

Supporting lifelong learning



February 2026 Literacy News

Literacy news, programs, upcoming events, and valuable resources for all ages in Mount Waddington communities on North Vancouver Island.

NEWS

Sharing a love of reading during the holidays



Families receive Christmas Book Boxes

Four North Vancouver Island families each received a box of 12 books in December 2025. Read details and see photos ...

Cooking together supports family literacy



Kitchen Connections Pie Party Fun

Families in Port Hardy celebrated the Family Literacy Week theme "Make mealtime family learning time" by learning to make chicken pot pie and mud pie. Read the details and see photos ...

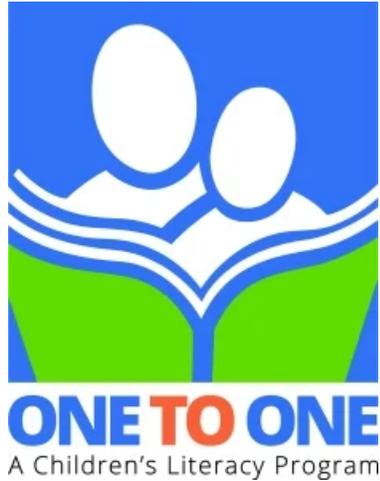
Celebrating cultural learning



Connecting at Culture and Creativity Day

MWFLS connected with community members through crafts and conversation at Port Hardy event. Read the details and see photos ...

Welcome and thank you to our children's tutors!



Welcome to our new and returning volunteer One-to-One tutors this year!

- Lindsey Dyck
- Sue Haskins
- Amber Underwood
- Gavin Scott

Thank you for your commitment and making a difference to local children.

ONE-TO-ONE is a provincial program that has adult volunteers from the community as reading tutors during school hours for children that are not up to reading level but do not receive other assistance.

The focus is on increasing reading confidence and improving skills.



Sharing gratitude to our teen tutors with the Fostering Literacy program!

- Ocean C.
- Rylan A.
- Elsa C.
- Liv W.

Your work makes a difference!

Fostering Literacy programs support school-age children who struggle with reading and provide a paid work experience for teens.

Children practice and grow their reading skills with a trained tutor in a one-on-one setting, with the emphasis on making reading fun.

You can help support this program with a [donation](#).
Or contact literacy outreach coordinator Kelly Anderson at 250-858-2782
or email: literacy.outreach@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Thank you Sointula!



A resounding thank you to the parents in Sointula who took the time to collect refundable cans and bottles to fundraise to keep the Sointula [Mother Goose On-the-Go](#) program free to attend.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you to Terri, Judy, Sally, Jean-Luc, Selina, Conner, Carley and Ashley," said Kelly Anderson, Mother Goose Coordinator/Literacy Outreach Coordinator. "You raised an astounding \$1,642.50!"

And thank you to the community who saved up and donated their cans and bottles.

The family program introduces early literacy through stories, crafts, songs and rhymes. The free Mother Goose takes place in the Preschool room every Saturday morning at 11 a.m.

EVENTS

February 11: Smart Shopping Challenge!



Ready to start the new year with practical skills, community connection, and a little friendly fun? We're hosting our next free **Smart Shopping Workshop**, and this time we're adding something special - a **hands-on grocery store challenge!**

It's friendly, supportive, and designed to help you feel confident and empowered every time you shop.

What's Happening

Participants will:

- Learn simple tools from our **Smart Shopping Workbook**
- Use strategy, label-reading skills, and value-based shopping to build the best meal plan on a budget
- Break into small teams and complete a **45-minute live shopping challenge** utilizing the skills learned
- Enjoy a **delicious hot lunch**
- Share tips, surprises, and wins with the group afterward

Everyone goes home with:

- A bag of healthy groceries
- New skills you can use right away
- New community connections

Who it's for: Adults of all ages who want to stretch their grocery budget, learn practical techniques, or simply enjoy a fun, interactive workshop.

Cost: Absolutely **free** — offered in partnership between **Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society** and **Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre**.

February 11, 2026

10 a.m.

Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre

Port Hardy

***FREE**

How to sign up

*Spaces will be limited for this special interactive format!

To save your seat, contact: Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org.

February 13: Wonton Workshop

Wonton Workshop

Cook,
Learn
and Share

Free
Workshop

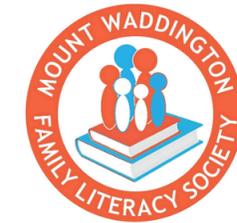
Learn how to make wontons from scratch!

February 13, 2026

11 a.m.

Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre,
8950 Granville St., Suite 145A,
Port Hardy

- Learn ways to prepare
- Share a meal
- Take wontons home to enjoy!



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Join us for a cozy, hands-on Wonton Workshop at the Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre! We'll gather around the table, enjoy each other's company, and learn how to make homemade wontons from scratch. Together, we'll prepare them a couple of different ways, share a meal, and everyone will leave with wontons to take home and enjoy later.

No experience needed - just come as you are.

February 13, 2026

11 a.m.

Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre

Port Hardy

***FREE**

Limited to: 15 participants - registration is required.

To register, contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org.

This workshop is offered in partnership between **Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society** and **Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre**.

February 26: Money Matters for self-employment workshop

Thinking of starting your own business?

Free
Workshop

Money Matters Self-employment Workshop

February 26, 2026

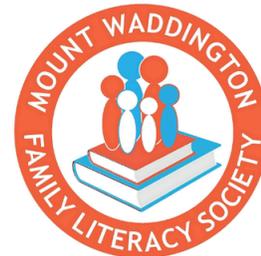
4:00-6:00 p.m.

A-Frame Bookstore
175 Cedar St., Port McNeill

The workshop includes:

- practical, approachable tools tailored for adult learners
- clear language
- relatable examples
- interactive exercises

To register,
Contact Jeanne,
adult.literacy@
mwfamilyliteracy.org



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Thinking of starting your own business?

Join us for a brand new Entrepreneurs Workshop by ABC Life Literacy: Money Matters for current and aspiring self-employed people.

Thursday, 26 Feb
4 – 6 p.m.

A-Frame Bookstore
Port McNeill

***FREE**

To register, contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org.

February 28: 2026 Literacy Fair!



Literacy Fair

Free Admission

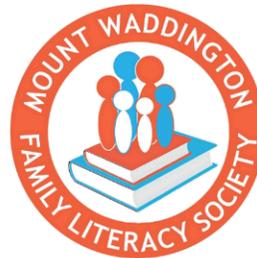
Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Port McNeill, Sunset Elementary (Gymnasium)



- Hands on activities at every community organization table - for all ages!
- **FREE BOOK** for every infant, child and teen at the fair at our table.



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Our annual North Island Literacy Fair is in Port McNeill this year!

Join us and other local organizations for:

- fun hands-on activities for all ages
- information about community services and resources
- AND a free book for every infant, child and teen at our MWFLS table.

February 28, 2026

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunset Elementary School

Port McNeill

***FREE ADMISSION**

Community organizations - join us!

Book your free table at the Literacy Fair where you can showcase your organization's services and resources.

Contact Kelly to reserve your spot at literacy.outreach@mwfamilyliteracy.org

[See highlights and photos from the 2025 Literacy Fair](#)

PROGRAMS

Mother Goose On-the-Go family program

Free
Program

Mother Goose on the Go!



Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library,
Port McNeill

Saturdays, 11:00 a.m.

Preschool Room,
Sointula

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Roberts Scott School (StrongStart)
Port Hardy

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.

Roberts Scott School (Promising Babies)
Port Hardy

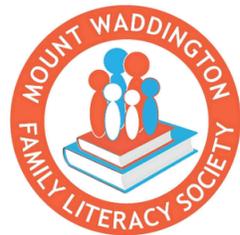
Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

Roberts Scott School (Parents of Young
Children)
Port Hardy

A Family Literacy Program

A trained 'Mother Goose' leads a group of parents and children in fun and engaging rhymes, songs, stories, and crafts. These basic activities with children provide the building blocks for early attachment and literacy.

- Everyone welcome!
- Drop-in



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Mother Goose On-the-Go fosters early literacy and is an experience for the whole family! A trained 'Mother Goose' leads a group of parents and children in fun and engaging rhymes, songs, stories, and crafts. Free!

Children have fun and parents learn how to sing, rhyme, and read with their child, and weave those skills into their day-to-day routines. These basic activities with children provide the building blocks for early attachment and literacy.

Watch our [Facebook page](#) for current schedule.

Storytime 5 days a week at Vancouver Island Regional Library



Visit Port Hardy VIRL for family Storytime!

Tuesday – Saturday 11–11:30 a.m.,
7110 Market St., Port Hardy

Free! No need to register.

Conversation Circle: Practice your English

New in January at Vancouver Island Regional Library, "Practice Your English" conversation circle for adults. Free, drop-in!

Port Hardy

Tuesdays, Noon - 1 p.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, 7110 Market St.

Port McNeill

Wednesdays, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, 1584 Broughton Blvd

Adult Literacy Weekly Drop-in

Need help with reading, writing, or everyday paperwork?

Free support is available.

We offer one-to-one help with things like:

- Using a cell phone, tablet, or laptop
- Filling out forms or reading mail
- ESL (English as a Second Language) support
- Working toward a personal goal, such as: finishing school, returning to school or building confidence with reading and writing

You don't need to know exactly what you need; we can figure it out together.

Port McNeill

Drop-In Meet-Up (Free)

Every other Tuesday starting February 3

4 - 5:30 p.m.

A-Frame Bookstore, Port McNeill

Come by to ask questions, sign up for support, or just learn what's available.

Contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org.

Adult one-on-one tutoring

Free one-on-one tutoring for adults is available. Get assistance with reading, numeracy and more!

Contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Volunteer as an Adult Literacy Tutor

Volunteer Tutors Needed

Make a difference!

Help local people learn new skills

Volunteer as an adult literacy tutor a few hours per week.

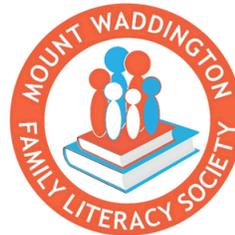
Training provided!

Help adult learners with:

- reading and numeracy
- test preparation
- computer basics
- financial literacy
- how to use a cell phone
- or filling out forms



➔ Interested?
Contact Jeanne,
**adult.literacy@
mwfamilyliteracy.org**



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When nearly 1 in 2 adults find basic reading or math tasks challenging, it affects not just individuals, but whole families and communities.

By becoming a literacy tutor, you can help someone confidently manage everyday things—banking, shopping, health decisions—and strengthen our entire region’s future.

You can help learners with reading and numeracy, or test preparation, computer basics, financial literacy, with how to use cell phone or fill out forms.

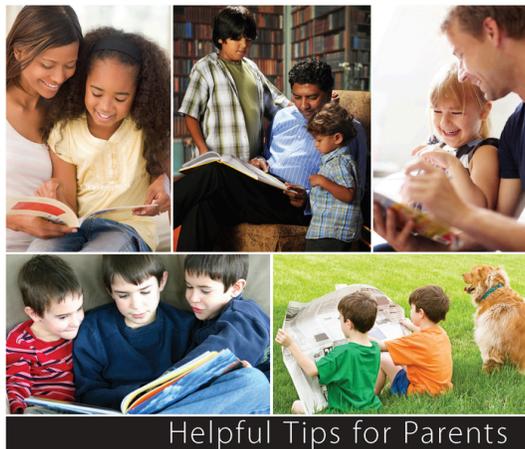
Training provided!

For more information, contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org

RESOURCES

Reading Success at Home: Helpful Tips for Parents

READING SUCCESS AT HOME



This guide helps parents and caregivers support their child's reading.

The guide covers:

- Why is reading important?
- Reading activities
- Choosing "just right" books
- Warming up a book
- Reading strategies

Quick tips:

- The best book is one your child WANTS to read
- It's okay to read favourite books over and over again.
- Learning to read takes practice - be patient.
- Mistakes are opportunities for learning.
- Relax, enjoy this time together and HAVE FUN!

[Download the guide](#)

ABOUT US

We're here to help.

The Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society works with communities, schools and organizations to support literacy and learning for all ages on North Vancouver Island. We offer free programs, events and resources.

We can also help with your literacy projects and program ideas through fund finding, letters of support and by connecting you with our many resources.

Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society is a non-profit support system servicing the literacy needs of the School District 85/Mount Waddington region of Vancouver Island, BC, traditional territory of the Kwakwaka'wakw Peoples.

Contact us

Please note our new email addresses and *add mwfamilyliteracy.org to your contacts* so you don't miss anything from us. Emails to our former addresses will be automatically forwarded.

Executive Director,
Now hiring!

Literacy Outreach Coordinator
Kelly Anderson
literacy.outreach@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Mother Goose on the Go Coordinator
Kelly Anderson
mother.goose@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Food Literacy Coordinator
Jeanne James-Hory
food.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Communications Coordinator
Trish Weatherall
communications@mwfamilyliteracy.org

Contact us for information about our programs, resources or to share your needs and ideas.

Follow Us



Thank you to our supporters



SUPPORT LOCAL LITERACY



Your support makes a difference in our communities!

Your donation will help provide books, literacy programming and other supports that directly benefit our North Vancouver Island communities.

Ways to give:

Donate on our [secure Canadahelps.org webpage](https://secure.Canadahelps.org)

Or contact Executive Director Charity Gillett at

ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org

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