



# Making Sense of the Modern World: Workshops

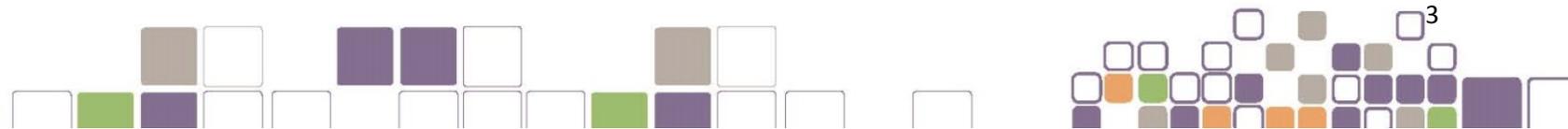
**Decoda**  
LITERACY SOLUTIONS

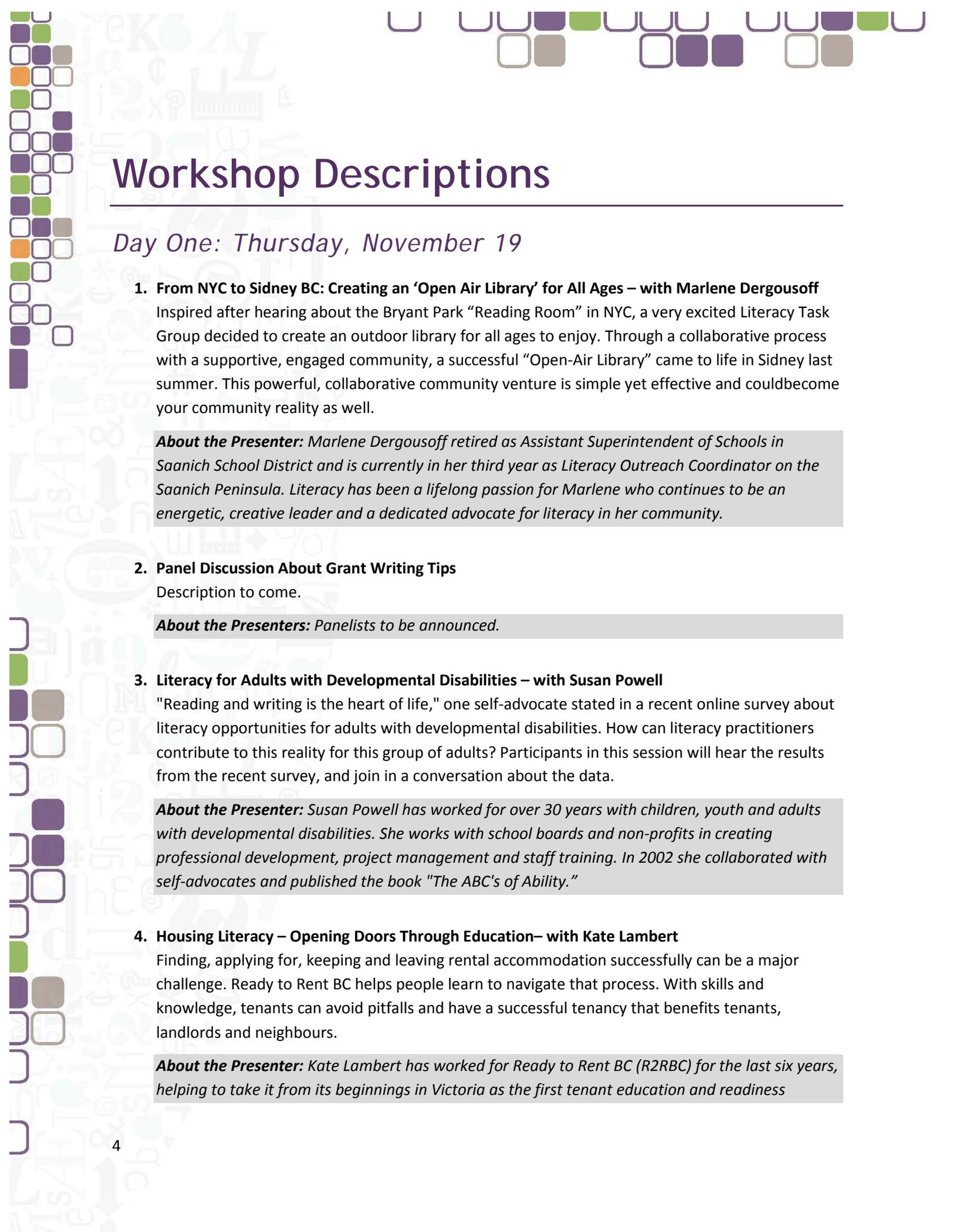
Day One: Thursday, November 19							
7-8:30	Breakfast: Ballroom A and B						
8:30-9:35 (65 m)	Plenary Session Opening and Keynote with former Mayor of Nelson, <b>John Dooley</b> : Ballroom A and B						
9:40-10:25 (45 m)	<b>1-From NYC to Sidney BC: Creating an 'Open Air Library' for All Ages</b> with M.Dergousoff	<b>2- Panel Discussion About Grant Writing Tips</b> (Panelists to be announced)	<b>3-Literacy for Adults with Developmental Disabilities</b> with Susan Powell	<b>4-Housing Literacy – Opening Doors through Education</b> with Kate Lambert	<b>5- Stress Free Math Homework</b> with Debbie Denault and Wendy Toth	<b>6- Demystifying the Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks</b> with Diana Twiss	<b>7-Closing the Doors on ABE –</b> with Shauna Butterwick and Suzanne Smythe
10:30 -12 (90 m)	<b>8-Human Centred Solutions</b> with Maggie Hodge Kwan	<b>9-CARA and the Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks</b> with Diana Twiss	<b>10a-Bringing Financial Literacy to Your Community</b> with financial literacy specialists <b>10b- CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program –</b> with Cairine Wilson	<b>11-Telling the Untold Stories – Invisible Heroes</b> with Lucy Alderson and others		<b>12-Credentials for Adult Literacy Learners</b> with Leona Gadsby	<b>13-Roundtable Discussions</b> topics to be determined by participants
12-1	LUNCH						
1-2:30 (90 m)			<b>14a-Mutual Learning in an "Unjust" Society</b> with Lora McElhinney <b>14b-Breaking In: Taking Sustainable Literacy into Closed Environments</b> with Marci Bulloch	<b>15- Narratives, Videos and Smartphones as Literacy Tools for Youth</b> with Sean Muir	<b>16-Love 2 Learn</b> with Joan Exley	<b>17- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Legal Aid</b> with the Legal Services Society	<b>18-Using Mixed Media to Encourage LES Learning With Foundational Learners and Learners with Disabilities</b> with Candace Witkowskyj and Samra Admasu
2:30-3	Networking Break						
3-4:30 (90 m)	<b>19- Working With Volunteers</b> with Margaret Sutherland and panelists	<b>20- Digital Storytelling</b> with Erin Ziegenfuss and others from VPL	<b>21-Early Language Development</b> with Charlotte and Zoe Linford	<b>22- Community Capacity Building in an Integrated Community Space</b> with Pam Gliatis and others		<b>23- Health and Safety in BC</b> with WorkSafeBC industry specialists	<b>24- Roundtable Discussions</b> topics to be determined by participants
4:30 – 6pm	Free time: displays of programs, vendor and sponsor tables, networking						
6 – 9pm	Reception and banquet with keynote speaker <b>Drew Hayden Taylor</b>						



**Day Two: Friday, November 20**

7-8:20	<b>Breakfast: Ballroom A and B</b>						
8:20-9 (40 m)	Plenary Session Opening remarks with University of Victoria Dean of Education <b>Ralf St. Clair</b> : Ballroom A and B						
9-10:25 (85 m)	<b>25- Making the Most of Volunteer Literacy Tutors</b> with Marilyn Smitshoek and Nancy Walker	<b>26-Evaluating Our Collective Impact on Community Literacy</b> with Leona Gadsby and Maureen Kehler	<b>27- The One-to-One Literacy Program</b> with Mary McGivern	<b>28-Aboriginal PALS</b> with Fiona Morrison and Janet Stromquist	<b>29- Narratives, Videos and Smartphones as Literacy Tools for Youth</b> with Sean Muir	<b>30-Moving on Up – Blended Learning</b> with Leslie Dunn	<b>31-Roundtable Discussions</b> topics to be determined by participants
10:35-12 (85 m)	↓	<b>32a-Silver Surfers</b> with Marci Bulloch/ <b>32b-Grandparents Learn and Lead</b> with Andrea Krombein	<b>33- Thoughts Enacted: Stereotypes and Learning in Adult Literacy</b> with Candace Witkowskyj		<b>34a- Bringing Financial Literacy to Your Community</b> with financial literacy specialists <b>34b- CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program</b> – with Cairine Wilson	<b>35- Full STEAM Ahead!</b> with Jacki Mayo	<b>36- Participatory Research</b> with Erin Stewart Elliott
12-1	LUNCH						
1-2:25 (85 m)	<b>37- Building Resilient Workers: Health and Safety at Work</b> with Emily Hunter and Margaret Sutherland	<b>38-Building Capacity to Support Mental Health Literacy in BC Communities</b> with Meredith de Freitas Michelle Horn	<b>39-Come Read with Me – Reading Success at Home</b> with Fiona Clare	↓	<b>40-Professionalizing the Field</b> with Diana Twiss and panelists	<b>41- Ready to Raise: Taking Collaboration from Confusion to Clarity</b> with Tracy Smyth and Tammy Dewar	<b>42-Roundtable Discussions</b> topics to be determined by participants
2:30-3:20 (45 m)	<b>43- Clear Skies: Using Storytelling to Provide Humanity to the Law</b> with Legal Services Society and Healthy Aboriginal Network						
3:20-4 (40 m)	Plenary Session Closing : Ballroom A and B Keynote with <b>Lucy Alderson</b> , faculty in the Community Development and Outreach Department at Capilano University						





# Workshop Descriptions

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## Day One: Thursday, November 19

### 1. From NYC to Sidney BC: Creating an ‘Open Air Library’ for All Ages – with Marlene Dergousoff

Inspired after hearing about the Bryant Park “Reading Room” in NYC, a very excited Literacy Task Group decided to create an outdoor library for all ages to enjoy. Through a collaborative process with a supportive, engaged community, a successful “Open-Air Library” came to life in Sidney last summer. This powerful, collaborative community venture is simple yet effective and could become your community reality as well.

**About the Presenter:** *Marlene Dergousoff retired as Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Saanich School District and is currently in her third year as Literacy Outreach Coordinator on the Saanich Peninsula. Literacy has been a lifelong passion for Marlene who continues to be an energetic, creative leader and a dedicated advocate for literacy in her community.*

### 2. Panel Discussion About Grant Writing Tips

Description to come.

**About the Presenters:** *Panelists to be announced.*

### 3. Literacy for Adults with Developmental Disabilities – with Susan Powell

"Reading and writing is the heart of life," one self-advocate stated in a recent online survey about literacy opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. How can literacy practitioners contribute to this reality for this group of adults? Participants in this session will hear the results from the recent survey, and join in a conversation about the data.

**About the Presenter:** *Susan Powell has worked for over 30 years with children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities. She works with school boards and non-profits in creating professional development, project management and staff training. In 2002 she collaborated with self-advocates and published the book "The ABC's of Ability."*

### 4. Housing Literacy – Opening Doors Through Education– with Kate Lambert

Finding, applying for, keeping and leaving rental accommodation successfully can be a major challenge. Ready to Rent BC helps people learn to navigate that process. With skills and knowledge, tenants can avoid pitfalls and have a successful tenancy that benefits tenants, landlords and neighbours.

**About the Presenter:** *Kate Lambert has worked for Ready to Rent BC (R2RBC) for the last six years, helping to take it from its beginnings in Victoria as the first tenant education and readiness*



program in BC to having over 1,000 graduates and expanding across the province. R2RBC teaches and supports tenants to find and keep rental accommodation.

**5. Stress-Free Math Homework– with Debbie Denault and Wendy Toth (2 hours 25 minutes)**

This session will provide participants with details on how Stress-Free Math workshops are organized and presented to parents in Chilliwack, including the philosophy behind the development of the workshops. Participants will be engaged in playing games and math activities and will take home a sample math toolkit. See a workshop here:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/chilliwacklearning>

**About the Presenters:** *Wendy Toth is a retired elementary school teacher with a passion for math and a belief in the power of math games to build confidence while developing and practicing math skills.*

*Debbie Denault's passion is community building. She is a Literacy Outreach Coordinator with the Chilliwack Learning Community Society.*

**6. Demystifying the Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks – with Diana Twiss**

Do you want to advance your teaching skills? If you are an adult literacy practitioner, tutor, and/or have an interest in improving your instructional abilities, join this workshop to gain a solid understanding of assessment practices related to working with adult learners and the BC Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks.

**About the Presenter:** *Diana Twiss is the Director of Adult and Workplace Learning at Decoda. Diana has worked with Decoda since it formed in 2011 and prior to that, worked with Literacy BC and the Community Development and Outreach department at Capilano University. She has been an adult literacy practitioner since 1993, teaching, researching, developing learning materials and managing projects related to adult and workforce learning.*

**7. Closing the Doors on ABE – with Shauna Butterwick and Suzanne Smythe**

What do recent changes in provincial policy allowing educational institutions to charge high tuition fees for Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses mean for adult learners with limited economic means? Why have these policies been introduced and what does this mean for access to basic education and an equitable, living wage economy?

**About the Presenters:** *Shauna Butterwick is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Studies at UBC.*

*Suzanne Smythe is an Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University. Both conduct research on policy changes and access to adult learning and education opportunities for marginalized groups.*



**8. Human-Centred Solutions – with Maggie Hodge Kwan(3 hours)**

This hands-on workshop will teach participants the principles of human-centred design (HCD), a contemporary, participatory problem-solving process that emphasizes empathy, iteration, and prototyping. It puts the end user at the heart of the solution. HCD has many applications for literacy practitioners, including program development, donor engagement, and strategic planning.

**About the Presenter:** *Maggie Hodge Kwan is an early years' community developer and human-centered design consultant, as well as a former children's librarian. She is passionate about developing creative solutions and about ensuring success by including end users in design and problem-solving processes. Maggie cares deeply about literacy and is the vice chairperson of Literacy Alberni Society.*

**9. CARA and the Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks – with Diana Twiss (3 hours)**

Assessment helps ensure that the student's learning journey continues to be successful. In this workshop you will learn how to administer and interpret the Canadian Adult Reading Assessment (CARA) and the Diagnostic Adult Literacy Assessment for Beginning Readers (DALA). These tools provide diagnostic information that will enable you to identify a student's reading pattern and choose effective teaching strategies. You will also learn how these assessment tools help you place learners in the Community Adult Literacy Benchmarks.

**About the Presenter:** *Diana Twiss is the Director of Adult and Workplace Learning at Decoda. Diana has worked with Decoda since it formed in 2011 and prior to that, worked with Literacy BC and the Community Development and Outreach department at Capilano University. She has been an adult literacy practitioner since 1993, teaching, researching, developing learning materials and managing projects related to adult and workforce learning.*

**10.a) Bringing Financial Literacy to Your Community – with Stacy YanchukOleksy**

Join the Credit Counselling Society(CCS) for an interactive, dynamic and fun workshop where we'll look at what financial literacy is, why it's important for individuals, families and communities and how to introduce it to your community. In this session, we'll cover off some highlights from various money workshops offered by CCS as well as resources available to the community.

**About the Presenter:** *Stacy YanchukOleksy is the Director of Education and Community Awareness at the Credit Counselling Society. She has a Master's degree in Family Ecology, is a professional coach and a certified educator in Personal Finance. Stacy is a passionate and dynamic speaker and facilitator and has over 15 years of experience in program development, adult education and leadership.*

**b) CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program – with Cairine Wilson, CPA**

The mission of the CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program is to give all Canadians – from school-age children to retirees – the knowledge and confidence needed to make the best possible financial choices for their circumstances. Through this initiative, CPAs are able to play a leadership



role in their communities. Our national network of 11,000+ volunteers delivers in-person financial education sessions in schools, libraries, community centers in communities across the country.

**About the Presenter:** *Cairine Wilson advocated that CPA Canada should become a leader in financial literacy nationally, understanding that the organization could develop and implement an innovative program which would make a meaningful contribution to the financial well-being of Canadians. In July of 2014, Cairine was appointed to the National Steering Committee on Financial Literacy by Jane Rooney, Financial Literacy Leader.*

#### **11. Telling the Untold Stories: Invisible Heroes – with Lucy Alderson**

In 2014, the Carnegie Learning Centre began work on a new curriculum project called Invisible Heroes. The purpose of the project was to highlight the daily contributions being made by inner city Aboriginal community members and create a curriculum that would bring their experiences into learning environments. Join members of the project as they reflect on it.

**About the Presenters:** *Lucy Alderson is an instructor at Capilano University and is part of The Invisible Heroes Project Team which is made up of Resource Person, Rosemary Georgeson; Elder, Gertie Pierre; Advisory Members, Phoenix Winter, Priscillia Tait and Bill Beauregarde. The Invisible Heroes Aboriginal storytellers are Sue Blue, Victoria Bull, Herb Varley, Leslie Nelson, Stanley Paul, Emma Charleson, and Cassandra Eastman.*

#### **12. Credentials for Adult Literacy Learners – with Leona Gadsby**

This presentation will provide information about a new initiative to provide micro-credentials for adults in community-based literacy programs. It will cover the rationale, feedback from practitioners, and how the credential system is currently set up.

**About the Presenter:** *Leona Gadsby has worked with schools, post-secondary institutions, governments, communities and non-profit organizations to support literacy development for people of all ages. As the Director of Programs and Services for Decoda, Leona provides leadership to various aspects of literacy programming, including accountability measures, professional and resource development.*

#### **13. Roundtable Discussions–** Join us for non-facilitated, self-moderated discussions. We provide the room, you provide the content. This is your opportunity to bring forward some issues that you want to explore.

#### **14. a) Mutual Learning in an “Unjust” Society – with Lora McElhinny**

Why is peer ally support important? How does mutual learning take place in a prison and in an "unjust society"? How do activism, advocacy and learning go hand in hand? This workshop is about what we have learned in "Joint Effort" and what we have taught people in "Joint Effort": a survey of mutual learning. This is an exploration of when learning is emancipatory.



**About the Presenter:** *Lora McElhinney is grateful to have lived, worked, loved and written on Coast Salish Territories for 20 years. As a collective member of Joint Effort for 15 years she has had the privilege of learning from women prisoners about injustice in Canadian society and about the power of solidarity and support.*

**b) Breaking In: Taking Sustainable Literacy into Closed Environments – with Marci Bulloch**

Literacy and addictions. Literacy and crime. They go hand in hand. Learn how the Chilliwack Learning Society has adapted standard literacy thinking in order to make it an effective part of how those in corrections and rehab view themselves, and how it helps them move forward along a better path.

**About the Presenter:** *Marci Bulloch has been Volunteer Tutor Program Coordinator in Chilliwack since 2011. Her background includes teaching basic literacy in correctional settings and literacy program development. In 2014 she was one of the first to obtain the Decoda Literacy Solutions Adult Literacy Practitioner Credential.*

**15. Narratives, Videos and Smartphones as Literacy Tools for Youth – with Sean Muir**

Youths' increasingly short attention span when it comes to content delivery online and on their cellphones, is changing the way we think about imparting health and social information. Find out what we think works, and doesn't work, in the ever changing world of youth-targeted multi-media.

**About the Presenter:** *Sean Muir is a member of Peguis First Nation in Manitoba but has lived on the West Coast for over 20 years. Sean founded the Healthy Aboriginal Network (HAN) in 2005 and serves as executive director. HAN creates comics, animation and video on health and social issues for youth.*

**16. Love 2 Learn – with Joan Exley(3 hours 30 minutes)**

This interactive workshop will introduce you to Love 2 Learn (L2L), a community literacy program for parents and children aged 3-5. L2L helps parents support their children's early learning, building on BC's Early Learning Framework. The L2L binder includes program resources, lesson plans and Ideas 2 Go, which extend ideas and activities to the home.

**About the Presenter:** *Joan Exley is the Literacy Outreach Coordinator in Nelson. Joan weaves literacy and learning into her community through coordinating programs, developing partnerships and making literacy visible where she lives. Joan enjoys facilitating programs, developing curriculum, and working with young families as well as seniors.*



## 17. Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Legal Aid – with the Legal Services Society

Court orders, forms, and legalese, oh my! The legal system and legal language are difficult to understand for most people. Learn about innovative Legal Aid projects that help people navigate and understand the legal system. This session will also give participants an overview of resources in BC that help learners prevent and solve legal problems.

**About the Presenters:** *Patricia Lim is the Publications Development Coordinator for the Legal Services Society of BC, which provides legal aid in BC. She develops and evaluates Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) materials and resources.*

*Nate Prosser is the Online Outreach Coordinator for the Legal Services Society of BC. He is responsible for coordinating online outreach and helps to develop and build up LSS' online presence and engagement.*

## 18. Using Mixed Media to Encourage LES Learning With Foundational Learners and Learners with Disabilities – with Candace Witkowskyj and SamraAdmasu

This session will present a number of creative ways to engage foundational level literacy learners and learners with disabilities in literacy and essential skills learning while strengthening their sense of personal expression, empowerment, and autonomy. Participants will be invited to try out a number of forms of mixed media and discuss the ways in which they might be able to incorporate such techniques with their learners.

**About the Presenters:** *Candace Witkowskyj holds a BA in Social Work and is currently working on her Master's in Studies in Policy and Practice surrounding disability legislation at the University of Victoria. She came to her position at Bow Valley College as a result of a long-standing interest in adult literacy complexities and qualitative research. Candace is interested in how adult literacy is understood and how this perception has changed over time in relation to the current socio-political climate. She enjoys the chaos and beauty of her two daughters.*

*SamraAdmasu holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences with a major in Anthropology and Sociology. She has been involved with organizations such as the United Nations Refugee Agency, National Defence, and World University Services of Canada. These experiences led her to the Adult Literacy Research Institute as a communication officer. As a strong believer in education's opportunities for empowerment, Samra looks forward to using ALRI research to empower learners and enhance the literacy curriculum.*

## 19. Working with Volunteers – with Margaret Sutherland and panelists

This panel of diverse literacy service providers will discuss how they recruit, train, support, retain and manage volunteers in community-based literacy programs. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion.

**About the Presenter:** *Margaret Sutherland has worked in the literacy field since 1999. She has worked for the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy as an adult literacy program coordinator and facilitator, literacy outreach coordinator, regional program manager and communications manager. She is a program manager at Decoda Literacy Solutions.*

**Panelists:**

*Diana Groffen, Executive Director - Project Literacy Kelowna*

*Kailey Erickson, Literacy Outreach Coordinator – Langley Literacy Network*

*Isabelle Vilm, Tutor Coordinator – Literacy Now Cowichan*

*Melissa Woodward, Adult Program Coordinator – Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy – Nelson*

**20. Digital Storytelling – with Erin Ziegenfuss and others from the Vancouver Public Library**

Vancouver Public Library recognizes that the ability to create and share stories with other community members facilitates connection and engagement. VPL will discuss how they are actively supporting digital story creation through their new Inspiration Lab dedicated to digital creativity, collaboration and storytelling, community digital initiative projects, and more!

**About the Presenter:** *Erin Ziegenfuss is a Librarian in Programming and Learning at VPL, doing work to support VPL's new Inspiration Lab ([www.vpl.ca/InspirationLab](http://www.vpl.ca/InspirationLab)). She was also the acting Community Digital Initiatives Librarian for VPL's first oral history project, West End Stories ([www.vpl.ca/WestEndStories](http://www.vpl.ca/WestEndStories)).*

**21. Early Language Development – with Charlotte and Zoe Linford**

This presentation will briefly review literature pertaining to early language, literacy and brain development. It will then demonstrate the "Talk Around the Clock" workshop format that is being used to share information about early language and literacy with caregivers. There will be a discussion about the implications for literacy workers in various environments.

**About the Presenters:** *Charlotte Linford has worked as a Special Education teacher in Hazelton, Terrace, Kitimat and the Nass Valley for 22 years. She has been active in the Learners Opportunity Group Society (LOGS) for 18 years and currently sits as Chair of this vibrant, grass-roots literacy organization.*

*Zoe Linford has been an Early Childhood Educator in Vancouver for the past 8 years.*

**22. Community Capacity Building in an Integrated Community Space – with Pam Gliatis and others**

Squamish practitioners will share their story of creating a community space that integrates settlement, literacy, social enterprise, volunteering and digital literacy under one roof. The space endeavours to operate within a democratic consensus-based, decision-making model with volunteers and users at its heart. Presenters hope to be inspired and to inspire others.

**About the Presenters:** *Pam Gliatis is the Squamish Literacy Outreach Coordinator, manages the Squamish CALP & Settlement Programs and helped to create the Hotspot 11 years ago.*

*Michelle Lebeau was the Regional Literacy Coordinator in the Sea to Sky and Coordinator of the Hotspot.*

*Trudie Neubert is the Outreach Worker at the Hotspot.*

*Hasrat Grewal is the Settlement Worker for the Squamish Settlement Program and Welcome Centre.*



### 23. Health and Safety in BC – with WorkSafeBC Industry Specialists (no subsidy)

Help keep your clients safe by learning about the unique challenges and risk factors young and new workers face (they may not be what you think they are). Learn about the resources available from WorkSafeBC to support and inform young and vulnerable workers about their rights as workers and safety on the job.

**About the Presenters:** *Helen Chandler is an Industry Specialist in the Young and New Worker Program at WorkSafeBC. Helen has a BSc in Kinesiology, a diploma in Occupational Health and Safety, and more than 20 years of experience working in the OHS field. Helen is part of a team that works to develop essential injury prevention resources and foster partnerships with educators, the community and industry to build knowledge and awareness to keep youth safe on the job.*

*Robin Schooley has more than 20 years of experience in journalism and stakeholder relations. She joined WorkSafeBC in 2001 where she worked in communications and media relations before joining the Young and New Workers team in 2008. Robin is part of a team that works to develop essential injury prevention resources and foster partnerships with educators, the community and industry to build knowledge and awareness to keep youth safe on the job.*

### 24. Roundtable Discussions– Join us for non-facilitated, self-moderated discussions. We provide the room, you provide the content. This is your opportunity to bring forward some issues that you want to explore.



## Day Two: Friday, November 20

### 25. Making the Most of Volunteer Literacy – with Marilyn Smitshoek and Nancy Walker (3 hours)

Volunteer tutors can be a valuable asset to a literacy program, but it is important to adequately train and support them. This session includes discussion and activities that explore possible ways of offering tutor training. It will cover various aspects such as helping tutors understand literacy learners and learning activities they can use.

**About the Presenters:** *Marilyn Smitshoek has been teaching literacy for 20 years and has worked with the I-CARE program at Douglas College for the last 8 years. Her teaching experience includes working in the Women's Prison and training and working with tutors in a workplace program, at Douglas College and at South Burnaby Neighborhood House.*

*Nancy Walker is staff coordinator for the I-CARE program at Douglas College. She promotes I-CARE in the community, recruits volunteer tutors and supports tutor/learner matches. Nancy has worked as a sewing-machine operator in the garment industry, a millworker and a technical trainer. She has a lifelong interest in reading, writing and learning.*

### 26. Evaluating Our Collective Impact on Community Literacy – with Leona Gadsby and Maureen Kehler

This is a good time to look at our collective impact on community literacy. With the change in the reporting requirements of the Ministry of Education and the development of the literacy strategy for the province, we need to be sure that we are measuring the right things. What are our outcomes? What is our impact? To what extent do our programs and actions have anything to do with 'moving the dial' on literacy?

**About the Presenters:** *Leona Gadsby has worked with schools, post-secondary institutions, governments, communities and non-profit organizations to support literacy development for people of all ages. As the Director of Programs and Services for Decoda, Leona provides leadership to various aspects of literacy programming, including accountability measures, professional and resource development.*

*Maureen Kehler is a program manager at Decoda Literacy Solutions. She has worked in community development and partnership building through her work as literacy outreach coordinator and as an adult literacy and ESL practitioner in Hope. Her previous jobs as a nurse, an employment counsellor and an experiential educator have led to facilitating in some interesting 'classrooms'.*

### 27. The One-to-One Literacy Program – with Mary McGivern

This workshop is to educate children's literacy practitioners on the ONE TO ONE Literacy program. It will identify which communities would most benefit from hosting the program and determine what is required for successful implementation. ONE TO ONE provides tutoring by trained volunteers to elementary school students who struggle with reading and currently runs in over 100 schools.



**About the Presenter:** Mary McGivern joined ONE TO ONE Literacy as Executive Director in 2013, having been involved in the non-profit sector since 2008. Mary holds an MBA from UBC and has an extensive background in business development, marketing, and association and small business management.

## 28. Aboriginal PALS – with Fiona Morrison and Janet Stromquist (5 hours 25 minutes)

In consultation with Elders and other Aboriginal community leaders, PALS has been adapted for Aboriginal communities. Aboriginal PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) is a play-based, culturally responsive family literacy program that gives parents and caregivers new strategies to support their preschool and kindergarten-aged children's learning.

*"All things are connected. We did not weave the web of life; we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves."* Chief Seattle

Aboriginal PALS training is based on the key teachings above. Training includes a detailed examination of seven session ideas based on common values that exist within and between Aboriginal Communities. These activities are intended as a springboard so consideration is given to adapting the activities to meet the needs of each community. A "make and take" component is also included in this session. Come prepared to sing and have fun!

Aboriginal PALS binders must be purchased for this workshop at a cost of \$55 plus tax.

**About the Presenters:** Fiona Morrison, co-developer of the PALS program, has spent more than 35 years working in a range of educational contexts with young children, families, and educators. Fiona is passionate about developmentally appropriate practice and culturally relevant, responsive family literacy approaches. Fiona retired from Decoda Literacy Solutions in 2012 and now enjoys life on beautiful Mayne Island.

Janet Stromquist is a District Teacher with the Langley Aboriginal Program. She has taught in the Langley School District (K-7) since 1996, including the Aboriginal "EAGLE" kindergarten program. Janet completed her M Ed in Early Childhood Education in 2008 and has a strong interest in culturally responsive curriculum for young Aboriginal learners.

## 29. Narratives, Videos and Smartphones as Literacy Tools for Youth – with Sean Muir

Youths' increasingly short attention span when it comes to content delivery online and on their cellphones, is changing the way we think about imparting health and social information. Find out what we think works, and doesn't work, in the ever changing world of youth-targeted multi-media.

**About the Presenter:** Sean Muir is a member of Peguis First Nation in Manitoba but has lived on the West Coast for over 20 years. Sean founded the Healthy Aboriginal Network (HAN) in 2005 and serves as executive director. HAN creates comics, animation and video on health and social issues for youth.

### 30. Moving On Up – with Leslie Dunn

Moving on Up is an eLearning platform for Basic Adult Education for Level 2 and below learners that is currently under construction. The platform can be viewed while under construction at [www.dlnmovingonup.ca](http://www.dlnmovingonup.ca). A video about the website can be found at: <https://www.powtoon.com/show/cDrKTPIRwNm/moving-on-up>

**About the Presenter:** *Lesley Dunn began her connection to literacy in the 1990's. She is Executive Director of the Dartmouth Learning Network, Chair of the Board of Word on the Street Halifax and Co-chair of First Book Canada's Nova Scotia's Advisory Board. In 2014 Lesley was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Dartmouth & Rotary International acknowledging her "service above self."*

**31. Roundtable Discussions** – Join us for non-facilitated, self-moderated discussions. We provide the room, you provide the content. This is your opportunity to bring forward some issues that you want to explore.

### 32. a) Silver Surfers – with Marci Bulloch

This will be a how-to session based on the start-up of a social engagement project to bring iPads into retirement residences. It will cover how funding was obtained to purchase 15 iPads, what the growing pains have been, and what the lessons learned are after 18 months of delivery.

**About the Presenter:** *Marci Bulloch has been Volunteer Tutor Program Coordinator in Chilliwack since 2011. Her background includes teaching basic literacy in correctional settings and literacy program development. In 2014 she was one of the first to obtain the Decoda Literacy Solutions Adult Literacy Practitioner Credential.*

### b) Grandparents Learn and Lead – with Andrea Krombein

Grandparents Learn and Lead is a weekly three hour program serving the grandparents of Marpole. They began as immigrants and child care providers. Now they are an example of how a literacy program can power community building and competency and extend its benefits to the people behind the participants.

**About the Presenter:** *Andrea Krombein is the Literacy Outreach Coordinator for Marpole, Vancouver, holding qualifications in journalism, English, librarianship and ESL. She spent 18 years in South African libraries, assisting the learning for families who received inadequate education under Apartheid. She co-facilitates a seniors literacy program which focuses on leadership and empowerment.*

### 33. Thoughts Enacted: Stereotypes and Learning in Adult Literacy – with Candace Witkowskyj

In this session, I will share findings on a research project that explored the experiences of adults with disabilities in relation to learning and actions of advocacy as foundational learners. This project involved learners who identify as having a disability (or disabilities) and the staff who work with adult learners with disabilities at Bow Valley College. It was about the learners' experiences



encountering stereotypes and discrimination in relation to learning, whether it was a past experience outside of or within BVC. The findings will be explored in relation to community and institution literacy learning programs and areas for reflection will be discussed as a group.

**About the Presenter:** *Candace Witkowskyj holds a BA in Social Work and is currently working on her Masters in Studies in Policy and Practice surrounding disability legislation at the University of Victoria. She came to her position at Bow Valley College as a result of a long-standing interest in adult literacy complexities and qualitative research. Candace is interested in how adult literacy is understood and how this perception has changed over time in relation to the current socio-political climate. She enjoys the chaos and beauty of her two daughters.*

#### **34. a) Bringing Financial Literacy to Your Community – with Stacy YanchukOleksy**

Join the Credit Counselling Society(CCS) for an interactive, dynamic and fun workshop where we'll look at what financial literacy is, why it's important for individuals, families and communities and how to introduce it to your community. In this session, we'll cover off some highlights from various money workshops offered by CCS as well as resources available to the community.

**About the Presenter:** *Stacy YanchukOleksy is the Director of Education and Community Awareness at the Credit Counselling Society. She has a Master's degree in Family Ecology, is a professional coach and a certified educator in Personal Finance. Stacy is a passionate and dynamic speaker and facilitator and has over 15 years of experience in program development, adult education and leadership.*

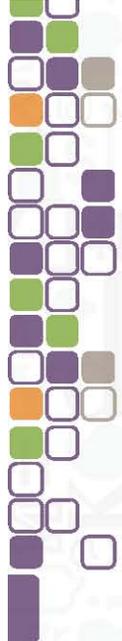
#### **b) CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program – with Cairine Wilson, CPA**

The mission of the CPA Canada Financial Literacy Program is to give all Canadians – from school-age children to retirees – the knowledge and confidence needed to make the best possible financial choices for their circumstances. Through this initiative, CPAs are able to play a leadership role in their communities. Our national network of 11,000+ volunteers delivers in-person financial education sessions in schools, libraries, community centers in communities across the country.

**About the Presenter:** *Cairine Wilson advocated that CPA Canada should become a leader in financial literacy nationally, understanding that the organization could develop and implement an innovative program which would make a meaningful contribution to the financial well-being of Canadians. In July of 2014, Cairine was appointed to the National Steering Committee on Financial Literacy by Jane Rooney, Financial Literacy Leader.*

#### **35. Full STEAM Ahead! – withJacki Mayo (subsidy offered)**

STEAM learning is an authentic, hands-on approach to learning that integrates science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Young children are naturally curious and eager to explore and invent. During this workshop, participants will learn fun and engaging ways to support and guide children's natural curiosity that guides them towards STEAM inquiry.



Bosa Properties has donated funds to support family literacy practitioners to attend Science World's STEAM workshop.

To obtain the STEAM subsidy you must:

- Be a family literacy practitioner
- Register for and attend the STEAM workshop
- Submit a workshop evaluation at the end of the conference

The STEAM subsidy is \$100 each for up to 30 people. The subsidy will be given on a "first come, first served" basis.

**About the Presenter:** *Jacqueline (Jacki) Mayo is the Early Learning Specialist and curator at Science World in Vancouver. She has had these positions for over 4 years. She also delivers Big Science for Little Hands workshops for ECE teachers and daycare centres throughout the province. She holds a BA and Masters in Early Childhood Education.*

### 36. Participatory Research – with Erin Stewart Elliott

Learn how to bring the principles of strength based, arts informed, culturally grounded participatory research to community projects. This workshop will be experiential and hands on!

**About the Presenter:** *As an artist and community developer, Erin Stewart Elliott pursues the question: How can art be used as a tool for individual and community change? Erin focuses on projects that bridge individual and community capacity. She brings her values of shared leadership, collaboration and authentic communication to all the work she does.*

### 37. Building Resilient Workers: Health and Safety at Work– with Margaret Sutherland and Emily Hunter(subsidy offered)

This workshop will focus on the Building Resilient Workers health and safety curriculum which is designed for use in community-based adult literacy programs. In this session we will discuss the importance of health and safety in the workplace and provide an overview of how the curriculum was developed and how it is intended to be used.

WorkSafeBC has provided funds to support adult literacy practitioners to attend the *Building Resilient Workers: Health and Safety for BC Workers* workshop.

To obtain the Health and Safety subsidy you must:

- Be an adult literacy practitioner
- Attend the workshop
- Deliver the Building Resilient Workers: Health and Safety for BC Workers curriculum between January 1 and May 31, 2016 (The entire curriculum is five modules that can be covered in 15-20 hours of direct instruction, depending on the learners. It can be delivered as a whole or by module, in groups or with individual learners.)
- Complete an initial survey and a short project report (due June 15, 2016)

The subsidy is \$250 each for up to 45 people and includes a set of 10 participant workbooks and a facilitator's guide. The subsidy will be given on a "first come, first served" basis.



**About the Presenters:** *Emily Hunter began her work in adult literacy as a tutor at the Carnegie Learning Centre. She worked for 3 years at Literacy BC as a Research Analyst before completing the TESOL Diploma at VCC. Emily teaches the ESL Occupational Health and Safety Course for the BCFED Health and Safety Centre. She lives in East Vancouver with her partner and two young children.*

*Margaret Sutherland has worked in the literacy field since 1999. She has worked for the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy as an adult literacy program coordinator and facilitator, literacy outreach coordinator, regional program manager and communications manager. Margaret is a program manager at Decoda and is the team lead for the Health and Safety at Work project.*

*The BCFED Health & Safety Centre is the largest Health and Safety education provider in Western Canada. In its efforts to remove traditional barriers to Health and Safety education, the Centre has developed programs for Occupational Health & Safety Committees, Young Workers, Immigrant Workers (ESL) and Migrant Workers.*

### **38. Building Capacity to Support Mental Health Literacy in BC Communities—with Meredith de Freitas and Michelle Horn**

This session will describe mental health and substance use literacy and resources available to help individuals and families identify signs of mental health challenges early and access appropriate supports. The session will include a discussion on helpful resources to support the mental health literacy needs of BC individuals.

**About the Presenters:** *Meredith de Freitas is a project manager with BC Children’s Hospital’s Health Literacy team. Meredith manages mental health literacy projects and initiatives, including cross-cultural and healthy living initiatives and the BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information. Meredith has a Master of Public Health from Simon Fraser University and a BA (Honours) in Medical Anthropology from McGill University.*

*Michelle Horn is Program Manager for the Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, a provincial child and youth mental health and substance use resource centre at BC Children’s Hospital. Michelle is also involved with various initiatives within BCMHSUS’ Health Literacy Portfolio, and received her Masters Degree in Public Health from the University of Alberta.*

*The Parents in Residence at The FORCE Society for Kids’ Mental Health have lived experience with family members with mental health challenges, and provide support, navigation, and resources to families across B.C. The PiRs provide personalized system navigation, peer support, mentorship, and access to information, resources and networks.*

### **39. Come Read with Me – Reading Success at Home**

Come Read with Me is a workshop for parents that teaches them a variety of strategies they can use to support their child(ren) with home reading and assists with building a home-school connection. Parents go home with a bag of materials including a new grade 1-levelled book, sight word cards, word games, foam dice, a bookmark, and more.



**About the Presenter:** *Fiona Clare is the Literacy Outreach Coordinator (LOC) in Kamloops and enjoys working with many partners on different literacy initiatives. Building on the success of the ONE TO ONE Children’s Literacy program, she wrote Reading Success at Home, a parent hand book for Come Read with Me workshops. It offers simple strategies to support children’s reading at home.*

#### **40. Professionalizing the Field – with Diana Twiss and Panelists**

In the last few years Decoda Literacy Solutions has developed and piloted two professional credentials for literacy practitioners - one for those engaged in adult literacy practice and one for Literacy Outreach Coordinators. The session will outline the process of creating the credentials, show the frameworks and discuss next steps.

**About the Presenter:** *Diana Twiss is the Director of Adult and Workplace Learning at Decoda Literacy Solutions.*

**Panelists:**

*Marci Bulloch has been Volunteer Tutor Program Coordinator in Chilliwack since 2011. Her background includes teaching basic literacy in correctional settings and literacy program development. In 2014 she was one of the first to obtain the Decoda Literacy Solutions Adult Literacy Practitioner Credential*

*Sharon Crowley is the Literacy Outreach Coordinator for Abbotsford. She also has a background in Early Childhood Education.*

*Joan Exley has been a Literacy Outreach Coordinator at the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) since 1999.*

*Charmead Schella has studied communication, journalism and writing for most of her life, and runs her own company as a freelance contractor. She is the Executive Director at Literacy Alberni Society.*

#### **41. Ready to Raise: Talking Collaboration from Confusion to Clarity – with Tracy Smith and Tammy Dewar**

This is for those who want to foster meaningful social change in their community and are looking for a path that is both positive and productive. Using creativity and practical strategies, this interactive workshop experience will help to propel collaborative efforts forward with focus, clarity and an emphasis on relevant results. Ready to Raise helps passionate, community-minded people lead more effective and innovative collaboration.

**About the Presenters:** *Tracy Smith is a community development strategist and facilitator.*

*Tammy Dewar is a certified coach and group process designer.*

*Together they empower leadership to transform collaboration challenges into opportunities for creative change.*



**42. Roundtable Discussions**– Join us for non-facilitated, self-moderated discussions. We provide the room, you provide the content. This is your opportunity to bring forward some issues that you want to explore.

**43. Clear Skies: Using Storytelling to Provide Humanity to the Law – with Legal Services Society and Healthy Aboriginal Network**

Learn about a new project from the Legal Services Society and the Healthy Aboriginal Network. Clear Skies is a comic book and video about family violence using storytelling and powerful images to reach Aboriginal youth. In this way, complex documents become relevant through the use of voice, animation, video and text.

**About the Presenters:** *Sean Muir is the founder and Executive Director of the Healthy Aboriginal Network, which creates visual resources about social and health issues for youth. Patricia Lim is the Publications Development Coordinator for the Legal Services Society of BC, which provides legal aid in BC. She develops and evaluates Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) materials and resources. Nate Prosser is the Online Outreach Coordinator for the Legal Services Society of BC. He is responsible for coordinating online outreach and helps to develop and build up Legal Services Society’s online presence and engagement.*

