



Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows - Katzie  
Community  
Literacy Committee

## Quarterly Newsletter

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## Message From Co-Chairs

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Katzie Community Literacy Committee. We are a community-based group of volunteers and literacy workers. We feel strongly that all kinds of literacy – reading and writing as well as financial, technological, political, cultural and more – are important to healthy citizens and healthy communities.

As a Standing Committee of the Community Network, it is our Mission to promote and support adult, community and family literacy and to provide leadership and coordination of literacy initiatives in our communities.

This newsletter will help us provide information, keep people informed and involved, and raise awareness in support of our work. Please enjoy it and pass it on to any and all who you think might be interested.

But wait, we need a name for our newsletter. Send us your suggestions by October 20 to [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca) and if we use your entry, you'll earn bragging rights, our eternal gratitude and even a small prize.

~ Jessie Hill & Bruce Grady, Co-Chairs

## Book Club for Adult Learners

Learning to read is not all work! It's also about having fun and meeting other people. A book club is a wonderful way to improve your reading skills. People in a book club read the same book and then get together and talk about it. If you or someone you know is interested in joining a book club for adults who are learning to read call Shanti Ang at 604 466 8254 or email [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

Book clubs are about having fun,  
meeting people and sharing ideas.

# Calendar of Events

The Literacy Committee will be out and about this fall! We will be at community fairs, giving presentations, and organizing literacy events. Check out the Calendar of Events for public events and other important dates. For more information on any of these events, call 604 721 3738 or email [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012 - 2013

### September

- Sat Sep 8 International Literacy Day
- Mon Sep 17 Volunteer / Learner Celebration, CEED Centre
- Wed Sep 19 Literacy Committee Quarterly Meeting, Pitt Meadows Library
- Thu Sep 20 Raise a Reader Day

### October

- Mon Oct 15 Literacy Challenge starts
- Sat Oct 20 Community Resource Fair, Haney Place Mall

### November

- Nov 4 - 10 Financial Literacy Week
- Thu Nov 8 Women's AM Presentation

### January

- Wed Jan 16 Literacy Committee Quarterly Meeting, Riverside Centre
- Sat Jan 26 Family Literacy Day, Maple Ridge Public Library

### March

- Wed Mar 13 Literacy Committee Quarterly Meeting, Maple Ridge Library

### June

- Wed Jun 19 Literacy Committee Quarterly Meeting, TBA
- Mon Jun 24 Literacy Committee Year End Celebration

*We will add more events as time goes on so check back with us often.*

Come visit  
our booth at the  
Community Resource  
Fair

Haney Place Mall  
October 20, 2012



Haney Farmer's Market 2011



## Interesting Stuff

### FREE BOOKS

**First Book Canada** provides access to new books for children in need. First Book distributes books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families. If at least 50 percent of the children in your school or program come from low-income families, you can register to receive free books. Visit [www.firstbookcanada.org](http://www.firstbookcanada.org) for more information.

**The Learning Room** has magazines and children's books available for anyone who wants to take them. We also accept donations of magazines and children's books. Please drop in during office hours.

### RAISE-A-READER

The Vancouver Sun Raise-a-Reader is on Thursday September 20, 2012. On that day hundreds of volunteers, professional athletes, community leaders and TV/radio personalities will fill the streets of downtown Vancouver giving away copies of the Vancouver Sun for a donation. Volunteers will also be out in force at Skytrain and West Coast Express (WCE) stations during the morning commute. All money raised goes to support family and children's literacy. Watch out for our local literacy champions at the WCE stations in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows on September 20.

The Literacy Committee received Raise-a-Reader funds from last year's campaign and is in the process of setting up a couple of new family literacy initiatives. One plan is to create basic literacy lessons that can be integrated into existing programs.

We would like to partner with local service agencies who offer early childhood or middle childhood programs. The Literacy Committee will provide training for your program leaders, lesson plans, handout masters, and other supports free of charge... we are simply looking for agency partners who want to help their clients improve their literacy skills.

If you're interested please contact Elaine Yamamoto at 604 721 3738 or [facilitator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:facilitator@communityliteracy.ca) or Angie McLeod at 604 476 2447 or [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

### DECODA LITERACY LIBRARY

The Decoda Literacy Library is for tutors, learners, community workers, researchers and anyone who has an interest in literacy. The Library offers many services and has over 5,000 resources on all aspects of literacy. Anyone in BC can borrow books by mail for free.

Check them out: [www.library.decoda.ca](http://www.library.decoda.ca) / 604 681 4199 / [library@decoda.ca](mailto:library@decoda.ca)

### 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



# Financial Literacy

## INVITATION TO PARTNER

Financial Literacy Week 2012      November 4 - 10

### **Are your clients struggling to make ends meet? Not sure how to help them learn about money management?**

The Literacy Committee is looking for Community Service Agencies interested in offering free basic money management workshops to their clients in November as part of Financial Literacy Week.

We are in contact with a number of Financial Literacy Service Providers who can bring a range of workshops to our community for free. We are looking for Community Agencies willing to partner with us to host, promote, and fill these workshops with clients.

Interested? Call Angie at 604 476 2447 or email [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca) to learn more.

We're looking forward to forging new partnerships in the community that help our residents improve their financial knowledge and skills.

## FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOPS

The Literacy Committee will advertise these workshops in the fall. Keep an eye out for ads in the local paper, or check out our website [www.communityliteracy.ca](http://www.communityliteracy.ca), or email [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

50% of Canadians struggle with simple tasks involving math and numbers.

~ [ABC Life Literacy](#)

## KIDS CONTEST



**How would you teach kids about money?**

Share your ideas for a chance to win some great prizes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$2,500 RESP + an iPad
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$1,500 RESP + an iPod
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$1,000 RESP + an iPod Touch

Visit [mymoneycoach.ca](http://mymoneycoach.ca) for contest details

 

Financial Literacy Week is a national awareness and engagement campaign that seeks to increase financial literacy and math skills of Canadians through access to tools, resources and community events.



# HELP AND RESOURCES

## The Learning Room

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

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

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

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

## Programs at the Learning Room

Program	Day/Time
Women's English Group	Thursdays, 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Tax Filing	by appointment, call 604 721 3738

## LINK UP Directory

The LINK UP Directory is a list of local literacy services and programs. You can get a copy by phoning or emailing us. You can also visit our website and download a copy.

Telephone: 604 721 3738

Email: [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

Website: [www.communityliteracy.ca/programs/literacy-link-up/](http://www.communityliteracy.ca/programs/literacy-link-up/)



## News List

If you would like to get our newsletter and other literacy related news, please email: [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

We email the newsletter four times a year. We also send out a few other notices throughout the year but we promise not to overload your inbox.



# COMMITTEE NEWS

## Quarterly Meetings

The Literacy Committee meets four times a year. Meetings are open to the public. Refreshments are served. All meetings start at 10:30 am. See Calendar of Events for meeting dates and locations. We hope you will join us!

## Volunteer Positions

We need volunteers to help support literacy in our communities. Some of our volunteers tutor adults. Some of our volunteers go to events. Other volunteers help out in other ways. Some volunteers have a regular shift but many are called only when needed.

Here are a few of our volunteer positions.

Position	Duties
Tutor	Tutor adult learners in small groups or 1 to 1. Free training is provided.
Event Host	Help set up, manage and take down booths at events
Learning Room	Help people write letters or fill out forms. Answer questions and give out literacy information.

You can learn more about the Literacy Committee and how to volunteer with us by calling 604 721 3738 or emailing [coordinator@communityliteracy.ca](mailto:coordinator@communityliteracy.ca)

“Working in Canada is the Government of Canada’s leading source for jobs and labour market information [including] job opportunities, educational requirements, main duties, wage rates and salaries, current employment trends, and outlooks. The site can help people search for work, make career decisions, see what jobs will be in demand, and much more.” ~[www.workingincanada.gc.ca](http://www.workingincanada.gc.ca)

### Contact Us

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Meadows Katzie  
Community Literacy  
Committee

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Website  
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