

# BCLA Multicultural Services Committee Minutes

**Date:** September 14, 2017 9:30AM

**Location:** Bob Prittie Metrotown Branch, Burnaby Public Library

**Present:** Alicia Cheng, Inti Dewey, Jorge Caradenas, Jessica Whu, May Chan, Wendy Jang

**Regrets:** Ravi Basi, Eva Quintana, Winifred Chong

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## Staff Experiences of Racism in Libraries survey

- A working group has been developing objectives and scope for a survey to investigate experiences of racial discrimination in libraries.
- Meeting attendees completed a card sorting exercise as a way to devise our first draft of survey questions.

**Action required:** First draft of survey questions will be brought back to the survey working group. Working group will iterate questions, build survey and plan recruitment strategy.

## Intercultural Communication Workshop

- Intercultural Communication Workshop was delivered at Richmond Public Library recently with 19 staff members participating.
- It was well received with good response. A piece of feedback was that staff wanted RPL specific examples. It was also suggested to incorporate telephone communication as part of the workshop content.
- An outcome from the workshop for RPL was that an in-house workshop planning committee would be formed.
- In our discussion, we learned that there is a need for more members in committee to be trained to deliver the workshop.

**Action required:** Ravi and Wendy will organize a train the trainer opportunity for committee members. Jessica will work with Ravi and Wendy about gathering and housing ICC workshop curriculum content.

## Tools: Talking to children about race and racism

- Resources of interest:
  - [Teaching Tolerance website \(tolerance.org\)](http://tolerance.org)
  - [Talking with Kids about race and racism](#), Oakland Public Library blog article
  - [Ten Ways to Fight Hate: A Community Resource Guide](#), Southern Poverty Law Centre

**Action required:** All committee members can read the tools shared.

## S.U.C.C.E.S.S.'s Community Roundtable on Racism

- S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (along with their partners) is holding roundtable meetings for the public around the Lower Mainland (including Vancouver, Surrey, Richmond).
- It's called All Our Neighbours.
- The purpose to have an open forum for the public to engage in dialogue about racial discrimination and immigration.

**Action required:** All committee members can view [All Our Neighbours' website](#) to learn more and find an event held nearby to attend.

## Roundtable

- Richmond Public Library (RPL) is adding more books in traditional Chinese to the collection.
- RPL is continuing to offer large number of Chinese programs.
- Burnaby Public Library (BPL) is evaluating their world language collections and they're managed or treated.
- Vancouver Public Library (VPL) is looking to add indigenous content to their children's programming.
- Surrey Libraries (SL) is now cataloguing their multilingual collection so they're more searchable via the catalogue.
- Library Champion is starting up again at SL.
- SL is researching a language learning resource different from Mango which currently doesn't support Punjabi speaking English language learners. They'll be looking for something that is effective for everyone.
- SL continues to offer children programs in languages outside of English (e.g., Arabic, Spanish).
- VPL is doing website user testing with non-English speakers and finding great insights for how to improve their labels and content.

## Next Meetings:

**Date:** Thursday, November 30 2017 9:30AM

**Location:** Burnaby Public Library (Metrotown Branch, 3rd floor Board room)

Save the date...

Thursday, March 1, 2018 9:30AM at Burnaby Public Library

Friday, May 11, 2018 5:30PM at Richmond Public Library

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00.