

Supporting lifelong learning



January 2026 Literacy News

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

NEWS

We're hiring an Executive Director!

Hiring

Job Opportunity!

Executive Director (part-time)

This rewarding, part-time position could be a perfect fit for a person who is recently retired, who works part-time or full-time and would like to expand their experience, or who is seeking to reduce their hours of work to a part-time position.

- Average 10 hours/week
- \$40/hour
- Work from home

Application Deadline:

January 12, 2026
(or until filled)

**For more information,
see the website or
contact:
ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org**



mwfamilyliteracy.org

Facebook: @mwfamilyliteracy



The Executive Director is responsible for supervising all projects and employees of the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society, and for working collaboratively with the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and contractors to fulfill the organization's mission: to seek out and support a full range of learning projects and programs identified by communities in the Mount Waddington/North Vancouver Island region.

This position is based in a home office, with some travel to program sites and regional meetings.

- Average of 10 hours/week; \$40.00 per hour.
- There may be an opportunity for additional weekly hours for a candidate who has bookkeeping and payroll experience.

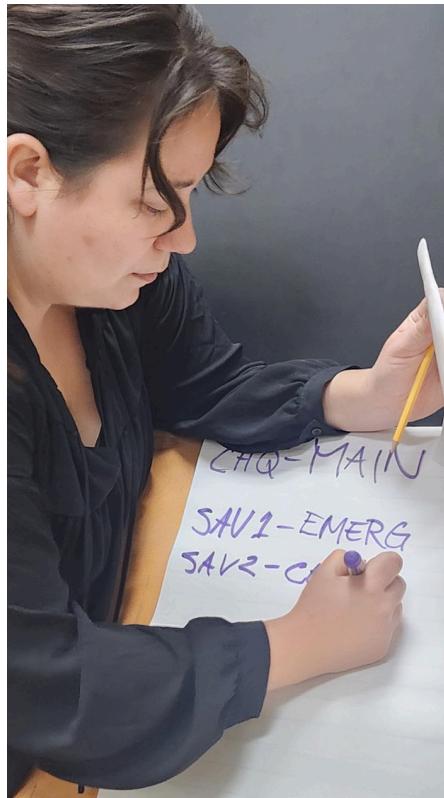
Application Deadline: January 12, 2026 (or until filled)

Please send your cover letter and resume with 3 professional references to

ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org

[Read the full job description.](#)

Ways to Save workshop: fun, food and practical learning



In December, MWFLS hosted a Money Matters: Ways to Save workshop at Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre. Led by former banker Rikki Clarke (current Child and Family Development Worker at Sacred Wolf), the session offered a welcoming space to talk about money in a practical, down-to-earth way, with good food and good conversation.

Participants explored simple, realistic ways to save money, sharing ideas and learning how even small changes can add up over time. Topics included ways to save for your child's education, how to save using a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA), shopping habits, comparison shopping and making smart buying decisions.

"The workshop sparked thoughtful discussion, questions, and moments of insight, reminding everyone that financial learning can be supportive, accessible, and even fun," said MWFLS adult literacy coordinator Jeanne James-Hory.

A heartfelt thank you to Rikki Clarke for sharing her knowledge, to our partners at Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre, and to A'ekakilax̓an's Gukwalut – Nourish North Network for providing nourishing food that helped make the gathering warm and enjoyable.

Free Money Matters workbooks and online courses from ABC Life Literacy Canada are available at abcmoneymatters.ca.

EVENTS

January 25 – February 1: BC Family Literacy Week

Make mealtime family learning time.



Family Literacy Week

January 25 – February 1, 2026



Find activities and resources at Decoda.ca

Province-wide activities

Get ready for Family Literacy Week! Find activities, resources and a contest with the "Make mealtime family learning time" theme from [Decoda Literacy Solutions](#).



Family Literacy Week

Each January, families, schools, libraries and communities across BC celebrate Family Literacy Week. Decoda provides themed resources every year to help you plan your events and activities.

Local activities

Watch for the **Kitchen Connections Pie Party** on January 31st! We're helping to support this family hands-on cooking class where you and your child or teen will work together to prepare warm, flaky chicken pot pies & dessert completely from scratch.

***Register through Port Hardy Recreation.**

Also check your local library for Family Literacy Week activities!



January 27: Family Literacy Day

Across Canada, we celebrate [Family Literacy Day](#) on January 27th. ABC Life Literacy Canada has activities, a tip sheet, a bookmark and more at familyliteracyday.ca



Family Literacy Day 2026: Make mealtime family learning time

Family Literacy Day raises awareness about the importance of reading and learning together as a family. Download free resources to get involved.

See you at Culture and Creativity Days!



Culture and Creativity Days

January 25th and February 22nd 2026 | 2-5pm

Port Hardy Civic Centre, 7400 Columbia Street



These events are open to the public and will feature crafts, games, and community connection!

Funded by Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Hosted by the Immigrant Welcome Centre
and the Mt Waddington Welcoming Communities Coalition

For more information email: jessica.pool@immigrantwelcome.ca



Funded by:
 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

 Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

We're looking forward to attending Culture and Creativity Days - look for the MWFLS booth!
These free community events are open to the public and will feature crafts, games, and opportunities to connect with others in a welcoming, relaxed space.

Sunday, January 25 and Sunday, February 22, 2026

2-5 pm

Port Hardy Civic Centre, 7400 Columbia Street

Free to attend — all ages welcome!

Funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, hosted by the Immigrant Welcome Centre and the Mt. Waddington Welcoming Communities Coalition

PROGRAMS

Mother Goose On-the-Go family program

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.

Port Hardy

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, 7110 Market St.

Fridays 10:30am

Robert Scott School (Promising Babies)

Port McNeill

Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, 1584 Broughton Blvd

Sointula

Saturdays, 11:00 a.m., Preschool room

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, starting January 27

Noon - 1 p.m.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, 7110 Market St.

Port McNeill

Wednesdays, starting January 28

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):

A-Frame Church, Port McNeill

Starting Thursday, January 15

11:00 am -12:00 pm

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

Join the January Smart Shopping Challenge!



Ready to start the new year with practical skills, community connection, and a little friendly fun? This January, we're hosting our next **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 with **Sacred Wolf** and **MWFLS**.

Date & Time: January (date to be confirmed — stay tuned!)

How to sign up

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

. Spaces will be limited for this special interactive format!

Money Matters for self-employment workshop

Thinking of starting your own business?

Join the waiting list for our upcoming FREE workshop to get things started: Money Matters for current and aspiring self-employed individuals.

"As Canada's gig economy continues to grow, more people are turning to self-employment and contract work to earn a living. But managing money without a steady paycheck can be challenging — from unpredictable income streams to navigating taxes, budgeting, and business planning.

To help address these unique challenges, ABC Life Literacy Canada is releasing Money Matters for Self-Employment, a new suite of resources from the Money Matters program designed for current and aspiring self-employed Canadians."

***Workshop date to be determined.**

If you're interested in learning about money management when you're self-employed, contact Jeanne at adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org



Money Matters launches new self-employment resources ahead of Financial Literacy Month

As Canada's gig economy continues to grow, more people are turning to self-employment and contract work to earn a living. But managing money without a steady paycheck can be challenging - from unpredictable income streams to navigating taxes, budgeting, and business planning.

Volunteer as an Adult Literacy Tutor

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

Did you know?

Volunteer!

In BC, **45%** of adults aged 16-65 may have difficulty understanding newspapers, instruction manuals or health information — tasks many of us take for granted.

52% of adults may struggle with numeracy-based tasks like calculating interest, using graph info, or figuring out medicine dosage.

Tutors for adults needed!

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



→ Contact Jeanne James-hory
Adult Literacy Coordinator
adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org



Supporting lifelong learning

mwfamilyliteracy.org

Facebook: @mwfamilyliteracy

RESOURCES

The Westcoast Reader newspaper for learners

The WCR Westcoast Reader



A print and online newspaper

Each month we adapt news stories for people who want to improve their English language skills.

3 reading levels

The articles in the Westcoast Reader are labelled with Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 book icons. The levels are comparable to Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) 2 to 6.



Level 1



Level 2



Level 3

[The Westcoast Reader](#) is a newspaper and online resource for learners and teachers, published monthly by Decoda Literacy Solutions.

Each month local, national and international news stories are adapted for people improving their English language skills.

3 reading levels

The articles in The Westcoast Reader are labelled with Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 book icons. The levels are comparable to Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) 2 to 6.

Teachers' Notes with each issue

A learning resource, each contains exercises and activities based on the issue. They also contain discussion topics and additional resources. An answer key is included.

Find copies at your local library or [subscribe](#) to have each monthly issue delivered.

The WCR website also has [Free online articles with exercises, audio file and a quiz!](#)

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!

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

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

Communications Coordinator
Trish Weatherall
communications@mwfamilyliteracy.org

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

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

Follow Us



Thank you to our supporters



Decoda
Literacy Solutions

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/webpage)

Or contact Executive Director Charity Gillett at
ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org

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Check out our site [!\[\]\(f30959f11bdeaf28e16bccc4e6d35d33_img.jpg\)](#)

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