

2025 BC Library Conference

Wednesday, May 07 11:00 AM - 01:35 PM

Pre-Conference VIRL Branch Tour: Gabriola Island Branch Tour

Discover one of Vancouver Island Regional Library's rural branches with a staff-led tour of the Gabriola Island location. Take a 20-minute ferry ride from downtown Nanaimo where you will be picked up by Gabriola's community bus "GERTIE," taking a scenic coastal route on the way to "the Village" to take a library tour. There will be a short walk from the GERTIE bus to the branch across a flat parking lot. The library is on one level. Separate ticket purchase required for \$23, which covers the cost for ferry and bus. *REVISED TIMING* When: Wednesday, May 7 (11:00 am – 1:35 ...

Wednesday, May 07: Departure Bay AB

12:00 PM - 03:00 PM

SOLD OUT - Pre-Conference Session: Demystifying RDA: Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit Together

Departure Bay AB

Cleire Lauron

Metadata & Discovery Librarian, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Laura Doublet

Head, Metadata, University of Victoria Libraries

Susie Jones

Vancouver Public Library

Transitioning from the original RDA Toolkit to the official RDA Toolkit requires familiarity with the IFLA LRM conceptual model, which underpins RDA. With the original RDA toolkit set to be decommissioned in 2027, mastering the new vocabulary and organization of the official RDA Toolkit is crucial for a successful transition. In this three-hour pre-conference workshop, participants will explore how IFLA-LRM has informed the updated content standard. They will learn the key differences between the original and official RDA, and gain a deeper understanding of the foundational concepts of the new toolkit. The majority of the workshop will focus on navigating ...

Wednesday, May 07 01:30 PM - 02:30 PM

Pre-Conference VIRL Branch Tour: Nanaimo Harbourfront Branch Tour

Discover Vancouver Island Regional Library's downtown Nanaimo Harbourfront branch with a staff-led tour. You will be guided through the public spaces of the library, including the library's Creativity Commons. Meet at the main entrance to the library – there will be a sign. Participants are welcome to join the tour in progress or leave the tour at any time. The branch is located approximately 3 minutes' walk from the Vancouver Island Convention Centre on flat roads along Commercial Street. The second floor of the library is accessible by stairs or elevator. When: Wednesday, May 7 (1:30-2:30 pm)Where: Meet at the entrance ...

Wednesday, May 07: Shaw Auditorium

03:30 PM - 05:00 PM

Opening Keynote: Khari Wendell McClelland



Khari Wendell McClelland

Generously sponsored by: UBC LibraryKhari Wendell McClelland is an award-winning musician and creative facilitator who uses the arts and experiential activities for transformational learning. Based in Vancouver, Canada, Khari has worked with communities across Africa, Australia, Europe, North America and the Caribbean. In a world with increasingly complex societal challenges, the need for values-based creative solutions is paramount. Khari helps youth and adults explore core values and creativity as a means to self-actualization, community building and problem solving. His approach is warm, insightful and engaging.

Wednesday, May 07: Mount Benson Ballroom

05:00 PM - 07:00 PM

Welcome Reception

Mount Benson Ballroom

Wednesday, May 07: Dodd Narrows B

07:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Climate Action Committee Meeting

Dodd Narrows B

Climate action curious? Climate action expert? Whatever your background, we welcome everyone interested in connecting with the creative group of library folk taking action on climate issues and learning from each other, BCLA's vibrant Climate Action Committee! In this session we will catch up with each other, share ongoing projects, and identify the many climate-related conference sessions. Please stop by!

Thursday, May 08: Millstone River Room

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Birds of a Feather: No Falcon Way: Soaring to new heights working with Information Studies Students

No Falcon Way: Soaring to new heights working with Information Studies Students

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Dawn McKinnon

Liaison Librarian, McGill Libraries

Veronica Bergsten

Liaison Librarian, McGill Libraries

Let's flock together to talk about experiences working with information studies students – successes, roadblocks, as well as why and how we should continue looking for new ways and opportunities to engage with our future librarians. Many libraries across the country hire part-time students in information studies programs; they are invaluable employees, their worth going far beyond the projects and tasks assigned to them. They share the library's workload, gain practical work experience and collectively, we learn how to navigate the library world together. Working closely with students gives librarians opportunities to engage in mentorship and leadership roles, and to ...

Thursday, May 08: Duke Point

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Getting started on the work: more practical tools to empower public facing library workers

Getting started on the work: more practical tools to empower public facing library workers

Duke Point

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Audrey Wang

Carnegie Branch Supervisor, Vancouver Public Library

Kristy Hennings

Branch Head Librarian, Okanagan Regional Library

Presenters: Kristy Hennings, Vernon Branch Head, Okanagan Regional Library Audrey Wang, Carnegie Branch Supervisor, Vancouver Public Library At 2023's BCLA Conference, Kristy Hennings attended Audrey Wang's session titled 'This is Fine. I'm Okay With the Events That Are Currently Unfolding: Practical tools to empower public facing library workers'. This session was developed at the Carnegie Branch at the Vancouver Public Library where the health and housing emergencies in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside are affecting communities everywhere. In 2024 Kristy and her ORL colleagues presented "Communities in Crisis: The ORL's Approach to Vulnerable Populations," after experiencing their first death inside a library ...

Becoming Anti-Ableist

Becoming Anti-Ableist

Departure Bay AB

75 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Elisabeth Walker-Young

Co-Founder, Inclusion Lead, Inclusive Experiences

Shawna Lawson

Co-found, Innovation Lead, Inclusive Experiences

Described as "one of the best workshops ever attended," this transformative session on disability inclusion has driven meaningful change in organizations like Microsoft, lululemon and Child Development Centres. Drawing on real experiences from disabled individuals, their families, and staff, we will explore how ableism shows up in library services and identify practical steps toward equity and inclusion. The disabled community is the largest and most diverse minority group in the world, spanning all identities, geographies, and experiences. Like diverse bird species that flock together, combining their unique strengths for mutual benefit, the disabled community collaborates and shares resources to thrive. ...

Thursday, May 08: Nanaimo Room A

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

DEIAR Me: Respect and Acknowledgement in the catalogue.

DEIAR Me: Respect and Acknowledgement in the catalogue.

Nanaimo Room A

75 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Andrea Görgeç

Librarian, Cataloguing, Burnaby Public Library

Hillary Webb

Systems and Technical Services Librarian, Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Michael Baird

Head of Technical Services, Okanagan Regional Library

Stefan Hintersteininger

Metadata Librarian & Acting Head, Resource Acquisition, Management, and Metadata (RAMM), Simon Fraser University

Presented by BCCATS Continuing Education. There has been a strong interest in library descriptive practices that reflect social changes and address or attempt to correct inadequacies and harm in language. Our panel of presenters will discuss their experiences and challenges planning for and implementing projects such as updating or remediating subject headings, re-classification, harmful language statements, and other metadata work. These projects were undertaken while being mindful of DEIAR (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism), working towards decolonization and reconciliation, and using respectful language for the communities and individuals that we refer to in our catalogues. This session is designed for ...

Increasing Climate Literacy in Your Community

Increasing Climate Literacy in Your Community

Nanaimo room B

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

School Library

Caitlin MacRae

Programming Librarian, New Westminster Public Library

Joan Gillies

Chair/Facilitator, RegenerateBC

Kristen Andrews

Facilitator, RegenerateBC

Generously sponsored by Carr McLean LimitedWant to reduce climate anxiety and increase climate action in your community? Learn how partnering with a community organization can do this. Public libraries play a key role in providing concerned citizens with the knowledge and tools they need to collectively navigate the challenge of our changing climate. The science is clear, we have all the solutions we need, we just need to implement them. Focusing on known and proven solutions to the climate crisis instills hope, inspiring citizens to take action and build resilient communities and a better future for British Columbia and the ...

Thursday, May 08: Shaw Auditorium

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Misinformation and Public Libraries: Navigating New Challenges Together

Misinformation and Public Libraries: Navigating New Challenges Together

Shaw Auditorium

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Deb Hutchison Koep

Chief Librarian, North Vancouver City Library

Devon Greyson

Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia School of Population and Public Health

Leigh Anne Palmer

Executive Director, Public Library InterLINK, Public Library InterLINK

Mis- and disinformation are formidable threats, undermining confidence in democratic systems, damaging public health efforts, and challenging policy and governance efforts across the world. Amid the rising spread of false information in Canada, what role might public libraries play in equipping our communities to face this threat? With insights from two recent projects exploring misinformation and public libraries, this interactive session will share learnings, evidence-based strategies, and explore how public libraries and library workers are grappling with mis- and disinformation. This interactive session will include facilitated discussions about how public libraries might approach this growing challenge.

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

Poster Session: The New Clicklaw: Your Go-To Resource for Navigating Legal Ouestions

The New Clicklaw: Your Go-To Resource for Navigating Legal Questions

Mount Benson Ballroom

Poster Session

Public Library

Natalie Rocheleau

Librarian, Information Services, Courthouse Libraries BC

Our poster will introduce Courthouse Libraries BC's newly redesigned Clicklaw website and demonstrate its improved usability, streamlined search features, and curated content, which has been carefully selected by law librarians. We will show how Clicklaw's updated features can be leveraged by library reference staff to assist with specific types of common legal information questions and reduce the challenge of sifting through numerous public legal information resources by organizing and synthesizing high-quality information from a range of BC-focused organizations.

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

Poster Session: Facing the Future with Hope & Informed Imagination

Facing the Future, with Hope & Informed Imagination

Mount Benson Ballroom

Poster Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Lisa Nathan

Associate Professor, UBC School of Information

This poster holds up inspiring projects from a new graduate course, "The Information Worlds of Climate Justice". This course is offered by UBC's Master of Library & Difference investigated climate change and climate justice informed by theories and approaches (ways of thinking & Difference investigated climate change and climate justice informed by theories and approaches (ways of thinking & Difference investigated climate change and climate justice informed by theories and approaches (ways of thinking & Difference investigated climate scholars, and information professionals in the course investigated climate organizers; international climate reports; fossil fuel industry research; and information professionals in the course investigated includes outstanding examples from two assignments: 1) "Playlist of Hope", and 2) "Future Job ...

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

Poster Session: Enhancing student success through the integration of Al literacy and Al competency into Libguides at two universities in British Columbia

Enhancing student success through the integration of Al literacy and Al competency into Libguides at two universities in British Columbia

Mount Benson Ballroom

Poster Session

Academic Library

Keren Zhu

MLIS Student, University of British Columbia

Lynn Kleinveldt

Assistant Professor, Department of Information Studies, University of the Fraser Valley

There is no doubt that since the launch of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI), ChatGPT, in November 2022, disrupted the higher education landscape. In a AskSomeThink webinar hosted on November 20th, recent survey findings indicate that students shifted from Google to ChatGPT being the first point of access to information (Scheel, 2024). Considering this, the role of the academic library has become far more essential in educating the university community about AI and Generative AI in the retrieval of quality information in the "generative AI revolution" (Galmar, 2024), which includes distinguishing between AI literacy and AI competency (Bozkurt, 2024). Therefore, the ...

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

Poster Session: The Development of Nature Smart Libraries in British Columbia and Beyond

The Development of Nature Smart Libraries in British Columbia and Beyond

Mount Benson Ballroom

Poster Session

Public Library

Jamie Robinson

MLIS student, University of Alberta

Public libraries are uniquely positioned to aid in connecting their communities to the natural world. Coined "nature-smart" by the Children and Nature Network, public libraries across the country are participating and innovating in such initiatives. This presentation aims to explore those strategies currently being used by public librarians in B.C. that provide accessible, nature-based resources and experiences to community members of all ages and abilities. From hiking and forest meditation packs to seminars on "how to be in nature" to passive seed libraries, nature-smart initiatives across the province are working to foster healthier, more environmentally conscious communities. Learn how libraries ...

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

Poster Session: New Canadian Readers: Gendered Language in BC Historical Textbooks from 1871 to 1921

New Canadian Readers: Gendered Language in BC Historical Textbooks from 1871 to 1921

Mount Benson Ballroom

Poster Session

Academic Library

School Library

Sky Dragushan

University of Victoria

Pia Russell's BC Historical Textbooks (BCHT) project looks at the first fifty years of public school textbooks in BC. Roots of modern settler colonialism are apparent when critically analyzing these textbooks. Highly gendered language used in the New Canadian Readers series from 1871 to 1921 implicitly informed children acceptable ways to perform gender. While providing English reading and writing exercises, gender expectations in New Canadian Readers represents just how imperative gender roles were in understanding early "Canadian" identity.

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Java Jolt Coffee Break

Mount Benson Ballroom

Generously sponsored by United Library Services.Network with peers, exhibitors, and sponsors in the Exhibits Hall and grab a coffee/tea and snack!

Thursday, May 08: Nanaimo Room A

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Creativity and Connection: Home-made Halloween Costumes with Library Technology

Creativity and Connection: Home-made Halloween Costumes with Library Technology

Nanaimo Room A

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

School Library

Annie Macanulty

Librarian 1, North Vancouver City Library

Kat Andrechuk

Digital Services Librarian, North Vancouver City Library

Presenters Annie and Kat will share their experiences from planning and hosting a series of workshops on creating youth Halloween costumes using North Vancouver City library's Cricut and sewing machines. This program was the result of noticing a desire in the community for programs that used the library's sewing and cricut machines, and helping people develop the skills to use them. In these workshops, families worked together to finish different styles of costume pieces, such as masks, capes, and gloves, while developing their technology and design skills. These workshops were attended largely by newcomer families, and became a way to ...

Thursday, May 08: Nanaimo room B

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Building the Bridge as We Walk on It

Building the Bridge as We Walk on It

Nanaimo room B

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Laura Vilness

Board Chair, British Columbia Library Trustees Association

Change is ongoing, can be difficult to navigate, and can create tension and uncertainty. This session will share lived experiences, lessons learned, and suggestions for the future from a board governance perspective.

Thursday, May 08: Millstone River Room

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Birds of a Feather: I'm Working Until 2am and It's My Own Fault - Planning Events in the Academic Library

I'm Working Until 2am and It's My Own Fault - Planning Events in the Academic Library

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Yvonne Phillips

Librarian, Red Deer Polytechnic Library

Does your academic library host events? Do you have an event for which you are the MRP (Most Responsible Person)? Let's get together to discuss and share ideas about event planning in the academic library setting. Discussion questions may include but are not limited to: —When to take a break/retire a long-standing event (i.e., would this event die without you, and how do you feel about that)—What to do when people start messing with your event's vision—The general experiences of organizing a reoccurring or special event—The challenges of organizing (e.g., people not doing what you think they will/planning miscommunications)—Assessment — ...

Open to All: Human Rights and Health and Safety for Drag Story Time Events

Open to All: Human Rights and Health and Safety for Drag Story Time Events

Shaw Auditorium

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Matt Lensen

Human Rights Representative, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Sarah Cihart

Senior Human Rights Officer, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Tom McKenna

National Health and Safety Representative, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Generously sponsored by Second Story PressDrag story time events are fun, entertaining, and educational. They encourage a love of literacy; promote empathy, diversity, and inclusion; and support local 2SLGBTQI+ communities and allies. Yet, over the past five years, drag story time events have sparked protests in communities across Canada, including in BC. Libraries that organize drag story time events, workers employed in those systems, drag performers hosting the events, and patrons who attend them have been the targets of anti-2SLGBTQI+ hate, threats, and intimidation. Some libraries have received threats of violence. Some cancelled their events; others forged ahead or rescheduled ...

Thursday, May 08: Duke Point

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Turning the Page: Bringing the Palace Project to Canada

Turning the Page: Bringing the Palace Project to Canada

Duke Point

75 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Vicky Varga

Executive Director, Collections, Marketing and Technology, Edmonton Public Library

Zoey Peterson

Manager, Digital Services, Vancouver Public Library

With the cost of ebooks and audiobooks far outpacing the cost of print materials, public libraries everywhere are struggling to meet patron demand and build sustainable collections. One recent effort to address this challenge is The Palace Project—a non-profit lending platform that allows libraries to provide titles from multiple vendors in a single app rather than through the respective vendor's app. In 2024, Vancouver Public Library (VPL) and Edmonton Public Library (EPL) partnered to bring the Palace Project to Canada. For patrons, the project promises to reduce fragmentation across various vendor apps and provide a one-stop-shop where they can access ...

Thursday, May 08: Departure Bay AB

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Navigating together: valuing relationships in Library leadership

Navigating together: valuing relationships in Library leadership

Departure Bay AB

75 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

Carolyn Casenas

Chief Librarian, New Westminster Public Library

Cleire Lauron

Metadata & Discovery Librarian, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Shelley Wilson-Roberts

Manager of Public Services, New Westminster Public Library

How do we live our values and commitments "to library better" when teams are experiencing wide scale change in academic and public libraries regardless of team size? This session will focus on the shared experience of public and academic libraries in navigating significant workplace change. New Westminster Public Library and Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Technical Services Department experienced significant organizational changes during the Covid era, including leadership changes, retirements and changing workplace expectations. Returning from remote work or redeployment revealed Pandemic related challenges and more significantly uncovered long standing, simmering issues. Being open to other ways of knowing, facing challenges head ...

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

12:15 PM - 01:45 PM

Lunch in Exhibits

Mount Benson Ballroom

Network with peers, exhibitors, and sponsors in the Exhibits Hall and grab some delicious lunch!

Thursday, May 08: Nanaimo Room A

01:45 PM - 02:30 PM

Navigating toward better accessibility in audiobooks

Navigating toward better accessibility in audiobooks

Nanaimo Room A

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Laurie Davidson

Executive Director, CELA

Simon Jaeger

Accessibility Expert, National Network for Equitable Library Service (NNELS)

Audiobook usage in libraries and commercially in Canada is growing quickly, and more and more titles are produced in audio. Many readers love the flexibility audiobooks offer, and the format is often assumed to be inherently accessible. Accessibility is a direction, not a fixed destination, and this session will explore several initiatives aimed at making audiobooks even better for all readers. We will explore and demonstrate new accessible audiobook player options for readers with print disabilities which are designed to be affordable and usable by less tech-savvy readers. We will also explore the opportunity Artificial Intelligence offers to create more ...

Thursday, May 08: Shaw Auditorium

01:45 PM - 02:30 PM

Community Services Officers: An innovative partnership to improving library safety and security

Community Services Officers: an innovative partnership to improving library safety and security

Shaw Auditorium

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Judy Moore

Chief Librarian, Thompson-Nicola Regional Library

Public libraries across North America are dealing with increased pressures being brought on by mental health and addiction challenges. The innovative Community Services Officer program at the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library, headquartered in Kamloops has a proven track record of helping to address complex social issues, and improving the safety and security of patrons and staff. Following a successful pilot project in 2022-23, that saw incidents decrease by 47% in 2023, the City of Kamloops and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) have entered into a five-year service agreement to employ CSOs at its two urban library locations to provide security services. ...

Thursday, May 08: Departure Bay AB

01:45 PM - 02:30 PM

Colour Your Summer: Tips and Tools for a Vibrant Summer Reading Club

BC SRC 2025: Colour Your Summer

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

School Library

Please note, the session "What the Duck! Unlocking Library Innovation with LEGO® Serious Play®" has been withdrawn by the presenter and has been replaced by "Colour Your Summer: Tips and Tools for a Vibrant Summer Reading Club" Join us for an engaging workshop on BC Summer Reading Club's Colour Your Summer! This session is a collaborative space where we will share and explore successful strategies for delivering a fun, accessible program that engages readers of all ages. Topics will include creative programming ideas, building strong community connections, and ensuring accessibility for diverse needs. We'll also discuss navigating unexpected challenges, while keeping ...

Thursday, May 08: Duke Point

01:45 PM - 02:30 PM

Carving out Connections: How North Shore Emergency Management supports Resilience and Emergency Preparedness through Community Connections

Carving out Connections: How North Shore Emergency Management supports Resilience and Emergency Preparedness through Community Connections

Duke Point

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Emily Dicken

Director, North Shore Emergency Management

Jacqueline Van Dyk

Director of Library Services, NVDPL

In 2024, North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM), under the leadership of Director Emily Dickens, launched a visionary initiative to foster community preparedness and resilience through cultural connection and collaboration. Over a six-month period, NSEM facilitated a series of hands-on community workshops where participants carved and painted traditional cedar paddles at the Squamish Ocean Canoe Family clubhouse, and in partnership with local First Nations. The sessions culminated with an opportunity for almost 80 participants to paddle together in canoes using the paddles they had carved. The initiative was a deliberate effort to build relationships among multiple municipalities, key community organizations, and ...

Thursday, May 08: Millstone River Room

01:45 PM - 02:30 PM

Birds of a Feather: Flocking Together: Building Community to Serve Incarcerated Populations Across BC

Flocking Together: Building Community to Serve Incarcerated Populations Across BC

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Public Library

Special Library

Kate Harrison

Librarian, Courthouse Libraries BC

Lauren Lacev

Librarian, Adler University

How are libraries across BC supporting incarcerated individuals' information needs and right to read? What are our challenges? Our successes? How can we better support incarcerated people together? This session looks to bring library professionals together across disciplines to discuss how better to navigate together the information needs of incarcerated populations across BC. Currently, these information needs are being addressed by libraries individually, with little collaboration happening among BC library professionals. We want to create a space for dialogue about current efforts and form a network of library professionals to build capacity and open communication across organizations about this work, ...

Thursday, May 08: Mount Benson Ballroom

02:30 PM - 03:15 PM

Ice Cream Break in Exhibit Hall

Mount Benson Ballroom

Network with peers, exhibitors, and sponsors in the Exhibits Hall and grab a sweet treat!Generously sponsored by Whitehots.

Thursday, May 08: Duke Point

03:15 PM - 04:00 PM

Wise Owls and Wise Whales Unite!

Wise Owls and Wise Whales Unite!

Duke Point

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

Paige McGeorge

Teenbrarian (she/her), Lethbridge Public Library

Virginia MacLeod

Customer Services Librarian, Vancouver Island Regional Library

Looking to reach a new audience outside of your library? Host a pub quiz! A library-hosted trivia night builds community, shares library expertise, and is a fun event for everyone involved. We'll share the foundation story of the Wise Owls Pub Quiz, how it inspired other library pub quiz nights across Canada, and what you need to create a trivia program of your very own.

Thursday, May 08: Departure Bay AB

03:15 PM - 04:00 PM

Me and My Shadow Resume: Reframing Our Failures Through Zines

Me and My Shadow Resume: Reframing Our Failures Through Zines

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Ashley Rosener

Liaison Librarian, Grand Valley State University

Emily Frigo

Department Head, Grand Valley State University

Does your CV or resume truly reflect who you are and the full scope of your life experiences? Does it capture the challenges you've faced and overcome, your unique strengths, and the skills you've cultivated? Traditional "rules" and "best practices" for resumes often reduce them to one-dimensional portrayals of professional accomplishments, leaving out the complexity and richness of our personal journeys. Failure, a vital aspect of learning and growth, is typically absent from these asset-focused documents. Inspired by Cyrena Gawuga's concept of the "shadow CV," as discussed in the article Forget the Failure CV, we'll embark on an activity that shines ...

Thursday, May 08: Shaw Auditorium

03:15 PM - 04:00 PM

Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim Language Revitalization in the Public Library

Indigenous Language Revitalization in the Public Library

Shaw Auditorium

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Kendra Sakamoto

Librarian, West Vancouver Memorial Library

Tsitsáyxemaat Rebecca Duncan

West Vancouver Memorial Library

Public libraries are uniquely positioned to support Indigenous Language Revitalization and Preservation in their communities. Come learn how to embark on this important work! Speaking from our experience with a Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim revitalization project, we will discuss first steps, relationship building, project planning, funding, stewardship, and how to navigate the inevitable challenges and setbacks.

Thursday, May 08: Nanaimo Room A

03:15 PM - 04:00 PM

Finding Our Way

Finding Our Way

Nanaimo Room A

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Jon Whipple

Web Graphic Designer, Vancouver Public Library

Mary Castellanes

Web Graphic Designer, Vancouver Public Library

Tina Pater

Programmer Analyst, Vancouver Public Library

Maps. They guide us where we need to go. They enable us to discover places we may not have known about. We can zoom in to see every detail, or zoom out to see the bigger picture. Maps empower us to focus in on one or two aspects of place, or take them all in, unfiltered. The map in our presentation doubles as a navigational aid, and as a metaphor for process. Using the interactive floor map that we created in-house at the Vancouver Public Library as a working example (https://www.vpl.ca/floor-map), we will go over our process for developing this ...

Thursday, May 08: Millstone River Room

03:15 PM - 04:00 PM

Birds of Feather: Spreading our Wings - Accessibility and Inclusion at the Library

Spreading our Wings: Accessibility and Inclusion at the Library

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Public Library

Karen Wootten

Accessibility Coordinator, Powell River Public Library

Melani Williams

Assistant Chief Librarian, Powell River Public Library

Libraries are known as community hubs that strive to include everyone. In these rapidly changing times, having a space that offers universal welcome and accessibility is especially important. In addition to this, the Accessible BC Act has made it imperative for libraries to evaluate their programs, policies, and spaces. This session will allow attendees to share their library-specific accessibility challenges, successes, and goals. Through discussion and collaboration participants can find solutions, learn new strategies, and create networks and communities of practice that will enhance their accessibility journeys.

Thursday, May 08: Dodd Narrows B

03:15 PM - 04:15 PM

BC Library Trustees Meet and Greet

Dodd Narrows B

Join Laura Vilness, President of BCLTA, Rob Bennie, Vice President, Claes Palmgren, Treasurer and Christine Middlemass, Interim Executive Director for a casual meetup at this year's BC Library Conference. We would love to see you in person and to hear your thoughts on BCLTA and public libraries in general. Coffee and Tea will be available.

Afternoon Snack in Exhibit Hall

Mount Benson Ballroom

Generously sponsored by CVS Midwest Tape-Hoopla DigitalNetwork with peers, exhibitors, and sponsors in the Exhibits Hall and grab an afternoon snack!

Thursday, May 08: Shaw Auditorium

05:00 PM - 06:15 PM

Holding the Line: Navigating Contemporary Questions of Intellectual Freedom in Libraries Together

Plenary

Shaw Auditorium

Plenary

Cameron Pierson

Lecturer, UBC iSchool

Christine Middlemass

Interim Executive Director, BC Library Trustees Association

Christopher Kevlahan

Branch Head, Vancouver Public Library

Tess Prendergast

Lecturer, UBC iSchool

Generously sponsored by BCGEU. Libraries and librarians face increasing pressure, uncertainty, and complexity with the core value of intellectual freedom as it faces persistent and, in some cases, new challenges in the contemporary environment. While the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction is understood to be core to the profession for many, it remains contestable for others. Intellectual freedom enables the conditions that protect the freedom to read, such as privacy and advocacy for information diversity in publishing and library collections, and public discourse of controversial topics, in which ...

Thursday, May 08: White Sails Brewing

07:00 PM - 09:00 PM

Library Pub Trivia Night

White Sails Brewing

Paige McGeorge

Teenbrarian (she/her), Lethbridge Public Library

Virginia MacLeod

Customer Services Librarian, Vancouver Island Regional Library

Join us for a library-hosted trivia night, led by Virginia MacLeod and Paige McGeorge, who will share their Wise Owls Pub Quiz which builds community, shares library expertise, and is a fun event for everyone involved!Separate ticket purchase required, for \$15. Ticket includes 1 alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage.Event Location: This event will be taking place at White Sails Brewing. Transportation is on your own. From the Convention Centre, the pub is approximately 750m / 11 minute walk each way.

Friday, May 09: Nanaimo room B

08:30 AM - 09:15 AM

Working Together: Our Community's Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate

Working Together: Our Community's Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate

Nanaimo room B

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Tracy Kendrick

Coordinator, Service Design, Greater Victoria Public Library

The City of Victoria and the Greater Victoria Public Library have partnered since 2008 to provide our community with a Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate. Learn about how we work together to provide these important positions, and about our mutual commitment to support literary arts. This presentation will feature information about a special project by the previous Poet Laureate, Marie Metaphor Specht, to bring a sound-responsive, lighted installation to the sxwen'xwən tan'exw James Bay Branch.

Friday, May 09: Departure Bay AB

08:30 AM - 09:15 AM

CANCELLED: Engaging Diverse Learners: A Toolkit for Culturally Responsive and Inclusive Library Instruction and Services

Engaging Diverse Learners: A Toolkit for Culturally Responsive and Inclusive Library Instruction and Services

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

Special Library

Please note, this session has been withdrawn by the presenters. We will explore the opportunity to offer this session as a virtual session in the future.

Friday, May 09: Duke Point

08:30 AM - 09:15 AM

Reimagining Library Vendor Relationships - One Path to a Reset Future

Reimagining Library Vendor Relationships - One Path to a Reset Future

Duke Point

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Jeff Narver

Director of Infrastructure and Resources, Fraser Valley Regional Library

Using data from primary research and practical vendor experiences, the presenter will provide attendees the tools to understand, evaluate and create a true culture of trust, value and productivity when working with library vendors. Examples from specific vendor projects will illustrate the pitfalls of not developing deep vendor relationships, and the creative value that flows from a solid respectful and trusted vendor relationship. Work experiences from both the vendor and library worlds will bring together best practices in both collaboration and relationship development

Birds of a Feather: Trucks, Facts or Manga? How Can Libraries Engage Boys in Embracing Reading?

Trucks, Facts or Manga? How Can Libraries Engage Boys in Embracing Reading?

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Public Library

School Library

Adam Bielka

Public Services Librarian, Surrey Libraries

Shawn Gill

Teen Services Librarian, Surrey Libraries

Meet and make connections with other library professionals interested in the issue of boys' literacy and share examples and strategies that will allow us to begin developing a community of practice in this area. The discussion will be facilitated by two male librarians who developed a passion for reading at a young age and who have an abiding interest in how to get more boys reading.

Friday, May 09: Shaw Auditorium

08:30 AM - 09:15 AM

Population growth vs. library growth

Population growth vs. library growth

Shaw Auditorium

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Danielle Hubbard

Chief Executive Officer, Okanagan Regional Library

Judy Moore

Chief Librarian, Thompson-Nicola Regional Library

Population growth is a reality in most communities in BC, posing opportunities and challenges to the library systems serving these communities. In an ideal scenario, library leaders navigate in tandem with their municipal or regional governments to ensure the library best meets the growing needs of the community. In reality, this relationship is rarely straightforward and libraries must be creative in finding varied approaches to organizational growth. This panel discusses two library systems' experiences with population-related opportunities and challenges, and what steps and strategies have been employed to navigate these changing waters. The Okanagan Regional Library serves many of the ...

Public Library Accessibility Working Group Update

Departure Bay AB

Leigh Anne Palmer

Executive Director, Public Library InterLINK, Public Library InterLINK

Nora Loyst

Accessibility Consultant, Untapped Accessibilty

Rina Hadziev

Executive Director, BC Library Association

Sarah Felkar

Executive Director, BC Libraries Co-op

Members of the Public Library Accessibility Working Group and Untapped Accessibility will share information on the development of the forthcoming Library Assessment Framework, which will provide a common tool for public libraries to use in evaluating their accessibility and support compliance with the Accessible BC Act.

Friday, May 09: Newcastle Island Lobby

09:15 AM - 09:45 AM

Caffeine Fix Coffee & Tea Break

Newcastle Island Lobby

Network with peers, and sponsors and grab a coffee/tea and snack!

Friday, May 09: Duke Point

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM

I belong at my library too! Creating accessible library services for children with disabilities

I belong at my library too! Creating accessible library services for children with disabilities

Duke Point

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Megan Sellmer

Outreach Coordinator, National Network for Equitable Library Service

Rachel Breau

Manager, Member Services, CELA

We all want our public libraries to feel welcoming to our community members, but how do we structure our spaces, programs and collections to be inviting to kids with disabilities and their families? This interactive session will inspire participants to adapt the current way they plan, promote and deliver their programs, collections and services to accommodate patrons with different disabilities and their reading needs. Through guided activities, the audience will discover that developing accessible and inclusive services is achievable and affordable, and that they should never feel they are alone! Through collaborating with local community organizations, as well as by ...

Friday, May 09: Millstone River Room

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Birds of a Feather: User Experience (UX) in Libraries

User Experience in libraries: User Experience in Libraries

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Janis McKenzie

User Experience Librarian, Simon Fraser University

Lynn Kleinveldt

Assistant Professor, Department of Information Studies, University of the Fraser Valley

Mark Goodwin

User Experience and Digital Accessibility Librarian, University of British Columbia

Whether you are a user experience librarian, user experience is officially (or unofficially) part of your job, or you're "just" interested in integrating UX techniques into your work to improve library services and tools, this gathering will be a place to connect with others, share ideas, and generate some action steps to bring back to your workplace!

Friday, May 09: Departure Bay AB

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM

From Barriers to Belonging: Designing a Community Hub That Centers the Needs of Marginalized Patrons

From Barriers to Belonging: Designing a Community Hub That Centers the Needs of Marginalized Patrons

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

McKelle Hansen

Library Access Specialist - Librarian, North Vancouver City Library

Rebecca Knight

Community Access Worker, North Vancouver City Library

Is your library ready to take its community development goals to the next level? Explore the evolving role of libraries in fostering connection and responding to the increasing needs of marginalized patrons. While libraries have long been seen as community spaces, the concept of a Community Hub goes beyond traditional library programming to foster a flexible, community-led and inclusive space that centers the needs of those who face barriers to accessing food, housing, health supports etc. This session provides a framework for implementing a Community Hub at your own library based on over 3 years of experience running the Open ...

Friday, May 09: Shaw Auditorium

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Borrow a Councillor: Whistler Public Library Connects Community with Decision-Makers

Borrow a Councillor: Whistler Public Library Connects Community with Decision-Makers

Shaw Auditorium

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Jeanette Bruce

Program & Communications Coordinator, Whistler Public Library

Jill Brooksbank

Senior Communications Officer, Resort Municipality of Whistler

In September 2024, Whistler Public Library (WPL) launched a new civic engagement initiative in partnership with the Resort Municipality of Whistler's (RMOW) Communications Department and municipal council: Borrow a Councillor. This project saw Whistler's Mayor and Councillors added to WPL's Unusual Items Collection for community members to "borrow" for a 30 minute one-on-one session. In offering this opportunity for citizens to connect directly with their elected officials, Borrow a Councillor promotes a healthy democracy in Whistler. This collaboration is just one of several successful partnerships within the RMOW's new division, Community Engagement & Cultural Services, which includes WPL and the ...

Friday, May 09: Nanaimo room B

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Business librarians flocking together: A panel discussion from the BC Business Librarians

Business librarians flocking together: A panel discussion from the BC Business Librarians

Nanaimo room B

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Public Library

Special Library

Amber Gallant

Data Services Librarian, Royal Roads University Library

Emily Nickerson

Business & Law Librarian, University of Victoria

Irena Trebic

Reference Librarian, University of British Columbia

Since 2010, the BC Business Librarians informal community of practice (BusLib-BC) has been a hub for sharing knowledge, fostering local connections, and building professional confidence. In this panel session, three members of the group will reflect on their experiences, sharing the history of the group, exploring how its members have sustained and supported each other over time, and revealing the strategies that have enabled its success. Participants will gain practical tips for building and maintaining a community of practice, explore its role in empowering members to navigate rapid changes and disciplinary challenges, and discover how shared responsibility and diverse contributions

Friday, May 09: Newcastle Island Lobby

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Coffee & Tea Break

Newcastle Island Lobby

Network with peers, and sponsors and grab a coffee/tea and snack!

Friday, May 09: Millstone River Room

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Birds of a Feather: Technical Services

Technical Services Birds of a Feather

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Shawna Buhler

Cataloguing and Technical Services Librarian, BC Hydro Library and Archives

Tamarack Hockin

Metadata Strategies Librarian, Capilano University Library

Generously sponsored by OurDigitalWorldAs technical services professionals, each of us comes to this year's BCLA conference with challenges we are currently facing as well as those already overcome. This Birds of a Feather session invites you to connect with others doing cataloguing, collections, and technical services work across B.C.. This session is designed to foster one-to-one dialogue, and is especially relevant for solo practitioners and those working in small teams. Inspired by Liberating Structures, participants will gather in an informal but structured session designed to foster new connections. Are you wrestling with a project to update your local cataloguing practices? Emerging ...

Friday, May 09: Duke Point

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Leading beyond Libraries

Leading beyond Libraries

Duke Point

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Colin Elliott

Dean of Business, Access Education & IT Programs, Coast Mountain College

Debbie Schachter

Associate Vice-President, Students

Shirley Lev

Dean, School of Arts & Sciences, Vancouver Community College

Librarians are positioned to play active roles of leadership in academic institutions. The broad subject knowledge of Librarians combined with working across departments creates opportunities for Librarians to facilitate change outside of Libraries. Librarianship is essentially interdisciplinary, and the skill sets Librarians bring are broad enough to be applied to many contexts in higher education. Colin Elliott (Dean, Business, Access Education & Dean, School of Arts & Dean, Sciences - Vancouver Community College), and Debbie Schachter (Associate Vice-President, Students - Langara College) will discuss their journeys to leadership outside of Libraries in this ...

Small but Mighty: Pocket and Kiosk Libraries in Action

Small but Mighty: Pocket and Kiosk Libraries in Action

Shaw Auditorium

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Jill Klaponski

Manager, Collection Services, North Vancouver District Public Library

Sandi Burgess

Manager of Welcoming Initiatives, North Vancouver District Public Library

Discover how the North Vancouver District Public Library is reimagining library services with pocket libraries and kiosks in community recreation centers. Explore how boutique collections, innovative technology, and partnerships bring library access beyond traditional hours and spaces, meeting patrons where they are. Navigate the challenges and successes of creating vibrant, flexible library models that thrive in non-traditional environments.

Friday, May 09: Departure Bay AB

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Empowering Libraries to Champion Accessibility & Inclusion

Empowering Libraries to Champion Accessibility & Inclusion

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session

Academic Library

Carli Agostino

Access Services Librarian, Carleton University

Megan McMeekin

Head, Inclusion, Accessibility & Outreach, University of Ottawa Library

This session will explore the experiences of two librarians working over a decade in library accessibility services in both public and academic library settings. The presenters will share successful initiatives, personal experiences and lessons learned in implementing Ontario's accessibility legislation, and how this may provide insight for British Columbia libraries in adapting and implementing their recent 2021 accessibility legislation. Participants will walk away with practical strategies to advance accessibility and take proactive leadership roles on campus. The session will highlight key success factors and emphasize the importance of building and sustaining collaborative relationships and partnerships to enhance accessibility and inclusivity ...

Friday, May 09: Nanaimo room B

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Making it Safer: Empowering Marginalized Groups with Reliable Legal Information Session

Making it Safer: Empowering Marginalized Groups with Reliable Legal Information Session

Nanaimo room B

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

Dom Bautista

Executive Director, AC Friends of Court

Karen Liebel

Branch Head, Kensington Branch, Vancouver Public Library

In a time when identifying as a member of a marginalized group can lead to threats and violence, it can be difficult to find safe legal information without judgment. Navigating the legal system is challenging. Navigating it in a language other than English, as a person who is part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, or as a person living with a disability can add a layer of difficulty if a person does not feel safe within the community at legal information sessions. In this presentation, presenters will share about their collaborative and intentional design process which resulted in offering public legal ...

BCLA Awards Luncheon

Mount Benson Ballroom

Friday, May 09: Departure Bay AB

01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

Equitable Discovery of Accessible Resources: The IFLA Accessibility Metadata Network

Equitable discovery of accessible resources: the IFLA Accessibility Metadata Network

Departure Bay AB

45 min Breakout Session Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Special Library

Christopher Carr

Special Materials Cataloguing Librarian, Concordia University

Megan Toye

Metadata & Discovery Librarian, Douglas College

Generously sponsored by OCLCIn 2024, the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) launched the IFLA Accessibility Metadata Network to develop international best practices and guidelines on the recording and use of accessibility metadata to support an inclusive and equitable resource discover experience for all library users. Bringing together an international team of librarians and metadata specialists, the network aims to create standard metadata practices to facilitate discovery and sharing of accessible resources as well as building partnerships between publishers and libraries to provide accessible metadata to users as legislated by the European Accessibility Act. Hear from two librarians participating in ...

Friday, May 09: Nanaimo room B

01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

"Working Together", Being Intentional and Authentic as a First Nations and **Settler Writing Team**

"Working Together", Being Intentional and Authentic as a First Nations and Settler Writing Team

Nanaimo room B

45 min Breakout Session

Public Library

School Library

Jess Willows

Writer and Teacher, Two Tricksters' Creations

Johnny Aitken

Artist and writer, Two Tricksters' Writing

In a casual, safe, participatory setting, Johnny Aitken and Jessica Willows will share their experiences working (and navigating) together to write their first children's book, designed to be used by teachers to explore issues around reconciliation in a more personal way, through a friendship. "Two Tricksters Find Friendship" will be published by Orca Book Publishers and will be available Spring 2025. This book explores the complex friendship between a First Nations boy and a Settler girl as they discover what their unspoken connection is to Truth, Healing and Reconciliation. The writers' process mirror this connection.

Friday, May 09: Shaw Auditorium

01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

Storytelling with Data: Creating Compelling, Evidence-based Stories about Your Library

Storytelling with Data: Creating Compelling, Evidence-based Stories about Your Library

Shaw Auditorium 45 min Breakout Session Academic Library Public Library School Library

Special Library

Colleen Bell

Assessment Librarian, Univ of the Fraser Valley

"People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel." (Maya Angelou) Stories are memorable because they make us feel. And stories hold immense power because they are memorable. They can create connections between our audiences – our users, our leaders, and other stakeholders - and the work we do in ways that sharing data or facts alone cannot. This interactive session will explore how to harness data to craft compelling stories that highlight the significance of our library services, resources, and initiatives, with a focus on presenting ...

Friday, May 09: Duke Point

01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

5 Hacks for Being Best Roomies: A Look at an Operations Agreement between a Library and a Community Centre

5 Hacks for Being Best Roomies: A Look at an Operations Agreement between a Library and a Community Centre

Duke Point 45 min Breakout Session Public Library

Desiree Baron

Branch Manager, Burnaby Public Library

Rohan Matts

Recreation Centre Supervisor 2, Cameron Community Centre

In 2024, the Cameron Community Centre and the Cameron Branch of the Burnaby Public Library moved into a shared space – a 17,000 square foot facility at the City of Lougheed Shopping Centre. Learn from our experiences of what makes a good partnership, and the importance of an Operations Agreement.

Friday, May 09: Millstone River Room

01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

Birds of a Feather: Can Cardigans and Coveralls Connect? : Library Support for the Skilled Trades

Can Cardigans and Coveralls Connect?: Library Support for the Skilled Trades

Millstone River Room

Birds of a Feather Session

Academic Library

Public Library

School Library

Jeff Verbeem

Librarian, British Columbia Institute of Technology

Leah Guffrov

MASLIS student, University of British Columbia

Yvonne Phillips

Librarian, Red Deer Polytechnic Library

To meet the growing demand for graduates in the skilled trades, educational institutes in BC and Alberta currently offer a combined total of 150 apprenticeship programs. And yet, in the library community, there is a lack of research and shared knowledge on the information needs of the salon, the shop floor and the construction site. In this presentation, three librarians with experience supporting trades programs in these two provinces want to initiate a conversation about what effective information literacy instruction, collections development and outreach activities look like in this context. We aim to discuss our experiences with library professionals who ...

Friday, May 09: Mount Benson Ballroom

02:15 PM - 02:30 PM

Pre-Keynote Pick-Me-Up

Mount Benson Ballroom

Fuel up for the final event of the day!

Friday, May 09: Mount Benson Ballroom

02:30 PM - 04:00 PM

Closing Keynote: Kaetrena Davis Kendrick

Mount Benson Ballroom

Keynote

Kaetrena Davis Kendrick

Kendrick Consulting and Communications, LLC

Generously sponsored by: CUPE BCKaetrena Davis Kendrick, MSLS is a Researcher, Leader, Consultant and Coach - and founder of Kendrick Consulting and Communications, LLC (Renewals). She earned her M.S.L.S. from the historic Clark Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies. While known for her work on ethics, equity, diversity and inclusion, and communities of practice in libraries, Kendrick's research on low-morale experiences in library workplaces is recognized as groundbreaking and validating for library employees at all levels. In her daily and long-term work, Kendrick has transformed library programs, services, and culture via creativity, leadership, and advocacy. She is committed ...