



Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows - Katzie

**Community
Literacy Committee**

Quarterly Newsletter

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4 Ways You Can Support Literacy

Did you know that more than 35% of working age adults in BC don't have the skills they need to succeed in today's world?

No matter your role in the community, job title, or set of skills, you can make a difference. Here are four easy ways to support literacy.

1. Attend Cheers to the Planet Eco-Gala

Looking for a fun evening out? Cheers to the Planet is the CEED Centre's annual eco-gala, featuring delicious tastings from local restaurants, and wine, beer, and spirits that are organic and sustainable. If you buy tickets through the Literacy Committee, partial proceeds go to us. Find more info on page 2.

2. Shop at Bean Around Books

If you haven't already been to Bean Around Books (22626 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge), you're missing out! Its extensive collection of used books is only half the story—they also offer an incredible assortment of loose leaf teas, coffee, and specialty drinks. Mention the Literacy Committee when you check out and partial proceeds go to us.

3. Use clear language and design

Businesses writing for the public can make great use of clear language and design principles. Using simple language increases understanding and retention. It also reduces confusion and errors. Find more info on page 3.

4. Reach out

Many of us know someone with low literacy skills. If you know someone who may be struggling with literacy, reach out and refer him or her to us. Our Learning Room provides help and referrals to learners. Our one-to-one tutoring program matches volunteer literacy tutors to adult learners. Find more info on page 4.

By Leah Payne

Every small action counts and each dollar adds up. Please join us in making a positive difference in our community!

Book Bin Locations

Maple Ridge

- Blenz Coffee
22441 Dewdney Trunk Rd
- Child Care Resource and Referral
11907 228 Street
- Maple Ridge Leisure Centre
11925 Haney Place
- Rainbow Club
11907 228 Street
- Ridge Meadows Hospital
11666 Laity Street

Pitt Meadows

- Pitt Meadows Family Rec Centre
12027 Harris Road
- Katzie First Nation Health Centre
10946 Katzie Road
- South Bonson Community Centre
10932 Barnston View Rd
- United We Grind Coffee Shop
10 - 12350 Harris Road

Calendar of Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

April

Sun Apr 27 Cheers to the Planet, South Bonson Community Centre

June

Sat Jun 7 Literacy Day, Haney Farmers Market
TBA CLC Quarterly Meeting

Cheers to the Planet Eco-Gala



Cheers to the Planet

Have fun, celebrate local, and support literacy!

For a fun evening out that helps the planet and celebrates local food and drink, there's no better choice than the CEED Centre's Cheers to the Planet Eco-Gala. Try mouth-watering tastings from local restaurants; sample sustainable and organic wine, beer, and spirits; enjoy wonderful entertainment; and take part in their silent auction.

Sunday, April 27

6:00-9:00 p.m.

South Bonson Community Centre
Pitt Meadows

Buy Your Tickets From Us

- Online at cheerstothepanel.com (mention CLC in "comments" section); or
- The Learning Room at the CEED Centre during drop-in hours at 11739 223 Street, Maple Ridge; or
- Bean Around Books (beanaroundbooks.com) at 22626 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge.

Tickets cost \$60 each and \$5 of each ticket we sell goes to support literacy in the community.

Check out Youth Week at The ACT and all the great CRE8 Workshops on May 6

theactmapleridge.org/youthweek



Clear Language and Design

Promote literacy through simplicity

What kind of writing or design do you do in your daily life? Maybe you're a journalist writing for the public or a designer who creates flyers or brochures. Maybe you send emails to other people at work or to customers and clients.

No matter what you do, you can help support literacy for all by using clear language and design principles. Doing so saves time, increases understanding, and reduces errors and confusion for everyone.

Next time you're writing, try using these techniques:

- Choose clear, simple words—there's no need to use a thesaurus!
- Choose a font that's easy to read and not too small.
- Avoid using too many font colours or styles.
- Include photos and graphics that increase understanding.
- Use bullet points and numbered lists to break up information.
- Organize information into short paragraphs and use short sentences.
- Proofread, proofread, proofread! Delete unnecessary information, and rephrase confusing sections.

Here are a few examples:

Instead of Complex Words and Phrases	Try
Regarding	about, of, on
It appears	it seems
Modify	change
The undersigned	I
Remuneration	pay
In order to	to

Our Vision Statement

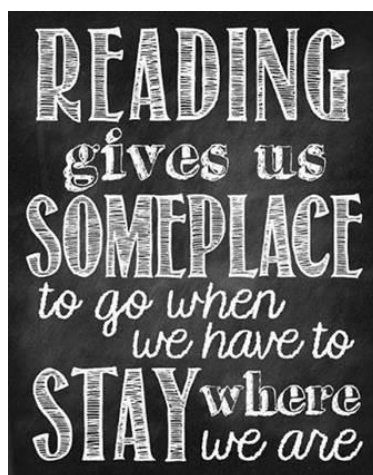
We will be a community where:

- literacy programs are available to people of all ages and all backgrounds
- all people are encouraged to learn, read and participate
- all learners are valued for all their skills
- all learners feel safe to ask for help and use community literacy services
- literacy initiatives are coordinated and happen in many parts of our community

Like us on Facebook



facebook.com/MRPMLiteracy



Thanks to Brenda Garcia of Thrive Solutions for sharing this

HELP AND RESOURCES

The Learning Room

The Learning Room is a drop in resource centre. We offer these programs and services:

- help with reading and writing
- adult and children's lending library
- help with some government publications and forms
- referrals and information
- computer and internet use
- space for learner-tutor meetings
- Women's English Group
- tax filing

Address: At the CEED Centre, 11739 223rd Street, Maple Ridge

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
At other times by appointment.

Other Programs / Services

- One-to-One Tutoring – this program matches volunteer literacy tutors to adult learners. For more information call: 604.220.5231 or 604.712.3738
- Adult Learner Book Club – Tuesdays 7 pm to 8 pm at the Maple Ridge Public Library. To register, call the library at 604.467.7417.
- Financial Literacy – free basic money management workshops and services on a variety of topics are available through partner organizations. Contact coordinator@communityliteracy.ca
- LINK UP Directory – a list of local literacy services and programs. You can download a copy of the Spring 2014 directory at communityliteracy.ca/programsservices/linkup-directory/

If you would like to get our quarterly newsletter and other literacy related news, please email: coordinator@communityliteracy.ca

Contact Us

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