

BCLA PRESENTATION BY THE FRIENDS OF CANADIAN LIBRARIES

Who are friends?

How can you tell a friend when you see one?

What have we done?

How do friends see trustees?

How do trustees see friends?

How do friends see CEO/staff?

How does CEO/staff see friends?

What future partnerships can be established?

WHO ARE FRIENDS ?

- “Connecting links” for library & community
- Friends are people connected
- Friends are not staff
- Friends don't act independently
- Friends are not trustees
- Action driven/doers, team builders -volunteers

HOW CAN YOU TELL A FRIEND WHEN YOU SEE ONE?

- Friends are visible and speak up for the Library at public meetings and political forums
- Friends are informed about the immediate needs of their library and can articulate them to others.
- Friends are connected to the community and take leadership roles in other organizations
- Friends believe that the Library has the power to shape lives and can articulate this stand to others
- Friends believe that they are the best advocates for achieving excellence in library service and are committed to such achievement.

THINGS FRIENDS HAVE DONE

- Ottawa Separates Board/Advocacy
- Cranbrook - \$168,000 From Human Resources For Community Outreach
- Winchester, Vermont On Library's Centennial - Architectural Drawings
- BookCrossing Release Books On World
- Edmonton Com/Anti-Prej. Film Fest
- St. Paul Friends Issues Press Release On Advocacy/Position Paper
- Books For Babies At Coquitlam, B.C.
- Winnipeg Hosts Authors Brunch

Friends see trustees as:

- Library leaders
- Community leaders
- Committed citizens
- Future friends
- Sharing same vision/ mission
- Offering advice and direction
- Supporters of friends events
- Policy gatekeepers

Trustees see friends

- Respecting trustee decisions
- Sharing goals and objectives
- Active in library fundraising
- Sharing same library voice to community, city council and media
- Acting as partners in advocacy
- Consulting with trustees/CEO on common issues

How friends see CEO/staff

- The key to friends success
- Key to friends' role definition
- Guidance on development
- Communicators for friends
- Input on needs for activities
- Placing limits on time demands

How does CEO/staff see friends?

- Giving attention by appointing staff to liaise
- Major determiners on resources use

Future Partnerships

Friends are Volunteers

- Friends can match volunteers to task
- Friends identify volunteers for specific activities/events
- Volunteers can assist in high profile events requiring high numbers
- Friends appreciate that some volunteers choose to participate on an intermittent basis
- Can assist in book sales, record survey info, shut-in services

Friends are Partners

- Among our greatest library advocates and fundraisers
- Articulate why the library matters to decision makers
- Speaking as another voice to city officials and political forums
- Plan book/author/literacy events
- Operate book shops
- Organize citizens to tell personal library stories (library websites)
- Make connections with community

Friends are Advocates

- Friends speaking as one voice to city officials on annual basis
- Friends issue press release to media
- Friends speaking at political forums
- Partnerships w/community groups