

BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, January 21, 2014, BCLA boardroom

Attended by: Jenny Fry, Co-Chair (Surrey Libraries); Robbie Burma, Co-Chair (Vancouver Public Library); Tara Matsuzaki (West Vancouver Memorial Library); Barbara Edwards (Vancouver Public Library); Anthea Goffe (Fraser Valley Regional Library); Matthew Murray (SLAIS co-rep); Jessica Brown (Langara library technician rep); Caroline Crowe (Vancouver Public Library); Naomi Eisenstat (Surrey Libraries/New Westminster Public Library)

Regrets: Heather Bindseil (Library Bound); Meghan Savage (Surrey Libraries); Anna Ferri (SLAIS student); Heidi Schiller (North Vancouver City Library); Helen Brown (North Vancouver City Library); Dana Horrocks (Vancouver Public Library)

Meeting reminder: the next meeting is Tuesday February 18, from 9:15-11am, BCLA boardroom

Interesting RA tidbits:

- Tara: the results are in West Vancouver's "Best Books of 2013" contest, only 2 online participants, very diverse titles – the winner was chosen by 3 votes, 12 titles tied for 2nd with 2 votes each, the winner was "the Fault in Our Stars" by John Green
- Naomi: upcoming book talk at New Westminster by librarians, 5 books each. Interesting website: Go Book Yourself – flashy, attractive, shallow, repetitive, but it includes non-fiction: <http://gobookyourself.co/>
- Barbara: large article in the Province last week about all the new fiction coming out this year from Canadian authors:
<http://www.theprovince.com/entertainment/books/Best+books+Staggeringly+good+year+ahead+Canadian/9400811/story.html>

VPL has a non-fiction book club and a speculative fiction book club, continuing the successful partnership with the Vancouver Art Gallery and the "bring your own baby" book club.

- Caroline: huge recent increase in demand for non-fiction RA in the forms-based RA service at VPL. Good website for non-fiction RA: www.fivebooks.com
- Anthea: Douglas College research survey results being collated, FVRL was "secret shopped" by newcomers for this research and they especially loved the Staff Picks displays.
- Matthew: did a library school exchange with Seattle, did a tour of their central branch and saw David Wright, showed us their Staff Favorites booklet.
- Jenny: showed Burnaby's upcoming "Varieties of Love" book talk flyer at McGill branch. National Reading Campaign's Kobo Aura contest:
<http://www.nationalreadingcampaign.ca/announcing-the-reading-matters-contest-for-schools-and-libraries/>

Amnesty International Book Club: <http://www.amnestybookclub.ca/>

- Robbie: update on VPL's RA survey. She is trying to resurrect "One Book One Vancouver" and we discussed partnering possibilities. Would likely be a title from a First Nations author

Social Media/Blog:

January: Anthea (1st three weeks) and guest post by Jessica in the last week

February: Tara

March: Barbara/VPL

April: Surrey Libraries: Naomi, Meghan, Jenny

May: SLAIS: Matthew and Anna will coordinate

June: Greater Victoria? Jenny will ask Olivia

July: TBD

Jessica reported that it isn't a good time to pursue Prince George's participation, so she'll monitor the situation and will approach them when they aren't so busy.

New BCLA website: Jenny will collate website content and send it to BCLA by the Feb 7th deadline.

BCLA Conference table: We have a table booked for Wednesday April 2nd. No other information yet, Jenny will bring any available information to the next meeting.

Ideas for the table: ask people to suggest genres for next RA in a Half Day, using post-its or stickers on a board/wall/flipchart. Create bookmarks that condenses key genre authors and RA tools. Ten-second videos – borrow video camera from Heidi again? – book talks by conference participants, who hold up a book, or a tablet/ipad with the book cover on it, or a piece of paper with the title and author written in marker on it, and they say why they loved the book and why you should read it. Will be put on our YouTube channel, so we need a consent sheet with room for names and signatures, and tweet/live blog/Facebook the book talk titles as well. Stream the videos on the tablet/ipad or project them onto the wall behind the table. Bring sample RA materials for people to look at, maybe a couple extras if people really want to take them, maybe on a board with Velcro. Use a QR code.

We need details about the space, tbd.

Library Bound sign: Barbara will track it down.

2014 Activities: brainstorming session:

- Caroline will look into local academic opportunities and will look at what the OLA RA group has done in this area.
- Robbie will create a template by the end of this week for us to use to recruit more people to our group – Jenny will edit it before we use it.
- Recruiting: Anthea and Barbara will contact BPL, Anthea and Caroline will contact Coquitlam, Jenny and Naomi will contact Port Moody. Jenny will contact Shelley re: Richmond.
- City Centre Library in Coquitlam might be an option for RA in a Half Day once the Evergreen skytrain line is up and running

- Barbara: BC Popular Readers Choice awards idea: discussion. Maybe a future conference session could be about creating a template/plan on how to produce a successful book contest/awards program

RA in a Half Day: 2014

We need a venue, for about 100 people. Jessica will research Burnaby meeting rooms and will report back at the next meeting. Naomi will gather intell about the New Westminster auditorium. Please take a look in your own library system and see if there is an appropriate candidate for our space needs. More discussion at the next meeting.