

BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, May 19, 2015, Vancouver Public Library, Central branch

Attended by: Jenny Fry, Co-Chair, Surrey Libraries; Tara Matsuzaki, Co-Chair, West Vancouver Memorial Library; Michelle Whitehead, Greater Victoria Public Library; Shelley Wilson-Roberts, New Westminster Public Library; Barbara Edwards, Vancouver Public Library; Tim McMillan, Vancouver Public Library; Caroline Crowe, Vancouver Public Library; Anna Ferri, West Vancouver Memorial Library; Stephanie Hong, Langara library technician student rep; Chloe Riley, SLAIS student co-rep; Meghan Savage, Surrey Libraries; Beverley Rintoul, Rossland Public Library

Regrets: Virginia McCreedy, Port Moody Public Library; Heidi Schiller, North Vancouver City Library; Jen Streckmann, SLAIS student co-rep; Sarah Dearman, Fraser Valley Regional Library; Theresa de Sousa, Richmond Public Library; Matthew Murray, SLAIS student

The next meeting is Tuesday June 16, from 9:15-11am at VPL's Central branch

Welcome Stephanie, our new Langara student rep!

Welcome Beverley Rintoul from the Rossland library!

Welcome to guest Michael Ciccone from the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) in Ontario!

Interesting RA tidbits:

- Shelley: New Westminster's 150th anniversary this year, 150 Reading Challenge booklet, Read/Watch/Listen/Share, launched in June.
- Anna: looking for classics that are best for vocabulary and comprehension training: discussion.
- Chloe: looking at the San Francisco library's [One City One Book](#) program – they also have a mini-version called [On The Same Page](#).
- Barbara: last in the series for VPL book club with Vancouver Art Gallery happens next week, on *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. Discussion about book clubs for men and related author readings.
- Caroline: New York Public Library's viral Instagram campaign of past handwritten RA notes, very nostalgic. [Here's an example](#).
- Tim: looking at VPL's old cards from the card catalogue that contain cocktail recipes – would be great for Instagram. VPL did a brief online survey to find out where people get their reading recommendations from, results: mostly family and friends or media sources. Displays are influential. Discussion about the literary versus popular dynamic.
- Jenny: RUSA RA CODES Conversations just happened, the theme was RA and social media, and it will likely be summarized shortly, interesting stuff: <http://www.ala.org/rusa/sections/codes/convos>
- Meghan: [Book Advisor](#) program at Surrey. Meghan and Tanya Thiessen (both from Surrey) are the new Public Librarian Interest Group co-chairs – discussion about future collaboration.
- Beverley: looking for debaters for the 5th Annual Rossland Reads. This year's theme is award-winning Canadian fiction from the 21st century. Last year, the theme was travel. Partners with local bookstore, it's a big circ boost to the books (and DVDs) selected.
- Michelle: GVPL just switched from Bibliocommons to Enterprise and they have a new [website](#).

- Tara: Book Riot podcasts, called “All the Books!” Every Tuesday (which is book release day for publishers), good for current awareness, and they are advocates of libraries. Possible speaker for RA in a Day? Jenny will investigate.

Best Bets: Anna showed us her draft (8 contributions, 2 last-minute ones, might be a couple more stragglers, submit asap).

Proposed Library Reads project: Michael from CELA talked to us about creating a Canadian version of [Library Reads](#). The first step is setting up the Steering Committee and he'd like to get 2 volunteers from our group. Anna, Caroline, Tim and Barbara volunteered. If you are interested, please let Jenny and Tara know, and we'll figure it out at the next meeting. Reminder: Tara wrote a blog post about Library Reads in [January](#).

RA in a Day

- Cost to attend: students \$30 / BCLA members \$50 / non-members \$70
- Food: further discussion at the next meeting

Draft agenda: 9:30am-4pm

9:30-9:40 Welcoming remarks: Tim (MC)

9:40-9:45 Introducing Lexile workshop: Caroline

9:45-12 Lexile workshop

12-12:45 lunch (bring your own or go buy it)

12:45-1 Bookslam demo

1-2 Speed-dating through the genres

- Classics for vocabulary and comprehension-building (Caroline? Tim? **Volunteers?**)
- Personal finance (Jenny)
- Feminist memoirs (Stephanie)
- Post apocalyptic /dystopic adult fiction (Sarah? Meghan?)
- **Cult classics? Non-fiction graphic novels? Literary fiction that's been translated?**

2-2:10 quick break

2:15-3:10 how to/practical/group work – what do we want?

3:10-3:55 closing speaker (Barbara will ask Gabrielle Prendergast to speak about diverse reads)

3:55-4 Farewell and thanks from Tim

RA poster: most people didn't see this, so Virginia will re-send it to the listserv.

Toolkit Committee: Heidi, Chloe and Anthea met, reviewed the Core Competencies, and suggested an overhaul. Chloe presented their draft, discussion, and approved.

Comments from Recognition Chair (Tara): low-key recognition of RA excellence in BC (i.e. not an “award”)

- proposed criteria: stellar execution of a great RA idea, the Wow factor, innovative, new and unique
- methodology: scan of BC library websites and social media channels once or twice per year – by our student reps? Discussion: good idea.
- develop a nomination process
- promotion on our platforms and the new iteration of the BCLA Browser

Comments from Digital Services Chair (Matthew): proposed to develop a simple social media plan and wants to link to all BC libraries' social media. Discussion, and agreed.

Social Media/Blog: Burnaby will do June, under the care of Ana Paula Calabresi. Sept/Oct/Nov TBD
Jenny got all the minutes up on our BCLA webpage, and Matthew has been fixing all of our banners on our various platforms.