

# Interest Group talks readers' advisory at Beyond Hope

By Jenny Fry and Meghan Savage.

Readers' advisory was a big focus of the Beyond Hope Conference in Prince George on June 10 and 11, 2013 with four sessions focused on readers' advisory, book-talks, and adult storytelling. On behalf of the BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group (RAIG), Jenny Fry and Meghan Savage presented "Readers' Advisory Secrets Revealed!" to an energetic group of 21 librarians and library staff from 14 different northern BC library systems and Seattle Public Library.

## Connecting with northern BC libraries

The theme of the Beyond Hope Conference this year was "Call Us, Maybe? Connecting People & Libraries now!"—a fitting title for a conference that enabled us to chat with librarians and library staff from across Northern BC about RA skills, programming, and ideas.

## Readers' advisory secrets revealed

Our session focused on RA ideas and challenges. We shared information about RAIG, discussed challenging RA questions, chatted about the interesting RA programming and displays at Surrey Libraries, presented ideas from libraries across the Lower Mainland, and gave ideas for ways to improve your RA IQ.

## What's next for the BCLA RA Interest Group?

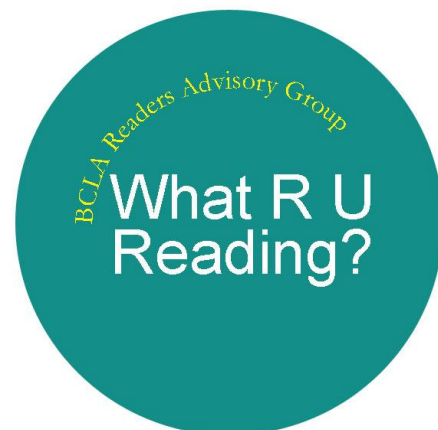
- We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month (except August)
- Next meeting: Tuesday July 16, 9-11am at BCLA/People's Law School boardroom
- **RA in a Half Day** on Wednesday October 30, 9am-1pm at VPL. Registration in September. We are still seeking experts/enthusiasts of Travel Memoirs and Health & Wellness books to join our presenter team! If that's you or you know someone who fits the bill, let us know!

## Want to contribute to the What Are You Reading Blog?

Your library can contribute to our RA Blog! If you're interested in posting four (or more) posts for a month, or in joining us as a guest blogger for a single post, please send us an email at [raig@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:raig@bcla.bc.ca).

## Virtual readers' advisory: Getting personal online

In addition to our session on RA, we had the opportunity to connect with the Reader Services Librarian David Wright from Seattle Public Library. David delivered fascinating presentations on Virtual RA, including the very popular RA service at Seattle Public Library entitled [Your Next 5 Books](#) and his *Thrilling Tales: A Story Time for Grownups* program, which will be celebrating its 10-year anniversary next spring.



## Connect with the BCLA RA Interest Group

- [raig@lists.bclibrary.ca](mailto:raig@lists.bclibrary.ca)
- [www.bcla.bc.ca/ra/](http://www.bcla.bc.ca/ra/)
- <http://whatareyoureadingblog.com>
- [www.facebook.com/bclarainterestgroup](https://www.facebook.com/bclarainterestgroup)
- [raig@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:raig@bcla.bc.ca)
- [@BCLARAIG on Twitter](#)

Jenny Fry is a librarian at City Centre Library and Meghan Savage is a librarian at Guildford Library, both in Surrey, BC.