

## **BCLA Readers Advisory Interest Group**

### **Meeting Minutes: November 15, 2016 at Metrotown branch, Burnaby Public Library**

**Attended By:** Shelley, Co-Chair, New Westminster; Claire Westlake, North Vancouver District; Barbara Edwards, Vancouver; Anna Ferri, VPL & WVML; Matthew Murray, Kwantlen; Stephanie Hong Langara Rep/Surrey Libraries & VPL; Ana Calabresi, Burnaby; Lori Nick, Fraser Valley; Ariana, Richmond; and Cordelia, Langara Rep.

**Regrets:** Jenny Fry, Surrey; Meghan W., VPL & Surrey; Chloe R., VPL; Tara, West Vancouver Memorial; Meghan S., Surrey

**New Members:** Ariana Galeano (Richmond Public Library) and Cordelia Shan (Langara Student)

### **Interesting RA Tidbits**

- Lori – FVRL has started doing staff picks for kids
- Discussion topic – How are libraries advertising their staff picks?
  - @ New West, there are stickers with the staff name
    - This has been appealing to patrons because they can put a face to a name
  - @ West Van, there is a Library Thing account for staff picks
    - In the pamphlet and on Library Thing, the person is identifiable (but not on the physical book); one problem is that there are people who are no longer staff members, but their picks still exist
  - Seattle Public Library has a good pamphlet with their staff picks, also comprehensive BiblioCommons lists:
    - [https://seattle.bibliocommons.com/explore/featured\\_lists/staff\\_picks](https://seattle.bibliocommons.com/explore/featured_lists/staff_picks)
- Ariana - staff members review favourite books in the local newspaper as a “book club” title; here is an example: <http://www.richmond-news.com/arts-entertainment/remembrance-day-special-book-club-soldiers-tale-one-of-two-struggles-1.2575528>
- Claire - trying to find ways to revive the staff pick/shelf talker project
  - How do you get staff and patrons excited about the program?
    - Tip: Remind staff that they don’t have to pick titles that are award winning, pick books that they like
    - Tip: @ West Van there is a quarterly requirement for staff picks (3-4 titles); remind staff members to submit their titles... once the titles are all gathered at the end of the quarter that’s when the pamphlets and lists are compiled
- Question: How to sustain/maintain staff picks while keeping it dynamic and fresh?
- What we’ve learned from the discussion... staff picks are a universal challenge
- Matthew - The Book Club for Masochists podcast was mentioned on Book Riot! <http://bookriot.com/2016/11/02/25-more-outstanding-podcasts-for-readers/>
- Stephanie - Book Love Project by Arinn Westendorf
  - Local photographer/illustrator is taking portraits of readers with their favourite books: <http://www.arinn.com/book-love/>
- Claire - Bus stop library (Maple and Cornwall), not a LFL, but actually connected/built into the bus shelter
- Barbara - @ VPL trying to come up with a program that coincides for parents and their children... Parents book club and then something for their children?
  - @ New West, they did a bring a book, baby book club

### Committee Updates

- Toolkit Committee is planning to meet soon...
  - Anna - Raw numbers from the survey data were sent to Chloe, the data will be used to help with the Toolkit Committee
- Recruitment Committee
  - Not too much movement, but soon, especially since Matthew and Anna are leaving ☹️
  - Trying to recruit people from out of the Lower Mainland, trying to figure out a solution to get individuals involved
  - Need a SLAIS representative

### Social Media and Blog

- Ana and Ariana will take over for Matthew
  - Matthew will send over the information on what needs to be done
- December - FVRL
- January – Meghan (VPL/Surrey)
- February - New West
- March - Surrey
- Shelley - will check prior minutes for January

### RA in a Day Debrief

- Timing of everything went well, the pacing was great!
- The Genre Training Tables
  - Try to re-advertise this concept as a discussion table instead of a “training table” to facilitate a more livelier discussion
  - Attendees may have thought that we were supposed to provide all the information and/or receive takeaways
  - Next year, this needs to be more thoroughly thought out... perhaps have more structure in how to create more discussion/notify attendees in advance to bring in their thoughts
- The change in venue made it a bit tricky with a lack of space (especially for genre training tables), but we managed 😊
  - There was a lot of feedback on this, but we could not help the location due to the flood
- Catherine says thank you!
  - A takeaway from her talk: to not impose YOUR reading choices onto the reader
- Create a bookmark with a list of previous genres covered in Speed Dating and suggest people to go to the website, as opposed to printing them all out
- Future session suggestions:
  - How to organize book clubs?
  - RA sessions/programs for the community?
  - Adult Programming for RA
  - How to develop your RA skills without reading

#### a. RA evaluation Forms

- Feedback: Have the keynote earlier in the day?
  - It could be better placed in the day, can help revive discussion
- Keep the bookslam, should add more
- Lots of comments on the room/trouble with seeing
- People liked the genre discussions/presentations

- **Note:** All of the slides and handouts are on the website, except Tara's; Matthew will make a blog post about it once they are all in
- People wanted more genres for the Speed Dating (see making list of previous genres covered)
- An hour for lunch would have been better
  - Suggestion: start earlier in the day to make an hour for lunch
- The RA Cataloguing Session was helpful
- Want more than one session a year
- People wanted a mingling session with people from other libraries in BC; time to discuss what they're reading (based off the name tags)

### BC Library Conference Proposals for 2017?

- Theme: Seek, Spark, Ignite
  - Deadline is December 6<sup>th</sup> for the proposals
  - <https://bclaconnect.ca/2017-conference/program-speakers/call-for-proposals/>
- We may not be able to approach this because of limited timing, but we should have someone keep track of this in the future since the proposal submissions overlap with RA in a Day
  - Begin talking about potential conference proposals in July to get the ball rolling
- **Possible topic:** Indigenous reads and reconciliation...
  - Connect with someone from an academic library to go "outside the silo" aka. public libraries
  - Some potential local speakers: Dory Nason (UBC First Nations Studies Department; women's indigenous fiction), Julie Flett (author), Jordan Able (Poet)
  - Is this something to take on? Barbara will form a rough proposal and then see if the group wants to go forward
- **If someone comes up with an idea for a conference proposal, please send it out to the active list**

### BCCATs meeting report (Barbara)

- Samuel was going to get feedback from the cataloguer's perspective
  - Must note that there is a broad range of cataloguers from different types of institutions
  - He will push for VPL to go forward this, but most likely not going to take it outside of VPL. We'll need to connect with him to see if to get it outside of VPL
  - Tim MacMillan is working with Samuel to get this idea going...
- Should connect with Samuel to see where this project is going

### Update on Survey Data (Anna)

- Need to gather the data into something usable... currently just raw numbers

### Meeting locations for start of 2017

- Ariana will look into Richmond; Surrey? Shelley will talk to Jenny
- Come back to December meeting with meeting locations

***Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> (9:15am-11am) at Metrotown branch, Burnaby Public Library***