



## 2026 BC Library Conference

Wednesday, Apr 22: Cedarbridge

09:00 AM - 11:30 AM

### Pre-Conference: MarcEdit - Beginner batch-editing with MarcEdit: A hands-on workshop

Cedarbridge

**Cleire Lauron**

Metadata & Discovery Librarian | Sessional Lecturer, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

**Julie Cole**

Library Systems Administrator, Langara College

**Tamarack Hockin**

Metadata Strategies Librarian, Capilano University

As technical services workflows increasingly involve large sets of records, tools like MarcEdit have become essential for managing MARC data efficiently. This 2.5-hour hands-on workshop is designed for cataloguers and metadata practitioners who are new to MarcEdit or who use it occasionally and would like to build a solid foundational understanding of the tool. The session will focus on introductory, practical workflows commonly encountered across technical services for everyday metadata remediation and transformation. The workshop will cover: splitting, joining, matching, and merging MARC files; using built-in tasks and creating custom task lists for basic batch record editing. This workshop is intended ...

Wednesday, Apr 22: Cedarbridge

12:30 PM - 03:00 PM

### Pre-Conference: RDA - Working with the Official RDA Toolkit for Everyday Cataloguing

Cedarbridge

**Cleire Lauron**

Metadata & Discovery Librarian | Sessional Lecturer, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

**Laura Doublet**

Head, Metadata, University of Victoria Libraries

**Sue Andrews**

Principal Cataloguer and Metadata Architect, University of British Columbia Library

**Susie Jones**

Cataloguing Librarian, Vancouver Public Library

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is an international standard for cataloguing library resources, accessible through the online RDA Toolkit. Cataloguers have been hearing a lot about the upcoming transition from Original RDA to Official RDA. But what does this shift mean for day-to-day cataloguing work? As of May 2027, Original RDA will cease to be available in its current form within the toolkit and cataloguers will need to be prepared to create records using Official RDA. This 2.5-hour workshop offers a hands-on opportunity to catalogue a monograph using the Official RDA Toolkit, while at the same time gaining valuable skills in ...

Wednesday, Apr 22: Westminster Salon

03:30 PM - 05:00 PM

## Opening Keynote: Jenna Hartel

Aurora BoreaLIS: Luminous Directions for Libraries

Westminster Salon

### Jenna Hartel

Associate Professor, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto

Generously sponsored by: UBC LibrarySparked by elemental collisions, the aurora borealis shimmers against the night sky, linking heaven and earth in a dance of excited, iridescent electrons. Professor Jenna Hartel believes this mysterious nocturnal phenomenon offers profound nourishment for the library profession. Her keynote address for the British Columbia Library Association begins by illuminating the core principles of Library and Information Science through the "aurora borealis" metaphor. She will then lead the audience on a "sky tour" of three nascent ribbons of light flickering on the library horizon: contemplation, the multispecies perspective, and love. With reflective moments and original videos, ...

Wednesday, Apr 22: Britannia Ballroom

05:00 PM - 07:00 PM

## Welcome Reception

Britannia Ballroom

Join us in the exhibit hall for the Welcome Reception, where you can connect with fellow industry professionals, explore the exhibits, and enjoy casual networking to kick off the conference. Light refreshments will be served, and a cash bar will be available.

Thursday, Apr 23: Richmond B

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Centering Community in Controlled Vocabulary Work

Centering Community in Controlled Vocabulary Work

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Allison Hill

Manager, Library Services & Resource Discovery, AIDE Canada Library

### Taya Jardine

Indigenous Metadata Librarian, Xwi7xwa Library - UBC

Every role in the library is affected by our reliance on standardized controlled vocabularies that misrepresent, stigmatize, or fail to identify our communities. Likewise, every role in the library is needed to make other approaches possible, from liaising with communities on language and representation to providing technical capacity for creative solutions to training staff on new cataloguing approaches. We represent a partnership of libraries and archives collaborating on shared supports and increased capacity for local alternatives. Our collections center specific marginalized communities—autistic people and their families, Black Vancouverites, Downtown Eastside residents, Indigenous Peoples, LGBT2QIA+ people, and South Asian Canadians—making issues ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 1 & 2

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Newcomer Welcome Centre Opens at Surrey Libraries

Newcomer Welcome Centre Opens at Surrey Libraries

Westminster 1 & 2

75 minutes

### **Mara Dickie**

Newcomer Welcome Centre Coordinator, SURREY LIBRARIES

### **Ravi Basi**

Manager, Multicultural Services, SURREY LIBRARIES

### **Trisha Sy**

Public Services Librarian-Newcomer Services, SURREY LIBRARIES

In 2024, Surrey's Mayor and Council asked Surrey Libraries to plan and open a Newcomer Welcome Centre (NWC) as soon as possible in one of the library branches. Over 45% of Surrey's residents are newcomers and 67% of residents identify as racialized or non-white. The goal of the NWC is to expand and enhance services to this large newcomer population in Surrey. The City provided funds for staffing, collections, equipment, computers, furniture and other startup costs, as well as full access to its team of expert IT and Facilities staff who worked on the project alongside library staff. During the ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Cedarbridge

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Community-Based Climate Engagement: Reports from the Field

Community-Based Climate Engagement: Reports from the Field

Cedarbridge

75 minutes

### **Angie Thom**

Director of Library Services, Jasper Municipal Library

### **Diana Marshall**

Customer Services Specialist, Fraser Valley Regional Library

### **Julia Wagner**

Assistant Library Director, Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

### **Laura Harris**

Chief Librarian, Nelson Public Library

### **Lisa Nathan**

Professor, University of British Columbia

### **Luanne Sinnamon**

Professor, UBC School of Information

Adjusting to rapidly changing ecosystems means different things across our diverse communities. Some face more severe water restrictions, others face increased vulnerability to flooding, and still others now deal with more severe droughts, increased flooding, and larger, more fierce wildfires. It can feel confusing and overwhelming. Over the past year, four municipal and regional library systems in BC and Alberta partnered with the UBC iSchool Informing Climate Action team to create opportunities for climate-related sharing & listening, creating & repairing, reflecting & aspiring, events tailored to local interests and capacities. Inspired by the idea that libraries can function as sites ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 3

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Canadian Copyright Act and Accessible Content: Overview & Best Practices

Canadian Copyright Act and Accessible Content: Overview & Best Practices

Westminster 3

75 minutes

### Adam Wilton

Program Manager, PRCVI and ARC-BC

### Daniella Levy-Pinto

Manager, National Network for Equitable Library Service

### Laurie Davidson

Executive Director, CELA, CELA Library

The exceptions in the Copyright Act for persons with perceptual or print disabilities (section 32) recognize fundamental human rights in the copyright regime, such as the rights to access works, to education, and to cultural participation. Libraries, alternate format producers and educators work hard to ensure that accessible content is made available to users with perceptual or print disabilities by producing and distributing works in the alternate formats their users need. Understanding and navigating the requirements set forth by the Act is not always easy; confusion about what is allowed, and fear of getting it wrong, can create real barriers ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Elmbridge

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## An IT Update for the Rest of Us

Elmbridge

### Ursula Brigl

Cranbrook Public Library

Change and innovation is happening at an exponential rate, particularly when it comes to IT. Whether you're an aficionado, feeling curious, or even a bit overwhelmed when it comes to IT, this is the session for you! A panel of library IT leaders will share their knowledge and expertise.

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Results and Discussion of the 2025 Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL/ABCES) Census

Results and Discussion of the 2025 Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL/ABCES) Census

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Jennie Fallis

Academic Librarian, McGill University

### Tina Liu

McGill

The Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians / L' Association canadienne des bibliothécaires en enseignement supérieur (CAPAL/ACBES) collects data on academic librarians in Canada to provide a comprehensive picture of the profession. Collection of this data over time enables researchers to study demographics of Canadian academic librarians, which allows for tracking of trends, comparisons with other professions, support qualitative / quantitative inquiry, and influences policy development. Since the previous editions of the census in 2016 and 2018, the researchers have made several updates to the questionnaire tool, as well as methods for data collection. During this session, the researchers will ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Indigenous-led libraries and learning centres in BC

Indigenous-led libraries and learning centres in BC – an impact study and future directions

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Gordon Yusko

Advisor & Facilitator, Write to Read BC Project

### Jody Bauche

Associate Professor, Royal Roads University

### Shirley-Pat Gale

Leader, Write to Read BC

Come by the poster in the Britannia foyer to see a visual representation of the impact study of the ongoing partnerships between Write to Read BC and isolated Indigenous communities to establish libraries and learning centres since over the past 15 years. Staffing for the poster will be intermittent especially when there is a presentation about this work in the Westminster Room between 2:30 and 3:30. More info is on our website: <https://writetoreadbc.org/> and by contacting [info@writetoreadbc.org](mailto:info@writetoreadbc.org)

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Bravely Facing Past Historical Wrongs: A Collaboration between School and Public Libraries

Bravely Facing Past Historical Wrongs: A Collaboration between School and Public Libraries

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Caitlin MacRae

Adult Programming Librarian, New Westminster Public Library

### Janis Bridger

Teacher-Librarian, Author, SD40 New Westminster School District

### Rebekah Adams-Brush

Supervisor, Children's and Teen's Department, New Westminster Public Library

How can we bravely confront past historical wrongs and nurture a brighter future using children's literature? Starting in Fall 2025, Japanese Canadians internment history became mandatory Social Studies content for grade 10 students in British Columbia. With new changes in school curriculum, children and teens are learning about dark moments of Canadian history that many parents, educators, and librarians did not learn about in their own schooling. How do we continue this education outside of school? How do we bridge the gap and learn together? Join Janis Bridger, elementary school teacher-librarian and co-author of *Obaasan's Boots*, along with Rebekah Adams-Brush ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: No books. Now what?

No books. Now what?

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Sarah Van Sickle

Resource Management Librarian, Yorkville University

What happens when your library has to dramatically downsize the print collection? Or worse, dismantle the physical space all together? This session discusses pop-up library initiatives that allow libraries to continue supporting the print needs of students, faculty, and library users.

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Stories for Everyone: Creating Accessible Storytime Programs

Stories for Everyone: Creating Accessible Storytime Programs

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Ava Ready

Library Services Librarian I, Greater Victoria Public Library

Do you host children's storytimes? Have you ever reflected on the accessibility of your storytime? How can we develop storytime programs that include and inspire everyone to engage and participate? Public libraries are a community hub that promotes lifelong learning, literacy, and social connection. One keystone of public libraries is the children's storytimes that are offered; however, an integral part of creating a community hub is making it accessible and inclusive for everyone. The session explores storytime programs that engage and include children with diverse abilities, inspiring brighter futures. By discussing what accessibility means, what it looks like in children's ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Coffee Kits: An out-of-the-box welcoming program for libraries

Coffee Kits: An out-of-the-box welcoming program for libraries

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Nick Ubels

Assistant Manager, Community Inclusion, Vancouver Public Library

Introduction Welcoming programs are an opportunity to cultivate a greater sense of community within the library. They allow staff and patrons a chance to get to know one another better, which can increase community investment in the library and invite collaborative development of library spaces, services, and resources. Building on the popularity of weekly drop-in socials happening across the city, Vancouver Public Library's Community Inclusion team was funded to provide coffee kits for five additional branches. Background Sharing a warm drink or snack has repeatedly been found to improve social connection (Dunbar, 2017; Gorman et al., 2018; Hosinett et al., ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Mapping the Future of the Information Society: Collective Student Visions for 2035

Mapping the Future of the Information Society: Collective Student Visions for 2035

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Inaam Charaf

Assistant Professor, University of the Fraser Valley

This session presents a dynamic, student-generated public awareness campaign titled "The Future of the Information Society: Our Vision for 2035." Developed in the LIBT 200 Information and Society course, this campaign showcases eight interconnected infographics created by student groups, each addressing a critical facet of the information landscape we may face in 2035. Topics include algorithmic personalization, corporate influence over information flows, AI ethics and governance, data as economic power, misinformation, critical AI literacy, and future visions of equitable information access and human-machine collaboration. Designed using a unified visual and communication framework, each infographic distills a complex issue into ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## POSTER: Revitalizing E-Learning: Refreshing Research Skills Modules for Relevance and Accessibility

Revitalizing E-Learning: Refreshing Research Skills Modules for Relevance and Accessibility

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Halie Minhas

Student Library Worker, University of Toronto

How can libraries keep e-learning relevant in a rapidly changing academic environment? This poster shares the process of refreshing the University of Toronto Libraries' Essential Research Skills modules, a series of self-directed e-learning modules that support students in developing foundational research skills. The updated modules integrate Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, offering content in multiple formats to meet diverse learning needs. The overhaul also tackled emerging issues like generative AI, helping students critically assess when and how AI tools can (and cannot) support their research. Our revamp emphasizes accessibility and practical application to students' academic lives. The poster shares ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Foyer

10:15 AM - 05:00 PM

## Poster: Trans+ ID Clinics

Trans+ ID Clinics

Britannia Foyer

Poster Session

### Chloë Manthorne

Articled Law Student, Davidson Lawyers LLP

### Mira Harvey

Public Services Librarian / Outreach & AI Literacy Librarian, Okanagan Reginal Library & Okanagan College

Trans+ ID clinics are free informational sessions that help gender diverse people navigate the legal name and gender change process, often in partnership with volunteer lawyers who can complete name change applications. This session shows librarians how to plan a Trans+ ID clinic program depending on their resources, time, space, and patron population. It also outlines the value of the program - not only as a direct support for gender diverse people, but as a vehicle to connect with different community groups through outreach and information service provision.

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Ballroom

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

## Java Jolt Coffee Break

Britannia 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, Apr 23: Richmond B

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Technical Services Birds of a Feather

Technical Services Birds of a Feather

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Shawna Buhler

Technical Services and Cataloguing Librarian, BC Hydro

### Tamarack Hockin

Metadata Strategies Librarian, Capilano University

Connect with other brave and bright colleagues at this year's conference during our annual Technical Services Birds of a Feather. Whether you are a solo practitioner from a small library, or part of a multi-department team, this semi-structured participatory gathering is designed to start conversations and make connections among those of us working in cataloguing, collections, and other technical services roles across the province. What are you most excited or worried about this year? Whether it's a bright future, a call to bravery, or a bit of both, it's best to forge the road ahead with company. Join colleagues from ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 1 & 2

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Leading in Uncertain Times

Leading in Uncertain Times

Westminster 1 & 2

60 minutes

### Anne O'Shea

Principal Strategist, Craft Strategic

When you became a leader, you likely imagined you'd be leading a team with a clear purpose and set of goals. Surprise! Leadership is seldom straightforward, and at times it can be downright chaotic. From budget cuts to trade wars, through public emergencies, political conflicts, shifting priorities and a changing policy landscape, much of what we navigate is beyond our control. A major challenge leaders face is how to support and reassure others when we ourselves are grappling with uncertainty. This session will help you navigate uncertainty and complexity with greater confidence. You'll identify and distinguish between what you can ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Cedarbridge

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Academic Libraries as Community Partners: Building a Learning Resource at the Carnegie Learning Centre

Academic Libraries as Community Partners: Building a Learning Resource at the Carnegie Learning Centre

Cedarbridge

60 minutes

### Emily O'Brien

Children's Librarian, Vancouver Public Library

### Georgia Franklin

Provincial Coordinator, BC Summer Reading Club

### Jorge Cardenas

Belzberg Library Head, SFU

Simon Fraser University's Belzberg Library worked with the University of British Columbia's School of Information in 2025 to develop learning resources for the Carnegie Learning Centre. Located within the Carnegie Community Centre and supported by Capilano University, the Centre is a volunteer-run, peer-to-peer learning environment that provides social, educational, cultural, and recreational programming for community members with diverse needs. The Learning Centre housed a mid-sized collection of English Language Learning materials intended to support volunteer facilitators, but the collection had become disorganized and was significantly underused. In collaboration with the Belzberg Library, students from the UBC School of Information were ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Elmbridge

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Shared Spaces - The new Masset Branch/Haida Language Immersion lab

Shared Spaces - The new Masset Branch/Haida Language Immersion lab

Elmbridge

60 minutes

### Jaasuljuus Yakujanaas

Team Lead, Xaad Kil Nee

### Jaskwaan Bedard

Assistant Professor, Xaad Kil Nee, SFU

### Patrick Siebold

Library Manager, Vancouver Island Regional Library

The new Masset Branch and Haida Language Immersion Lab in Haida Gwaii is the result of a meaningful partnership between Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) and the Xaad Kil Nee (Haida Language Office). This collaboration shows how libraries and Indigenous language organizations can work together in ways that are practical, respectful, and mutually beneficial. For libraries, partnerships like this help advance TRC and DRIPA commitments while building trust and reducing barriers between institutions and Indigenous communities. For Indigenous language revitalization groups, which often depend on short-term or uncertain grant funding, partnering with public libraries offers a more stable foundation. At ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 3

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## The "Teen Experiment" in Libraries: Reframing Teen Services

The "Teen Experiment" in Libraries: Reframing Teen Services

Westminster 3

60 minutes

### Ingrid Petro

Teen Services Librarian, Vancouver Public Library

### Stephanie Usher

Teen Services Librarian, Vancouver Public Library

In the landscape of public libraries, Teen Services librarians are no strangers to being persistent: we constantly advocate for better spaces, collections and resources for an often-overlooked demographic. Teens are a vibrant community and when libraries provide services that respect their evolving identities, autonomy, and social dynamics, a formative connection can flourish. While some library workers may find working with youth intimidating, we hope to demystify any worries and demonstrate how libraries can empower youth voices and foster inclusive environments through relevant programming and services that support their critical thinking, creativity, and social connections. Using Vancouver Public Library's annual Teen ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Ballroom

12:00 PM - 01:15 PM

## Lunch in Exhibits

Britannia Ballroom

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

Thursday, Apr 23: Richmond B

01:15 PM - 02:15 PM

## Misinformation March – Stepping Into the Misinformation and Disinformation Landscape

Misinformation March – Stepping Into the Misinformation and Disinformation Landscape

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Katharine Shipley

Associate Director, Learning Resources, Douglas College

### Lisa Sim

Administrative Officer, Douglas College

Fake news. AI slop. Social media algorithms. Deepfakes. Conspiracy theories. Engagement bait. The ways in which misinformation and disinformation impact our day-to-day lives and the world around us evolve, deepen, and intertwine constantly. Information literacy is a core part of every academic library's mission. Making spaces to have conversations and build awareness of the sweeping impacts of our modern mis-, dis-, and unreal information ecosystems, outside of the classroom or away from the reference desk, has become a growing imperative. Join us to hear about our interactive and engaging Misinformation March outreach event, inspired by St. Clair College in Windsor, ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 3

01:15 PM - 02:15 PM

## When Programs Go Wrong: Being Adaptive in Difficult Situations

When Programs Go Wrong: Being Adaptive in Difficult Situations

Westminster 3

60 minutes

### **Kelsey Waggener**

Librarian, Programming and Community Connections, Coquitlam Public Library

### **Tanya Rogoschewsky**

Director of Community Engagement & Programming, Regina Public Library

How do I handle a presenter who's using my session as a sales campaign? What happens when barely any people show up to my big event? Should I cancel if my equipment breaks? Help I didn't schedule enough staff for the amount of patrons here! There are many great resources that help design the best programs for your library. But what happens when things go wrong during the program? The nature of running programs is that eventually one will have a disruptive problem, whether it be minor issues such as equipment malfunctions, or major such as severely unmanageable participants. This ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Cedarbridge

01:15 PM - 02:15 PM

## Evolving Academic Library Ecosystems

Evolving Academic Library Ecosystems

Cedarbridge

60 minutes

### **Roën Janyk**

Associate Dean, Teaching & Learning Innovations, Okanagan College

### **Trish Rosseel**

Director, Learning Resources, Douglas College

The post-secondary library landscape in BC and the rest of Canada has changed dramatically over the past two years in light of international student enrolment caps, enrollment challenges, and resulting budget reductions. In addition, generative AI and changing usage patterns have precipitated fundamental changes to our service environments. This session will highlight how two College libraries have been responding to this changing context through our spaces, staffing models, services, and symbiotic partnerships. It will also engage participants in a conversation about what the future holds for our sector and how we can continue to respond to ensure our ongoing relevance.

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 1 & 2

01:15 PM - 02:15 PM

## Accessibility Assessment Framework for Library Spaces

Accessibility Assessment Framework for Library Spaces

Westminster 1 & 2

60 minutes

### **Trish Kelly**

Untapped Accessibility

After the passage of provincial accessibility legislation, many BC libraries committed to assessing the current state of accessibility for their physical spaces. However, most libraries, especially those outside of urban centres, don't have the staff resources or expertise to develop their own framework for this kind of assessment. To address this gap, the Public Library Accessibility Working Group (PLAWG) worked with Untapped Accessibility to develop a physical space assessment framework for all libraries to use. The Library Accessibility Assessment Framework defines accessibility beyond the usual physical considerations, to include sensory and social-emotional factors. The framework also includes guiding principles and suggestions ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Elmbridge

01:15 PM - 02:15 PM

## BC Libraries Climate Benchmarking Report: Establishing our Baseline

BC Libraries Climate Benchmarking Report: Establishing our Baseline

Elmbridge

60 minutes

### Dan Hackborn

Recording Secretary, BCLA Climate Action Committee

### Diana Marshall

Customer Services Specialist, Fraser Valley Regional Library

In 2024, with the support of colleagues from around BC, the BCLA Climate Action Committee set out to begin a first-of-its-kind benchmarking initiative in order to assess how the provincial library sector was being impacted by climate change and how it is responding. Over a hundred responses later, the Climate Action Committee is ready to share those initial results and invites you to the launch of our first benchmarking report. Take part in a presentation and discussion about what we found and how that might inform our professional and collective actions amidst a changing climate. Findings include shared impacts, obstacles, ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Ballroom

02:15 PM - 02:30 PM

## Bio Break in Exhibit Hall

Britannia Ballroom

Time for a quick bio break before your next session! Help yourself to a refreshing glass of water, while networking with peers, exhibitors, and sponsors in the Exhibits Hall!

Thursday, Apr 23: Richmond A

02:30 PM - 03:30 PM

## Piloting Success: Partnering with Frontline Staff to Test and Refine New ILS & Collection Development Workflows

Piloting Success: Partnering with Frontline Staff to Test and Refine New ILS & Collection Development Workflows

Richmond A

60 minutes

### Alisha Enns

Customer Accounts Administrator, Fraser Valley Regional Library

### Jacqueline Huck

Collections Services Specialist, Fraser Valley Regional Library

Session Description Rolling out new ILS procedures or collection development initiatives can feel daunting, especially when staff capacity, customer experience, and workflow consistency are at stake. This session will explore how pilot groups can be used as an effective tool to test, refine, and build buy-in for new processes before organization-wide implementation. Drawing on real examples, including pilots for damaged item workflows, customer account creation standards, and digital merge procedures, this session will highlight how partnering with frontline staff leads to stronger results, smoother change management, and greater staff confidence. Participants will leave with practical strategies, lessons learned, and a ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Cedarbridge

02:30 PM - 03:30 PM

## Strengthening Connections: Indigenizing the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy

Strengthening Connections: Indigenizing the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy

Cedarbridge

60 minutes

### Ashley Edwards

Indigenous Initiatives and Instruction Librarian, Simon Fraser University Library

### Cora Coady

Indigenous Teaching & Learning Librarian, York University Library

### Karleen Delaurier-Lyle

Information Services Librarian, Xwi7xwa Library

### Rachel Chong

Indigenous Initiatives & EDIA Librarian, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

The ACRL Framework for Information Literacy is widely used in academic libraries for one-shot instruction. The Framework understands information literacy to be “integrated abilities encompassing the reflective discovery of information, the understanding of how information is produced and valued, and the use of information in creating new knowledge and participating ethically in communities of learning.” However, the presenters noticed that within our own use of the framework in teaching information literacy, the ACRL Framework overlooks Indigenous Information and traditional knowledges. By Indigenizing the Framework, we hope to reweave information literacy, bringing together Indigenous and Western knowledge practices, to strengthen the ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 3

02:30 PM - 03:30 PM

## Community-Led Multilingual Services: a case study and conversation

Community-Led Multilingual Services: a case study and considerations

Westminster 3

60 minutes

### Emily Guerrero

Community Librarian, Burnaby Public Library

### Nicole Sousa

Children's and Teen Services Coordinator, Burnaby Public Library

### Tina Lee

Librarian, Collections, Burnaby Public Library

In 2024-2025, Burnaby Public Library created a new strategy for how we deliver multilingual services. BPL had previously offered programs, collections and other services that were in high demand, but there had never been a system-wide strategy or needs assessment. Staff also had a lot of questions about how to identify and prioritize services using an equity lens. Using community development practices, a BPL librarian spent six months in a special board-funded position meeting with community partners and library staff, researching different models, and identifying key services that were needed. Part of this work included developing a priority language matrix, ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Richmond B

02:30 PM - 03:30 PM

## Birds of a Feather Exploring AI Together

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Patricia Lesku

Digital Experience Coordinator, West Vancouver Memorial Library

### Sarah Felkar

Executive Director, BooksBc

Artificial Intelligence is reshaping how libraries serve their communities. This informal session invites you to gather, share experiences, and ask questions about AI in practice. Whether you are curious, cautious, or already experimenting, this is a welcome space to exchange ideas, surface opportunities, and consider challenges. Together, we'll imagine how brave ideas around AI can contribute to bright futures for libraries and the communities we serve.

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 1 & 2

02:30 PM - 03:30 PM

## Indigenous-led libraries and learning centres in BC -- an impact study and future directions

Westminster 1 & 2

### Gordon Yusko

Advisor & Facilitator, Write to Read BC Project

### Jody Bauche

Associate Professor, Royal Roads University

### Shirley-Pat Gale

Leader, Write to Read BC

Since 2011 the Write to Read BC project has worked with over 25 small, isolated Indigenous communities to install and support highly localized, Indigenous-led libraries and learning centres. But it was only in 2025 with funding from Simon Fraser University, that an impact study of these centres was undertaken. This session will provide a brief history of the Write to Read BC project, and primarily focus on the impact study's methods and results. Ongoing and future opportunities and constraints for the sustainability of these Indigenous-led libraries and learning centres will be described. Issues and scenarios for relationships with the larger ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Britannia Ballroom

03:30 PM - 04:00 PM

## Ice Cream Break in Exhibit Hall

Britannia Ballroom

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

Thursday, Apr 23: Elmbriage

04:00 PM - 05:15 PM

## Thursday Plenary: Recent Challenges to Intellectual Freedom in Alberta

Elmbriage

**Laura Winton**

St. Albert Public Library

Laura Winton, Past President of the Library Association of Alberta (LAA), will share insights gained from her experience representing LAA in advocating for intellectual freedom when the Province of Alberta introduced a ministerial order in May 2025 to ban books in Alberta school libraries that the government deemed "sexually explicit." Laura will also provide an update on where things stand now and answer questions.

Thursday, Apr 23: Hilton Hotel

06:00 PM - 08:00 PM

## Library Trivia Night

Hilton Hotel

Get ready for a night of big laughs, friendly competition, and trivia night bragging rights. Library Trivia Night brings together conference attendees for an evening that's equal parts playful and energizing. Build a team or join one when you arrive. Questions will range from pop culture to catalog quirks to the wonderfully obscure facts. Date: Thursday, April 23 Time: 6:00 PM-8:00 PM Cost: \$15 Ticket includes: 1 alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage, \$5 voucher towards food and prizing. Event Location: Hilton Restaurant, 5911 Minoru Blvd, Richmond (The total walk is about 5 minutes and well-lit in the evening) Come ready to think fast, laugh hard, and ...

Thursday, Apr 23: Westminster 3

06:30 PM - 08:00 PM

## IBPOC-only GLAM Gathering 2026

Westminster 3

**Adolfo Tarango**

Cataloging & Metadata Librarian, University of British Columbia

**Dan Hackborn**

Recording Secretary, BCLA Climate Action Committee

**David Gill**

Clinical Librarian, BC Cancer - Prince George

**Elizabeth Cardoso Fernandes**

Humanities and Social Sciences Librarian (Virtual Reference), University of British Columbia

**Juliana Gomes**

MLIS Student, The University of British Columbia

Please note that this event is only for those who identify as Indigenous, Black, or People of Colour (IBPOC). It is available to BCLA 2026 Conference attendees and non-attendees. Join us for a conversation to meet, share, and connect with fellow IBPOC GLAM (galleries, libraries, archives, and museums) workers and students. Let's foster community and chat about our experiences in the field, from the joys to the challenges and everything in between. This event is organized by IBPOC library workers and students from BC, including members from Latinx GLAM in Canada. Please note that food and drinks will not be ...

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond B

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## User Experience Interest Group Birds of a Feather

User Experience Interest Group Birds of a Feather

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Janis McKenzie

User Experience Librarian, Simon Fraser University

### Mark Goodwin

User Experience & Digital Accessibility Librarian, University of British Columbia

Do you use user experience techniques in your work in libraries – or would you like to? Join Mark Goodwin (UBC) and Janis McKenzie (SFU) for a conversation about BCLA's new interest group, and help us develop a vision for regular online information-sharing discussions and more.

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond A

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## British Columbia Library Trustees Association - Present and Future

British Columbia Library Trustees Association - Present and Future

Richmond A

75 minutes

### Andy Krawczyk

Chair, West Van memorial library, West Vancouver memorial library

### Anna Duff

Board of Directors/Trustee, BC Library Trustees Association/Prince George Public Library

### Joanne Fiske

BCLCA

### Laura Vilness

President, British Columbia Library Trustees Association

### Robert A. Bennie

Vice President, BCLTA

"What does the British Columbia Library Trustees Association do and why does it matter?" The BCLTA Board will share the mission, goals, and specific activities of the Association. We provide programs and supports to public library boards and trustees. We participate in advocacy for public libraries, and we provide leadership in board governance which supports the mission and vision of our public library board members. We will also explore future possibilities and aspirations for our organization. Join us for a facilitated conversation where we present, ask questions, and seek input on our organizational work.

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Beyond Burnout: Brave Conversations around Resilience and Sustainable Librarianship

Beyond Burnout: Brave Conversations around Resilience and Sustainable Librarianship

Elmbridge 75 minutes

### Caitlin MacRae

Adult Programming Librarian, New Westminster Public Library

### Lisa Nathan

Professor, University of British Columbia

### Rebekah Adams-Brush

Supervisor, Children's and Teen's Department, New Westminster Public Library

Popular advice for avoiding burnout often involves a focus on personal care actions outside of work. But if the workplace is what's getting you down, are there ways to continue to enjoy the activities that drew you to the profession in the first place? Three librarians from vastly different work contexts, offer possibilities for library workers to try, drawing on their experiences building professional community and connection outside of their daily duties, workplace constraints, and politics. In the process, they've increased resilience, support, and joy in their jobs, even though difficult workplace realities continue.

Friday, Apr 24: Cedarbridge

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Protecting the Workers Who Keep B.C.'s Libraries Safe for Everyone: 2025 CUPE Library Health & Safety Survey

Protecting the Workers Who Keep B.C.'s Libraries Safe for Everyone: 2025 CUPE Library Health & Safety Survey

Cedarbridge 75 minutes

### Brady Yano

Researcher, Canadian Union of Public Employees

### Deena Kapacila

Health and Safety Representative, Canadian Union of Public Employees

### Mitch Guitard

Library Sector Coordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees

### Tom McKenna

Health and Safety and WCB Advocacy Representative, Canadian Union of Public Employees

Public libraries are the heart of our communities, but our new report reveals a heart in distress. The 2025 CUPE Library Health & Safety Survey, engaging nearly 600 workers from 75 communities, documents a systemic safety crisis that has escalated dramatically over the past decade. Library workers, tasked with maintaining open and accessible spaces for all, are now operating on the frontlines of overlapping social emergencies, often without the training, support, or staffing levels required to feel safe in their workplaces. Key findings paint a dire picture: library workers pervasively feeling unsafe, staffing levels create danger, violence and biohazards are ...

Friday, Apr 24: Westminster 3

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM

## Parting Words: Retiring Leaders on Risk, Resilience, and the Future of Libraries

Westminster 3

### Rina Hadziew

Executive Director, BC Library Association

This panel discussion will offer an opportunity to hear from 4 BC library leaders who are retiring in 2026: Susan Parker, University Librarian, UBC Library; Tina Nielsen, Chief Librarian, Bowen Island Public Library; Todd Mundle, University Librarian, Kwantlen Polytechnic University; Tracey Therrien, Chief Librarian (retired), Nelson Public Library. They will explain how they came to leadership, reflect on their experiences as leaders and what kept them going, and share their hopes for the future of libraries.

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM

## Refreshment Break Elmbridge Foyer

Elmbridge

Network with peers, sponsors, and grab a coffee/tea and snack! Two stations available: Elmbridge Foyer and Britannia Ballroom Foyer.

Friday, Apr 24: Britannia Ballroom

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM

## Refreshment Break Britannia Ballroom Foyer

Britannia Ballroom

Network with peers, sponsors, and grab a coffee/tea and snack! Two stations available: Elmbridge Foyer and Britannia Ballroom Foyer.

Friday, Apr 24: Westminster 3

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## Make Your Kids Technology Programs Matter: A (Stealable!) Framework for All Libraries

Make Your Kids Technology Programs Matter: A (Stealable!) Framework for All Libraries

Westminster 3

60 minutes

### Patricia Lesku

Digital Experience Coordinator, West Vancouver Memorial Library

### Shannon Ozirny

Head of Youth Services, West Vancouver Memorial Library

Public libraries are trying to meet demands for technology programming for kids. But how do you decide what to run? How do you train staff to offer consistently impactful programs? West Vancouver Memorial Library shares the road map that helps us with everything from planning, to demonstrating value, to securing funding.

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond B

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## Birds of a Feather: Teaching Financial Literacy in the Library

Birds of a Feather: Teaching Financial Literacy in the Library

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Alicia Arding

OER librarian, Douglas College

### Shannon Moist

Head of Reference Services librarian, Douglas College

Join Alicia Arding and Shannon Moist to hear about how they are going beyond the library and information literacy skills workshops to reach their community (including students and employees and public groups) through a series of Financial Literacy workshops they offer both within Douglas College and with community groups. By using our passion for financial literacy and teaching expertise, we have been able to meet an identified gap in student and community knowledge around basic financial literacy skills. Since the Fall of 2023, using the Government of Canada's Financial Literacy Toolkit as a guiding resource, and in partnership with campus ...

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond A

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## Evolving Approaches to BC Summer Reading Club

Evolving Approaches to BC Summer Reading Club

Richmond A

60 minutes

### Georgia Franklin

Provincial Coordinator, BC Summer Reading Club

### Kate Wood

Provincial Assistant, BC Summer Reading Club

Summer Reading Club is evolving! But the best way is to do it together. Come join this fun and dynamic session, learn about new initiatives and make new friends! For the first half, we're going to talk about how we're expanding our audience to include children aged 0-5, as well as making additional smaller changes to the program structure. We'll detail how this pilot project came about and navigate common questions that have come up throughout the process. The second half will be our Fast and Curious Idea Sharing! Get to know people throughout the province, while sharing your best ideas (and maybe ...

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## Brave new collaborations: libraries and public health building climate resilient communities

Brave new collaborations: libraries and public health building climate resilient communities

Elmbridge 60 minutes

### Amy Lubik

Climate Change and Planetary Health Lead, Fraser Health

### Meghan Straight

Healthy Environments and Climate Change Analyst, Vancouver Coastal Health

### Stephanie Hall

Library Director, West Vancouver Library

As we move into a future where climate and equity issues can seem like overlapping, daunting issues, brave partnerships between libraries and public health teams offer powerful opportunities to uplift our residents and build resilience across communities. This session explores how libraries, as trusted, accessible, deeply connected community pillars, can strengthen their role in climate change adaptation and health equity by working with climate change teams at local health authorities. Climate change and health information is especially critical for vulnerable populations, such as seniors, newcomers, young families, and those with lower incomes. These groups often face barriers to accessing accurate information, ...

Friday, Apr 24: Cedarbridge

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## Brave Spaces - Creating Meaningful Dialogue with the Coquitlam Public Library

Brave Spaces - Creating Meaningful Dialogue with the Coquitlam Public Library

Cedarbridge 60 minutes

### Aman Saroya

Library Technician II, Coquitlam Public Library

### Ann Johannes

Community Development Liaison, Coquitlam Public Library

Over the past five years, Coquitlam Public Library has addressed racism and social stigma through Brave Spaces, a speaker series highlighting the lives and stories of marginalized people in their local community. Previous themes have included anti-Asian hate, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, Black history in B.C., refugees, and Indigenous experiences. Presenters Aman Saroya and Ann Johannes will share how they create a supportive space that encourages dialogue, how to promote events with potentially hot-button topics, and strategies for finding speakers.

Friday, Apr 24: Britannia Ballroom

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM

## BCLA Awards Luncheon

Britannia Ballroom

Generously sponsored by Library Bound.

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond B

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM

## Shaping the future: A conversation on Canadian LIS education

Shaping the future: A conversation on Canadian LIS education

Richmond B

Birds of a Feather

### Ashley Edwards

Indigenous Initiatives and Instruction Librarian, Simon Fraser University Library

### Cleire Lauron

Metadata & Discovery Librarian | Sessional Lecturer, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

### Silvia Vong

Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream (LIS Concentration), University of Toronto

Professional librarians play an important role in preparing LIS and LIT graduates for the field. Across Canada, there are 8 graduate Library and Information Science programs (MLIS) and 15 Library and Information Technician (LIT) diploma programs. While there is a significant amount of programs, there is little opportunities for LIS educators to connect and share their teaching experiences and pedagogy. This session is an opportunity for attendees who teach LIS and/or LIT courses to learn from one another and share experiences of persistence despite increasing budgetary and political pressures in programs. To help facilitate the conversation, prompts and activities will ...

Friday, Apr 24: Cedarbridge

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM

## Throwing Out the PowerPoint: An Experiential Learning Approach to Orientations

Throwing Out the PowerPoint: An Experiential Learning Approach to Orientations

Cedarbridge

60 minutes

### Adair Harper

Instruction Librarian and Librarian for Interactive Arts & Technology and Publishing, Simon Fraser University Library

### Chloe Riley

Undergraduate Engagement & Student Success Librarian, Simon Fraser University Library

### Julia Lane

Writing Services Coordinator, Simon Fraser University

Each year, in late summer, the writing team in Simon Fraser University's Student Learning Commons partner with librarians in the Learning and Engagement division to deliver a one-hour workshop for incoming SFU students on preparing for writing and research at university, as part of the full-day Getting Ready for Academic Success program. Unfortunately, the lecture-style approach contributed to overwhelming students, who had not even been to their first class yet, and did not leave opportunity for them to apply the learning to their own disciplines or contexts. This year, we (mostly) threw out the PowerPoint, designing and facilitating a new ...

Friday, Apr 24: Westminster 3

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM

## Rails to Trails & Beyond: Come journey with us as we explore British Columbia's Travelling Libraries

Rails to Trails & Beyond: Come journey with us as we explore British Columbia's Travelling Libraries

Westminster 3 60 minutes

### Anna Loster

Technical Services Librarian, Legislative Library of British Columbia

### Ciara O'Kelly

Technical Services Librarian, Legislative Library of British Columbia

In this session, we will explore the Travelling Libraries program offered by the Provincial Library from the 1890s to the early 20th century, prior to its transition to the Public Library Commission. Travelling Libraries played a vital role in expanding access to reading materials across British Columbia, delivering boxes of books to communities without libraries or reading rooms—including lighthouses, ships, mining camps, floating logging camps, and radio stations. The first boxes were sent out on June 24, 1898, to Duncan and Delta, marking the beginning of an initiative that lasted nearly a century. We will share our recent efforts to ...

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM

## Advancing Towards Reconciliation: Indigenous Considerations Programming for Adults

Advancing Towards Reconciliation: Indigenous Considerations Programming for Adults

Elmbridge 60 minutes

### Amara Charters

Library Technician, Vancouver Public Library

### Rick Ouellet

Indigenous Planner, Vancouver Public Library

What is the difference between First Nations, Métis, and Inuit? How can I be an ally to Indigenous peoples? What does unceded mean? These are some of the questions that led to the creation of three Indigenous considerations programs for adults at the Vancouver Public Library. With an initial focus on providing introductory and accessible information to newcomers, this program series has grown to allow settlers to explore their individual learning journeys and learn the history and the truth that is necessary for them to begin a journey of Reconciliation. Public libraries are a core learning resource, and our communities ...

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond A

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM

## New Voices: Emerging Leaders on Innovation, Change and What comes Next

Richmond A

### Rina Hadziew

Executive Director, BC Library Association

This panel discussion will offer an opportunity to hear from 4 new BC library leaders: Danielle Hubbard, Chief Executive Officer, Okanagan Regional Library; Jorge Cárdenas, Head, Belzberg Library, SFU; Kayla C. Lar-Son, Interim Head, Xwi7xwa Library; Mikale Fenton, Library Director, Whistler Public Library. They will explain how they came to leadership, what they have learned thus far, innovations they hope to make, and their hopes for the future of libraries.

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

02:00 PM - 02:15 PM

## Bio Break Elmbridge

Elmbridge

Time for a quick bio break before your next session! Help yourself to a refreshing glass of H2O just outside the Elmbridge Room.

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond B

02:15 PM - 03:15 PM

## Birds, Beliefs & Misinformation: What Librarians Are Noticing in the Wild

Birds, Beliefs & Misinformation: What Librarians Are Noticing in the Wild

Richmond B

60 minutes

### Barb Ryeburn

Education Advisor BCOHRC, BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

### Joel Harnest

Education Manager, BCOHRC

"What if I told you that birds are committing crimes?" Misinformation spreads quickly – sometimes faster than the truth – and libraries are often the first places its impacts show up. This session invites library staff to explore what they're noticing on the ground: patterns of confusion, common questions, shifting trust dynamics, and the real challenges patrons face in accessing accurate information. Building on the BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner's community-based misinformation initiatives – including 30 mini-grant projects across the province – we'll share examples of creative, local strategies communities are using to combat misinformation and shift the ...

Friday, Apr 24: Elmbridge

02:15 PM - 03:15 PM

## LiFT your confidence from the ground up: Investing in core skills for stronger libraries

LiFT your confidence from the ground up: Investing in core skills for stronger libraries

Elmbridge

60 minutes

### Brooke Doyle

Program Manager WebJunction, OCLC

When we think about professional development for library staff, it's easy to focus on what's new—the latest technologies, innovative programming, or emerging service models. While staying ahead of the curve is exciting, lasting progress for building a brighter future often begins with something less flashy and more essential: strong foundations. For library staff, strengthening these skills builds confidence, enables them to adapt to change, and helps them serve their communities more effectively. Join OCLC's WebJunction to learn about our Library Foundational Training (LiFT) courses, a free, online continuing education program designed to equip public library staff at all levels to ...

Friday, Apr 24: Richmond A

02:15 PM - 03:15 PM

## Challenges and Possibilities: Serving Incarcerated Populations from Wherever You Are

Challenges and Possibilities: Serving Incarcerated Populations from Wherever You Are

Richmond A

60 minutes

### **Janeen Parent**

Community Development Specialist, Fraser Valley Regional Library

### **Patricia Lim**

Librarian, Courthouse Library

### **Victoria Gomez**

Teen Services Librarian, Burnaby Public Library

This session will present the efforts of different types of libraries (special and public) to serve the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated populations and create a space for libraries to exchange ideas and explore ways to reach out to these communities.

Friday, Apr 24: Westminster 3

02:15 PM - 03:15 PM

## A Brave Approach to OverDrive: Leveraging CPC for Sustainable Access

A Brave Approach to OverDrive: Leveraging CPC for Sustainable Access

Westminster 3

60 minutes

### **Jill Klaponski**

Manager, Collection Services, North Vancouver District Public Library

### **Rachel Rogers**

Coordinator, Collections and Technical Services, Greater Victoria Public Library

### **Rya Kobewka**

Manager, Operations & Technology, Squamish Public Library

Digital demand isn't slowing down, and library budgets aren't magically expanding. How can libraries find sustainable, flexible ways to meet patron needs without breaking their budgets? Consider OverDrive's Cost Per Circ (CPC) model. In this session, three libraries share how they've used CPC to stretch their budgets, reduce holds, and better serve their communities. You'll hear practical insights from each library's journey: what worked, what didn't, and how they've built internal support for ongoing use. Walk away with tools and inspiration to make CPC a sustainable part of your eContent strategy, no matter the size of your collection or community.

Friday, Apr 24: Cedarbridge

02:15 PM - 03:15 PM

## Ameliorating Child Poverty: How Public Libraries Help

Ameliorating Child Poverty: How Public Libraries Help

Cedarbridge

60 minutes

### Haley Cheng

Public Service Assistant, West Vancouver Memorial Library

### Rhianna Hiom

Library Services Advisor, North Vancouver District Public Library

### Tess Prendergast

Lecturer, UBC iSchool

Public librarians already provide children and families with resources that both directly and indirectly alleviate some of poverty's pernicious effects. By exploring research about poverty as well as evidence from professional literature, this session intends to sharpen participants' understanding of poverty's devastating impact on child development. By highlighting some of the specific ways in which public library services may lessen poverty's harm to children, we will build a compelling rationale for why these varied activities should be prioritized in the communities we serve. Participants will also be invited to enter into conversations with each other about how this work might ...

Friday, Apr 24: Britannia Ballroom

03:15 PM - 03:30 PM

## Pre-Keynote Snack Break

Britannia Ballroom

Friday, Apr 24: Britannia Ballroom

03:30 PM - 05:00 PM

## Closing Keynote: Dr. Shahana Alibhai

You Matter Here - Holding Humanity At the Front Lines of Change

Britannia Ballroom

### Dr. Shahana Alibhai

Dr. Shanana

Generously sponsored by: CUPE BCLibraries have always been places of knowledge, refuge, and connection. But today, they are also front-line spaces—where librarians and library leaders are asked to hold far more than books. You are wearing multiple hats, responding to mental health crises, and managing rising expectations, often with limited resources and little recognition for the emotional toll this work takes. This isn't just operational change. It's emotional change. In this 60-minute session, Dr. Shahana invites librarians and library leaders to pause, breathe, and feel seen. This session is not about fixing systems you didn't break or asking you to "just be ...



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