



2022 FALL MEETING MINUTES

14 October 2022 | Virtual using Zoom

In attendance:

Sam Anderson	Kitimat PL	Christina de Castell	Vancouver PL
Paul Burry	Prince George PL	Susan Walters	Richmon PL, Chair
Anton Dounts	Cariboo Regional PL	Wendy Wright	Smithers PL
Scott Hargrove	Fraser Valley RL	Kevin Milsip	BCLC
Beth Davies	Burnaby PL	Kaitlyn Vecchio	NWLF
Cari Lynn Gawletz	Grand Forks & District PL	Michael Burris	InterLINK
Brian Butler	Hazelton PL	Thomas Knutson	NELF
Ursula Brigl	Cranbrook PL	Melanie Reaveley	KLF
Maureen Sawa	Greater Victoria RL	Adrieene Wass	Public Libraries Branch
Kimberly Partanen	Castlegar PL	Rina Hadziev	BCLA
Matthew Rankin	Fort St. John PL	Leigh Anne Palmer	ABCPLD
Ben Hyman	Vancouver Island RL	Vinita Chand	ABCPLD, recorder
Heather Buzzell	Penticton PL		
Marc Saunders	Port Moody PL		
Rebecca Burbank	Powell River PL		
Melissa Millsap	Chetwynd PL		
Taylor Caron	Salmo PL		
Monika Willner	Burns Lake PL		
Stephanie Hall	West Vancouver PL		
Karen Hudson	Salt Spring Island PL		

1. Business Meeting - called to order at 2:05pm

Motion to accept agenda: Wendy Wright / Ursula Brigl , CARRIED

2. Accessible BC Act Implementation Update (Mike Prescott, DABC)

- Background information relating to the Act was reviewed. DABC is working with libraries and many other prescribed organizations on implementation. Libraries will have until Sept 1, 2023 to respond to the three elements of Part 3 of the Act, including establishing an Accessibility Committee, developing an accessibility plan by Sept. 1, 2023, and establishing public feedback mechanisms.
- The regulations are flexible. For example, organizations can join with other prescribed organizations when establishing their accessibility committees. If organizations have similar committees already in place these committees can be adapted to meet the regulations of the Act.
- Mike reviewed information regarding resources that are available to support compliance with the Act.
- Mike suggested that organizations be very clear about the purpose of their accessibility committees when recruiting members to help with recruiting members in a more focused and successful manner
- Question and discussion regarding compensating committee members, particularly those members with disabilities. Mike suggested it is important to continue providing government with this feedback

- Rina Hadziev discussed the possibility of a toolkit being developed with consultation with the disability community which can be shared with organizations to help guide their work on implementing the Act. Mike shared that the toolkit will have two parts with part 1 being more for all organizations and with part 2 being more customized and focused for individual sectors
- Discussion regarding the scale of committees. Do the committees need to focus on developing general guidelines and best practices or should committees focus more on the individual organization's special needs
- Mike spoke about developing a consulting network from within the disability community to assist organizations with their process.

3. Consent Agenda

301. Approval of April 2022 meeting minutes

Motion to approve consent agenda: Karen Hudson / Anton Dounts, CARRIED

4. Chair's Report

401. Highlights from 2022 Summary

Susan provided highlights of activities from the Spring and Summer of 2022: including

- In April Cari Lynn Gawletz and Paul Burry joined the Board. To orientate the new members an process was developed which will continue to be used for future board orientations.
- A Board retreat was held in Whistler in conjunction with the UBCM Conference.
- With regard to the Strategic Initiatives Fund, ABCPLD members have pledged more than \$150,000 to date and Partners are moving forward with hiring a government relations consultancy firm..

Motion to accept Chair's Report: Leianne Emery / Christina de Castell, CARRIED

5. New Business

501. January to September 2022 Financial Statements

- Paul reviewed the Income statement as at the end of September 2022
- ABCPLD is in a very solid financial position
- The majority of the costs are fixed and associated with general administration of the association
- Legal expenses and Consulting & Contracting expenses were under spent and, therefore, these funds will be redirected to use towards some of the administration expenses for the new Strategic Initiatives Fund/Project

Motion to receive Financial Statements: Anton Dounts / Beth Davies, CARRIED

502. 2023 Budget and Three-Year Financial Plan 2023 to 2025

- As outlined in the 5-year plan from last year, we will continue to have a gradual increase in member revenue and gradual decline in use of operations reserves
- \$61,000 will be transferred in from the Strategic Initiatives Fund to cover the first year of operations of this project

Motion that the Executive consider 2023 Budget and Three Year Plan as presented for adoption:
Anton Dounts / Beth Davies, CARRIED

6. Closed Session

601. Bargaining Updates

- Directors shared their experiences with collective agreement bargaining: Ben Hyman, Vancouver Island Regional Library, with BCGEU; Beth Davies, Burnaby Public Library, with CUPE.

602. Strategic Initiative Funds Next Steps

- At the Spring AGM ABCPLD membership agreed that ABCPLD, through the Partners, will need to increase our government relations expertise; the membership approved the creation of the Strategic Initiatives Fund.
- Since the AGM the board has worked on developing a recommended contribution scale to the Fund
- To date we have raised over \$150,000; the funds will be administered through ABCPLD
- One of the first tasks will be to interview and hire a government relations firm/consultant; the Partners will work on developing a framework for selecting a firm and encourage members to share what they are looking for in a firm/consultant
- Christina de Castell suggested looking for a firm that has had concrete results in achieving funding for organizations they have worked with; discussion regarding the impact of reduced provincial funding for larger versus smaller libraries
- Discussion regarding how some libraries are facing challenges with their boards in approving contributions to the Strategic Initiatives Fund; discussion regarding how using the Strategic Initiatives Fund will help to establish ongoing, sustained and long term provincial government funding for libraries
- As it is important to communicate the progress with the Fund, members were asked about what level of communication they wish to see from the Partners and how frequent; perhaps a quick monthly update and a more formal report at the AGM; perhaps posting updates on the ABCPLD website; Ben Hyman suggested monthly progress updates would be beneficial and there seemed to be general agreement to this by members

Motion to move out of closes session: Scott Hargrove / Ben Hyman, CARRIED

7. Next Meeting

The next business meeting will be the Spring AGM and has tentatively been scheduled for Tuesday April 11, 2023, time and location to be announced soon (lower mainland location). This meeting will be a hybrid with both in person and virtual components.

8. Adjournment: 3:27pm

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Christina de Castell / Anton Dounts, CARRIED