

## BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

### **Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, February 19, 2013, BCLA boardroom**

*Attended by:* Robbie Burma – Vancouver Public Library (Co-Chair), Jenny Fry – Surrey Libraries (Co-Chair), Heather Bindseil – Library Bound, Barbara Edwards – Vancouver Public Library, Meghan Savage – Surrey Libraries, Mehjabeen Ali – Surrey Libraries, Anthea Goffe – Fraser Valley Regional Library, Matthew Murray – SLAIS student, Heidi Schiller – North Vancouver City Library

**Meeting reminder: the next meeting is Tuesday March 19, from 9-11am, at VPL Central Branch (staff entrance).**

1. *Interesting RA tidbits:*

- Mehj: very interested in the history of Hogan's Alley, and the local history/authors around Chinese New Year and Black History Month
- Meghan: attended a webinar "Our Books, Our Brand" on Feb 14, some neat ideas including libraries hiring "mystery shoppers" to test library staff on RA, self-directed RA instead of passive RA (displays), producing quick Read-Alike booklists on a weekly basis, and taking advantage of what library staff are reading
- Heather: invited to the Association of Canadian Publishers' AGM (they do the 49<sup>th</sup> Shelf) and did an RA panel on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> – got excellent feedback, we should consider pursuing something similar here in BC.
- Barbara: brought some interesting links to our attention:  
[NY Times: Read Any Good Web Sites Lately? Book Lovers Talk Online](#)  
[ALA-RUSA 2013 Notable Books](#) (fiction, non-fiction, poetry)  
[ALA-RUSA 2013 Reading List](#) (genre fiction)  
[ALA-RUSA 2013 Listen List](#) (audiobooks)  
VPL bookclub in partnership with the Vancouver Art Gallery launched today (Feb 19), skyping with the author in San Diego
- Heidi: talked to Julie Wilson from the 49<sup>th</sup> Shelf who has been tasked with looking at ways to better involve librarians with the 49<sup>th</sup> Shelf. Julie wasn't aware of the standard resources that librarians use for RA. Heidi offered our group as a focus group. North Vancouver City Library will be using the next generation of NextReads, called LibraryAware – as will Surrey Libraries.

2. *Developing closer ties with SLAIS:* Welcome, Matthew! Dana drafted guidelines for the SLAIS co-reps and we discussed them. Jenny will do the suggested edits and she'll share it with Dana. We will keep this document on file to share with SLAIS co-reps to our group. We invited the SLAIS co-reps to do a guest post on our blog.
3. *BCLA conference session:* Still waiting to hear back. We cannot offer any honorariums to publishers, so Heidi will sort that out. Barbara picked up the Library Bound sign. There are meeting rooms at the Conference that may be booked for groups (no food/beverage though). [**email received Feb 20: session approved. F14, Fri May 10, 1:30-2:45pm**]
4. *Author Talk session proposal at BCLA Conference:* BCLA ED Annette asked our group to organize an Author Talk session at the BCLA Conference and we discussed her proposal. We decided to split into 2 groups: one group to organize our own session (Heidi, Jenny,

Anthea, and hopefully Tara) and one group to organize this Author Talk session (Robbie, Barbara, Mehj, Meghan). Robbie will contact Annette with the group's decision and Meghan will draft an action plan.

5. *Beyond Hope conference in Prince George*: deadline for proposals is Feb 22, we should hear whether or not Jenny and Meghan's proposal has been approved by March 5.
6. *BCLA email address*: Jenny got the email address and passed it to Heidi, who will set up our Twitter account.
7. *Social Media*: Mehj is posting on the blog this month, as well as Facebook posts. Jenny will sort out the next few months' blog roster. In March, Olivia (and other Greater Victoria Public Library librarians) will be posting on the blog. Barbara/VPL will post on the blog in April, and then May/June is back to Olivia and her GVPL colleagues.

Re: collating challenges RA questions, no feedback received on social media. We will re-post and offer an incentive/prize, based on random selection from entries received. Jenny will look into how we access funds for a prize and then she will let Mehj know (Mehj will re-post the call for challenging RA questions).

Some ideas for challenging RA questions: books for men, books for teenage boys, books for ESL learners, kids books for parents who are screening the content for various themes, solutions that involve non-print formats.

There was a suggestion to add links (blogroll) to our blog. Meghan will collate a list and post it on the blog. Barbara will organize them and add them to the Tools section of our webpage.

8. *National Reading Campaign*: Heather asked if anyone had heard anything new about it, we had all only gotten one email update in January, they did find some new finding, wait and see.
9. *RA in a Half Day*: Jenny will create a checklist/timeline, bring your ideas to the next meeting.
10. *Future discussion*: Barbara requested further brainstorming on connecting with libraries from all regions of BC.