

BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, March 15, 2016, Central branch, Vancouver Public Library

Attended by: Jenny Fry, Co-Chair, Surrey; Tara Matsuzaki, Co-Chair, West Vancouver; Caroline Crowe, Vancouver; Winifred Chong, Vancouver; Meghan Whyte, Vancouver/Surrey; Ana Calabresi, Burnaby; Fiona Hunt, Douglas College; Michelle Whitehead, Greater Victoria; Shelley Wilson-Roberts, New Westminster; Chloe Riley, SLAIS rep; Barbara Edwards, Vancouver; Stephanie Hong, Langara rep; Michael Gray, Library Bound; Kendra Reynolds, Langara student; Claire Westlake, North Vancouver District; Jen Streckmann, SLAIS rep

Regrets: Matthew Murray; Meghan Savage, Surrey

The next meeting is Tuesday April 19, 2016, from 9:15-11am at VPL's Central branch (7th floor)

Interesting RA tidbits:

- Jen: upcoming SLAIS event called Bookish Bloodshed, lunch-time RA event for kids books, students in teams. If successful, might do another for adult books.
- Chloe brought a couple "Year of Reading" pamphlets from Seattle library to show us
- Barbara is thinking about the book club experience, capturing the transformative stories of reading in people's lives, referenced [Ian Brown's series in the Globe & Mail on the role of reading.](#)
- Claire: starting shelf-talkers program at all branches, 25 shelf-talkers per branch
- Tara is experimenting with badges for staff, and is developing an RA badge for release in 2016
- Winifred mentioned the YALSA app, [Teen Book Finder](#)
- Shelley: it's the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth/death, Dr. Brenna Gray is giving a library talk in April, and they'll be screening some films. VPL is doing a talk and preview for Bard on the Beach (April 26)
- Meghan W: SLAIS and Dr. Heather O'Brien is planning a one-credit course on RA for later in 2016
- Michelle: [Book Slut](#) is shutting down, no more updates as of May 2016

Committee updates:

- Matthew: reminder to post to the RAIG's Instagram!
- Caroline: thinking about how to measure RA, it's tough to measure experiences quantitatively, probably can't be completely captured (i.e. checking out a book doesn't mean they read it, never mind figuring out the impact of a particular book over the short-term or long-term). Mentioned the [Book Net infographic for Canadian Book Market 2014](#)
- Barbara: idea for RA mentorship through BCLA

BCLA Conference 2016: BCLA conference organizers agreed to adopt our name tag template, to include a line for people to write the title they are reading

BCLA Perspectives: Titles to Talk About – submit titles to Shelley (recent titles, preferably Canadian, preferably BC/local)

RA in a Day 2016: brief discussion – possible dates Mon Oct 17, Tues Oct 18, Mon Oct 24, and Tues Oct 25. Need location big enough for 100 people and round tables. Barbara confirmed that VPL is an option for all dates mentioned except Oct 25. Fiona investigated Douglas College, and it is an option, but only for lecture/theatre-style seating.

Strategic planning for 2016-2017: discussion

- RA in a Day: do we continue to do it? Decision: yes, but not forever. Might not be an annual event.
- Gap identified: how to do RA, basic skills & training, maybe an add-on to the BCLA conference to attract more people from around the province
- Decision: conduct a survey on RAIG and BCLA listservs, including:
 - What library system do you work for? (drop-down list)
 - What role are you in? (drop-down: manager, librarian, library technician)
 - What are your current RA skills?
 - What RA training do you get, what do you have access to, and what do you need?
 - What RA training have you had?
 - What is the most effective way of learning RA for you?
 - Webinar
 - BCLA conference
 - in-person workshop
 - RA in a Day
 - Listserv
 - Email
 - College/university course or seminar
- Decision: each Chair will come up with two-year goals by the May meeting
- Elections at May meeting: Jenny is stepping down as co-chair, Anna is stepping down as Education Liaison, and Barbara is stepping down as Recruitment Chair. Caroline is on leave starting in June 2016, position will be held for her until she returns.
- New role: Loan Stars Chair. Claire will take this role.
- New Toolkit Committee: Chloe (chair), Claire, Meghan W, and Stephanie
- Best Bets 2016: Winifred and Virginia will coordinate