

BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, March 17, 2015, Vancouver Public Library, Central branch

Attended by: Jenny Fry, Co-Chair (Surrey Libraries); Tara Matsuzaki, Co-Chair (West Vancouver Memorial Library); Heather Bindseil (Library Bound); Michael Gray (Library Bound); Heidi Schiller (North Vancouver City Library); Barbara Edwards (Vancouver Public Library); Jen Streckmann (SLAIS student co-rep); Chloe Riley (SLAIS student co-rep); Tim McMillan (Vancouver Public Library); Theresa de Sousa (Richmond Public Library); Matthew Murray (SLAIS student); Meghan Savage (Surrey Libraries); Anthea Goffe (Fraser Valley Regional Library); Joyce Quach (Langara library technician student rep); Kelsey Ockert (SLAIS student); Caroline Crowe (Vancouver Public Library); Anna Ferri (SLAIS student)

Regrets: Michelle Whitehead (Greater Victoria Public Library); Shelley Wilson-Roberts (New Westminster Public Library); Virginia McCreedy (Port Moody Public Library); Cathy Mount

The next meeting is Tuesday April 21, from 9:15-11am at VPL's Central branch

Interesting RA tidbits:

- Tim: first VPL RA column in [Vancouver Is Awesome](#) went up March 12, good to get back to content creation
- Barbara: VPL launched the permanent 25 [Literary Landmarks](#) project (with partners) and they uploaded all their circulating ereaders with BC books
- Tara has been asked to run a Bibliocommons webinar on getting library staff more engaged with Bibliocommons with her successful "Bibliocommons Challenge Week for Staff". The webinar is March 31 from 11am-12pm, [sign up here](#).
- Heidi: [North Shore Writers' Festival](#) is coming up, April 17 & 18
- Meghan: [Canada Reads](#) is on CBC right now; [Write Here Read Now](#) at City Centre Library on May 3rd; seeking first [Poet Laureate for Surrey](#)
- Heather: how many applications did we receive for the BCLA conference-sponsored student? Seven great applications, selection committee will evaluate and decide soon.
- Anthea: FVRL is integrating circ and info desks, where possible, and so is doing RA training for all circ staff (5 modules). She is moving to Coquitlam and will recruit someone else from FVRL.
- Anna: Booklist journal is having a 50% sale today; check out [Lincoln City \(Nebraska\)'s library RA webpage](#) – someone is very passionate about RA there. [Anna discovered this webpage through [this blog](#).]

Strategy meeting: Discussion

Outcomes:

- Revised mandate: Jenny will type up the revisions and bring to the next meeting
- Core competencies are still great, they are on the old BCLA website, and Jenny will send them to BCLA to be put on our new webpage, and Jenny will send them to Matthew to put onto the blog.
 - We agreed to use one competency per month as the basis for a blog post in order to highlight them more and to ask for feedback on them.

- What do we do well? We are active, enthused, invested, consistent, organized, and we have a good annual event and good minutes [thanks! ☺]
- What do we need to work on? Technology/access problems, should try to include employed library technicians, build online modules, teaching/outreach, create tangible toolkits, do better social media.
- We are eliminating the Skype option – too difficult in our various libraries, will revisit at a later time.
- We are not pursuing the RA award (at the BCLA conference) or broad reading program for adults in BC at this time.

Discussion about roles and priorities in our group: five new positions & one committee

1. **Education Liaison** – works with student reps, faculty, and Research Chair, to raise the profile of RA and related research. **Anna**
2. **Research Chair** – works with the Education Liaison to facilitate professional and library research on reading and RA, as well as looking at the impact of RA services. **Carolyn**
3. **Engagement Chair** – recruiting and membership development **Barbara (with Tim)**
4. **Recognition Chair** – recognizing library staff, libraries, and programs that do excellent RA **Tara**
5. **Digital Services Chair** – oversees the blog, social media channels, and our webpage **available**
6. **Toolkit Committee:** Heidi (Chair), Anthea, Chloe, Tim

Other matters:

- New banner for the blog: Jen showed us her drafts, we discussed, she revised, and we have a new banner. Jen will work on a small square version that we can use for social media. We'll start using the new banner after the next meeting.
- Jen and Chloe will revise the guidelines for SLAIS student representatives, with advise from Anna and Matthew.
- Barbara will work on getting another Library Bound sign.
- BPL told Tara that they'll try to find someone to join our group.
- Caroline is reaching out to Patricia Campbell from Grassroots Publishing for RA in a Day (RA & lexile levels).
- Suggestions for RA in a Day:
 - RA success stories
 - Pecha Kucha style presentations
 - Core competencies
 - More interaction
 - Focus on content
 - Speed-networking opportunities
 - RA practice