; Sandra Singh; Virginia Clevette
Subject: IMPORTANT PLEASE: Financial discussion/decision needed before March 4
Importance: High

Good morning,

Mike, Linda and I met Friday to review the estimate cash flow for 2016 up to June (attached). There are some expenses that we would like EC to consider eliminating immediately in order to eliminate or minimize expenditure for March (tomorrow).

We are making changes that are streamlining costs which are not showing here yet (egs include conference call expenses reduced by a couple hundred monthly, removal of boxes from Iron Mountain, reducing number of emails).

The costs we would like you to look at and decide on immediately are as follows:

Impact Public Affairs - \$3000/month plus tax - \$12,000 plus tax over the next 4 months

By eliminating this expense we save a significant amount of money which is very important. We also minimize our ability to effectively undertake advocacy initiatives during this time. This might not be an issue given the winding down and the goal of having the Federation take on some activity immediately after incorporation which is expected in the next couple of weeks. Alternatively, we could ask CARL and CULC to take policy leads using their own firms and/or using Impact at their expense.

Awards that are not sponsored – we have made a call for nominations for all of these awards
Outstanding Service to Librarianship - \$2000 – we have one or two nominations for this to date
CLA/Alan MacDonald Mentorship Award - \$2000
CLA R. H. Blackburn Distinguished Paper Award - \$200
CLA Student Article Award - \$200
Cost of plaques for these awards (all awards) - \$140

(For your information – currently sponsored awards include CLA/OCLC Award for Innovation in Technology and CLA Emerging Leader Award)


(Award already given for 2016 – Intellectual Freedom Award)

That's it for now, Mike will likely have other points for discussion on Friday at our meeting. Mike, please jump in if I missed something.

Regards,

Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director

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**Electronic Vote: Approval of Recommendation of Intellectual Freedom Advisory Committee regarding recipient of 2016 Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada Award
February 24, 2016**

Executive Council agreed to an electronic vote.

MOTION 11-16: TO approve the recommendation of the Intellectual Freedom Advisory Committee to award the 2016 Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada Award to Richard Beaudry and Gail Chaddock-Costello.

CARRIED

Move: Colleen Murphy

Second: Michael Ridley

Vote for: 6

Vote against: 0

1 vote was not cast

Richard Beaudry and Gail Chaddock-Costello recommended for 2016 Award for the Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada

The Intellectual Freedom Advisory Committee recommends that CLA honour Richard Beaudry and Gail Chaddock-Costello with the **2016 Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada Award** for demonstrated leadership and exceptional courage in resisting censorship and opposing violations of intellectual freedom in school libraries and schools. Their co-efforts involved school library advocacy and a series of formal grievances in different schools over an extended period of time against arbitrary authority and breach of due process in the provision of reading materials and minimum standards of library services for students and teachers.

The school library intellectual freedom controversies confronted by Mr. Beaudry and Ms. Chaddock-Costello began in 2009 when they were made aware of an administrative document granting permission to the parents of children attending an elementary school in British Columbia to enter the school library and remove materials at their discretion. The document was rescinded when Ms. Chaddock-Costello successfully grieved the procedure as indiscriminate and without due process or justification, and hence in contravention of school board policies. The grievance ruling also affirmed the professional autonomy of teachers and teacher librarians to manage school library collections.

Mr. Beaudry and Ms. Chaddock-Costello were once again faced with a troubling situation in 2014 when they were informed of extreme “book leveling” practices in another district school, unilaterally adopted by school administration and unopposed by school trustees. In this case, books numbering in the thousands were being haphazardly discarded without consultation with appropriate professional staff, including collections in the school library, the school’s reading room, and the classrooms as well as the teachers’ own personal collections. A further grievance was launched, arguing that the extreme degree of book leveling amounted to censorship and citing, among other authorities, the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the BC School Act, and the BC Civil Liberties

Union. There is general recognition that book leveling is a strongly contested practice without demonstrated merit for student learning.

Despite the school board's reluctance either to acknowledge that censorship was occurring or to accede to the inclusion in the grievance of such a broad array of supporting documentation, Ms. Chaddock-Costello and Mr. Beaudry were ultimately successful. The school board agreed to rehire a reduced-load teacher librarian; provide funds to both the school library and the teachers to compensate for the loss of collections, with teacher consultation mandated for future acquisitions; convene a committee to develop a school library vision for the district; and develop policies and procedures concerning the selection and deselection of school library materials.

The events in the particular school district in British Columbia in which these violations of intellectual freedom policy and school library due process occurred are not unique. But the resistance to the crisis by Ms. Chaddock-Costello and Mr. Beaudry stands out as exceptionally determined and courageous. In the face of significant opposition to their efforts, they have demonstrated an unvarying dedication to the preservation and enhancement of school library services and access across the aggrieved school district. Not only did Mr. Beaudry and Ms. Chaddock-Costello successfully oppose numerous challenges to the intellectual freedom of students and staff, a laudable achievement itself, but they also insisted that policies be created and revised in order to recognize the crucial roles of book collections and collection policies, student reading choice, school libraries, teacher librarians, and teacher autonomy.

Although the results of their principled determination to support intellectual freedom principles in a school environment will be felt most directly by local students and teaching staff, the courage of Ms. Chaddock-Costello and Mr. Beaudry in opposing school library censorship will serve as a model for all Canadians faced with the evolving crisis in school library services. Mr. Beaudry has said, "If you attack one library in Canada, you attack them all," and it is his and Ms. Chaddock-Costello's commitment to the broader, national perspective that is also recognized in this Award. Mr. Beaudry and Ms. Chaddock-Costello have not only defended the rights of students and teachers to intellectual freedom in a local school district in one province, they have also added significantly to the national narrative that sees these and related rights and responsibilities as imperative and immutable in all schools across Canada.

This Award recognizes and supports the principled collective achievements of Mr. Beaudry and Ms. Chaddock-Costello in inspiring informed advocacy, on behalf of students and teachers alike, for school library issues, policies, and intellectual freedom.

The Canadian Library Association's Award for the Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada recognizes and honours outstanding contributions to intellectual freedom in Canada by individuals or groups. Preference is given to librarians and library institutions. However like-minded individuals such as teachers or authors or groups such as schools or publishers are also eligible. The award is given from time-to-time, not necessarily on an annual basis, and there may be more than one recipient in any one year. For information about past awards, go to *[URL]*.