

## Our Mission

*We work within our communities to raise awareness of literacy challenges and to help people develop literacy skills necessary to meet their goals and improve their quality of life.*

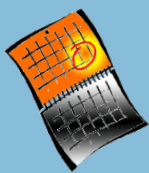
Call or email if you want us to visit your community dinner!

## Thank You!



READ accepts a donation from [Envision Financial's](#) Sunshine Hills branch.

Want to support our work? Learn how to [get involved](#).



## Important Dates

May 4 – Literacy Task Group mtg  
May 8 – Annual Partners Party  
June 15 – READ AGM

Check our [calendar](#) for a full list of events.

## Message from the Chair

On a snowy evening in mid-December READ and [WCG Services](#) visited Culture Night at the Fraser Region Aboriginal [Friendship Center](#) as part of the [Literacy Task Group's](#) community dinner outreach. We had a meal with people, chatted and gave out free books to almost every child and adult there. It was a great night of community gathering and we were warmed by the open and welcoming attitude of everyone there. I was grateful to be part of this outreach, which was such a change from the behind-the-scenes work that the Board usually does.

This outreach is supported by Raise-a-Reader, the Province of BC and [Decoda](#), along with help from [Black Bond Books](#). The goal is to promote family literacy, tell people about local literacy services and give away books. We also visited [Gracepoint Church's](#) dinner before Christmas and gave away 155 books. I hope to get out to another community dinner soon.

~Aimee Begalka, Chair

## Being a Partners Tutor Pays Off in Unexpected Ways

Martha has been a Partners tutor since October 2015. She also happens to be a participant (aka subject) in a major national study on the factors that influence successful aging. The subjects in the study range in age from 45 to 90s. Every three years she spends about 6 hours doing various physical and mental tests.

Two months ago, she was given a test where she listened to someone read a list of 30 words. She was then asked to repeat back as many as she could remember.

Martha's learner had wanted to improve her memory. So Martha had done some research and found a technique where you create a picture in your mind of the things you want to remember. She decided to try that during the test and was able to remember 10 of the 30 words. The tester was astonished as she'd never had anyone remember more than 3 or 4!



Read Martha's memory tips [here](#).

If you would like to become a Partner's Tutor, check out our [volunteer page](#). It is a rewarding experience and you might even improve your memory.

If you know someone who needs literacy help, call 778.242.READ (7323).

## News from the Board

- On November 28, 2016 the new Societies Act came into effect. We, along with all BC societies, are working through the changes needed. Information on the transition and what organizations need to do is [here](#).
- Thank you to **Tanya Paterson** for revamping our logo! Have a look at the top of the page.
- If you are passionate about literacy, why not join our friendly and active [Board](#)? Meetings are monthly, September to June. Snacks sometimes served.