

## BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

### Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, November 17, 2015, City Centre Library, Surrey Libraries

*Attended by:* Jenny Fry, Co-Chair, Surrey; Tara Matsuzaki, Co-Chair, West Vancouver; Meghan Savage, Surrey; Shelley Wilson-Roberts, New Westminster; Chloe Riley, SLAIS; Claire Westlake, North Vancouver District; Ana Calabresi, Burnaby; Matthew Murray; Michael Gray, Library Bound; Barbara Edwards, Vancouver; Christina Appleberry, SLAIS student; Virginia McCreedy, Port Moody;

*Regrets:* Sarah Dearman, Fraser Valley; Stephanie Hong, Langara; Michelle Whitehead, Greater Victoria;

**The next meeting is Tuesday November 17, from 9:15-11am at City Centre Library in Surrey**

#### *Interesting RA tidbits:*

- Claire: her library tried shelf-talkers for October, involved all staff, fun & popular, and they'll continue with it
- Virginia: hosted a Tea & Book event in September, where a local tea purveyor had tea tastings (4 teas), which were matched with titles by library staff, it was fun
- Shelley: has a book display and booklist of titles that staff want to read this fall and is encouraging staff to take selfies with one of these titles to post on the library's social media channels
- Chloe and Christina are planning an RA event at SLAIS for SLAIS students on Wed Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 11am-1pm, snacks provided
- Barbara talked about the interesting challenges matching books with the Vancouver Art Gallery's exhibits for their joint bookclub discussion group
- Meghan: the Surrey Art Gallery is hosting a free event at the end of November with local poets and writers, called [Sound Thinking Symposium 2015](#). She also mentioned [Penguin Random House's Give A Book hashtag campaign](#).
- Ana: annual [Goodreads](#) voting is happening now, go vote for top titles in various genres and topics. BPL is doing [Culture Chats](#), has been running for a past couple months, requires better moderation so library staff is working on helping them with that, requested by the community.
- Matthew is working with ALA and others to have a booth at the Emerald City Comic Con in Seattle, end of April 2016, might have a panel as well. The "Bookclub for Masochists" is going well, 20 participants on Facebook, about 7-8 people meet in person, they are doing Cozy Mysteries this month, last month was Christmas/holiday fiction, and Romance was the month before.
- Jenny: [This French City Has Vending Machines That Dispense Short Stories](#) (for free...but we don't know who writes the stories...). Also: ALA's RUSA Codes Convos is happening again, starting today, the theme is: **Watch, Listen, Read: Whole Collection Advisory**

CODES Conversations are focused electronic conversations on current issues facing collection development and readers' advisory librarians—or anyone interested in those areas. The free, moderated discussions are open to all – just subscribe to the discussion at <http://lists.ala.org/sympa/subscribe/codes-convos>, then follow and contribute (or lurk!) as you wish.

*Committee updates:*

Tara has been thinking about how to recognize RA excellence in BC libraries and she's going to work with Matthew on building relationships through our social media channels – and she'd like for us to get an Instagram account: discussed and approved.

*Social Media/Blog/Website:*

November: Richmond  
December: Port Moody  
January: Vancouver  
February: West Vancouver  
March: Surrey  
April-June: TBD at next meeting

Instagram: Matthew will set it up, he'll create a good hashtag for us and he'll let us know. We all agreed to do at least one Instagram post, with Tara, Ana, and Meghan taking the lead on using it for the group. One idea was taking a photo (on your smartphone or branch tablet) of the book you are reading and your beverage of choice. Matthew will link it to our other social media channels.

Matthew has uploaded all available presentations from RA in a Day to the blog. He estimated that around 30 people filled out the blog poll on the "must-reads" book list.

Matthew tidied up the link on our blog sideroll – if you have any suggestions, please let Matthew know.

*Upcoming meeting locations:* January-April 2016 meetings will be held in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor Board breakout room at VPL's Central Branch. May-July meetings will be held at BPL's Metrotown branch, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor board room (thanks, Ana!).

*RA in a Day: debrief*

- High points: Dr. Gray's talk, Bookslam, Speed-dating through the Genres, good snacks, "must-reads" flipchart exercise
- What we learned: too many bagels, need time-fillers in case presenters do shorter-than-expected presentations
- For next time:
  - add more Bookslam titles (have some titles in reserve)
  - challenging RA questions exercise
  - invite participants to participate in Bookslam
  - add flipcharts around the room that ask RA questions (i.e. I'm feeling \_\_\_\_\_. What's a good book for me to read? Based on The Novel Cure approach)
  - update the some of the genre handouts that we've already done and print some out for participants

*BCLA Conference 2016: discussion*

- Proposals – **due December 17, 2015**
  - Dr. Brenna Clarke Gray (Jenny)
  - Loan Stars (Claire, with help from Tara and Barbara)
  - Don't Get Too Comfortable: the transformative power of disruptive reading (Matthew & Jenny)
  - Bookslam (Matthew)

- Research topic (Barbara will talk to Caroline about it)
- Becoming an Engaged Citizen (Meghan)
  
- Library Bound wants to sponsor another student to attend the conference, so we'll put together a small committee of 2-3 people at the next meeting, to run through the same process as last year.
  - Barbara will contact the student from last year and ask her to do a blog post about her conference experience and post an Instagram photo
  
- Meghan will email BCLA conference organizers about disrupting their usual conference nametag format by adding a line to write the title of the book that you're reading.

*Loan Stars update:* 50 librarians have already signed up to the program, looking to launch in early 2016.

*BCLA Perspectives (formerly the BCLA Browser):* thanks to Chloe and Virginia for getting article about RA in a Day into the inaugural issue. Claire and Tara will submit an article about Loan Stars for the next issue.

*RA Presentation around BC:* Caroline is no longer able to do this presentation, discussion deferred until next meeting.

*RAIG-branded things to hand out at the next BCLA conference?* Jenny brought a sample reading prescription pad: discussion. Suggestion of a bookmark you can plant. Decision: we like the reading prescription pad and want to re-design it slightly to include our website/blog URL and checkboxes next to fiction/non-fiction, and re-order. Jenny will follow-up.