

Supporting lifelong learning



## May 2025 Literacy News

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

## NEWS

### 84 books for children at Easter Festival!



We had a great time at the Easter Festival on April 19 at Port Hardy Recreation!

84 books found a new homes with local children and we also sold 20 pairs of our fundraising Blue Sky literacy socks. Thank you to everyone who purchased a pair!

*Photo: Jeanne James-Hory, MWFLS Food Literacy Coordinator and School's Out Program Coordinator at our Easter Festival table.*

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## New School's Out Coordinator at FRES



We are thrilled to announce the new United Way School's Out Program Coordinator at Fort Rupert Elementary School, Brittany Frederick!

"I'm excited to join the MWFLS team as the School's Out Program Coordinator," said Brittany. "My experience with children includes working as an education assistant and teaching kids yoga, while also enjoying the everyday adventures of being a mom, which is my proudest role."

I truly enjoy working with children and building meaningful relationships, while creating a space where they feel safe, supported, and encouraged to be themselves.

I look forward bringing creativity, mindfulness, and fun into the program, as well as connecting with the kids, families, and team!"

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## EVENTS

### Literacy Escape Room Challenge and Community Forum in May!



Keep an eye out for a fun and engaging event at the end of May in Port Hardy and Port McNeill (dates to be confirmed) that will immerse you in a literacy escape room challenge! Plus a reading from a local poet!

At the end, you'll have a chance to share feedback about our programs and give your input on local learning needs.

We will also have an online learning needs survey coming soon!

Watch our [Facebook page](#) for details!

## April 27-May 3, 2025: National Volunteer Week



The theme for [National Volunteer Week](#) 2025, April 27-May 3, is Volunteers Make Waves. It highlights the power, impact and importance of individual and collective volunteer efforts across Canada. Like a wave, volunteering is movement building. Thank you to Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society volunteers supporting literacy s and programs and events. Together, we create ripples of change.

Special thanks to our volunteer Board of Directors:

- Jill Cook
- Naomi Heath
- Stacia Johnston
- Laura Kaminker, Co-Chair
- Kathy Martin
- Joyce McBride
- Donna Merry, Co-Chair

Special thanks to our ONE-to-ONE reading tutor volunteers: Sam Sorrell and Lindsay Dyck!

Also thank you to all the special volunteers throughout the year who help with events and advent book wrapping!

## April 27-May 3, 2025: Canadian Children's Book Week



Your Story Matters is the theme of [Canadian Children's Book Week](#) 2025! 🍁 Canadian Children's Book Week connects Canadian creators with children and teens across Canada. Touring authors, illustrators, and storytellers speak to audiences about the delights of reading Canadian children's books, and offer an inside look into their own work.

Part of Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society's mission is to get books into local children's hands. You can help [by donating](#). (Choose the 'Books for children' option.)

## May 5-11, 2025: Screen-Free Week



Screen-Free Week is an invitation to take a break from entertainment screens and experience more peace, connection, and fun!

Try these screen-free ideas:

- [101 Screen-Free Activities](#)
- [Screen-Free Bingo!](#)

[Learn more](#)

## Calling All Food Lovers, Home Cooks and Curious Learners!





The Mobile Kitchen is rolling out soon — and we want you to be part of it!

We'll be offering free, hands-on workshops around cooking, foraging, preserving, meal planning, and kitchen skills to help make life easier (and tastier!) during the workweek. Whether you want to learn, share your skills, or just eat better on a budget — this is for you.

Participants will receive a food package and recipe kit to either take home or use during the workshop — depending on the format.

**Interested in joining a class or leading one? Let's connect!**

Email Jeanne at: [food.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org](mailto:food.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org)

## May 11: Cultural Sharing Potluck Series

**Immigrant Welcome Centre**

**Cultural Sharing Potluck Series**

May 11, 2025 | 4-6pm  
Port Hardy Recreation Centre, 7400 Columbia Street

**FREE** **EVERYONE** is welcome here!

Bring a dish to share with the community!  
Cutlery, plates and refreshments provided

Guest Speakers! Fun for the family! Learn about new cultures and food!

If purchasing food and creating a meal to share with others is a financial barrier for you, and/or transportation to this event is a barrier for you, please email [stephen.mcneil@immigrantwelcome.ca](mailto:stephen.mcneil@immigrantwelcome.ca)

Funded by Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada, and Resilience BC

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

For more information email: [kristine.salzmänn@immigrantwelcome.ca](mailto:kristine.salzmänn@immigrantwelcome.ca)

Join the Immigrant Welcome Centre for a cultural sharing potluck series!

**Sunday, May 11th,  
4-6 p.m. at the Port Hardy  
Recreation Centre.**

No registration required.  
Please bring some food to share.

There will be activities for children, and a guest speaker who will share some food and stories from their culture!

Everyone is welcome!

## 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.

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 McNeill**

**Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.**

Vancouver Island Regional Library,  
1584 Broughton Blvd.

### **Sointula**

**Saturdays, 11:00 a.m.**

Preschool Room

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## Storytime 5 days a week at Vancouver Island Regional Library



[Visit Port Hardy VIRL for family Storytime!](#)

**Tuesday – Saturday 10–10:30 a.m.,**

7110 Market St., Port Hardy

Free! No need to register.

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## Community Adult Literacy Programs (CALP)



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## May Adult Reading-Writing-Internet Practice Drop-in

Everyone is welcome to drop in to practice your skills with Steph.  
Free! No registering!

**Port Hardy: Mondays, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Wednesdays, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**

St. Columba Church, 9190 Granville Street (across from the hospital)

\*Starting Wednesday, May 7

**Port McNeill: Tuesdays 4:15-5:45 pm & Thursdays, 4:30- 6:00 p.m.**

A-Frame Church, 175 Cedar Street, Port McNeill

\*Starting Thursday, May 8

Anyone needing assistance with their reading, writing, and online needs, please email  
[adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org](mailto:adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org).

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## Pop-up Workshops on Request!

Would your organization like to host a free workshop for clients or employees?

Pop-up workshops on the following topics are available on request:

- Money Matters
- Reading, Writing, Numeracy Skills Building
- Upskills for Work
- Life Skills

Contact Steph at [adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org](mailto:adult.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org) to book your workshop.

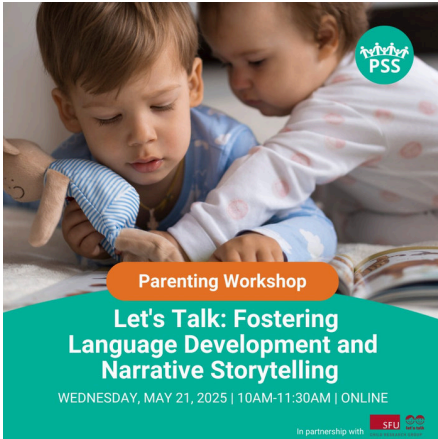
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## RESOURCES



## Insights from Canada's Adult Literacy Survey - Decoda Literacy Solutions

What is PIAAC? Learn about 2023 Canadian adult literacy survey and the key findings.



## Let's Talk: Fostering Language Development and Narrative Storytelling

**May 7, 25th - 10 am – 11:30 am**

Online Zoom

[Register](#)

Join Parent Support Services Society of BC for a free online session focuses on fostering narrative storytelling in children as their language develops from one-to-two-word phrases to full sentences.

## 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](mailto:mwfamilyliteracy.org) to your contacts* so you don't miss anything from us. Emails to our former addresses will be automatically forwarded.



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

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## Thank you to our supporters



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## 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](https://secure.canadahelps.org) webpage

Or contact Executive Director Charity Gillett at [ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org](mailto:ed@mwfamilyliteracy.org)

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