

# *In the Loop*

[Web](#)

The Surrey White Rock Literacy Task Group helps you stay in the loop on literacy news, events, and resources. Share the love and forward this newsletter to your colleagues and networks.

Contact us if you need help finding local literacy and learning programs.

NOTE: This is the last *In the Loop* for 2023. See you in the new year!

## **PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

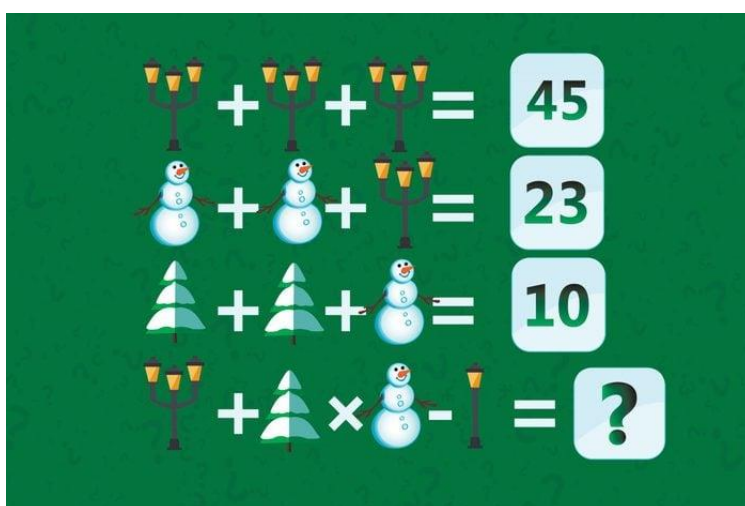
- ★ Surrey Libraries is hosting a series of monthly [ASL Storytimes](#). This program is strictly for families with one or more members of any age who are deaf or hard of hearing. If this fits your family, join the library for fun stories, rhythms and rhymes! Help imaginations grow and build a love of reading.
- ★ Join the Semiahmoo Seniors Planning table for a literacy themed online event, "Christmas in Story and Song" and enjoy readings, music, and fun. December 13, 2023, 1:30pm to 3:00pm. Poster attached.
- ★ [Holiday Magic](#) with Fraser Valley Regional Library. Celebrate the spirit of the holidays with stories, music, crafts and recipes — perfect for the festive season!
- ★ [Poetry in Motion](#) combines culture and physical activity by blending poetry from myriad cultures into a vibrant harmonious mosaic. Take a stroll in White Rock and enjoy poetry along the way.
- ★ Surrey Libraries is hosting its annual fundraiser, [The Tree of Giving](#). All proceeds support much-needed library programs and services throughout our community.
- ★ January 27, 2024, is [Family Literacy Day](#). The theme is "Let's have a family party!" In BC, we celebrate [Family Literacy Week](#) January 21 – 28, 2024. #FLW2024

## RESOURCES/PRO-D/NEWS

- ★ The City of Surrey is developing a [Social Action Plan](#) and wants to hear from equity deserving groups and those who are seldom heard in planning processes. [Complete the survey here](#). Questions or concerns: Cristina Rucci, Social Development Program Lead at [socialplanning@surrey.ca](mailto:socialplanning@surrey.ca). Backgrounder attached.
- ★ ISSofBC's RALL (Reconciliation Awareness LINC Lesson) package is free and [available by request here](#). The RALL curriculum includes dedicated lesson plans, handouts and visual aids for LINC and ESL teachers catering to students from CLB Level 1 to 8.
- ★ [Centre for ADHD Awareness](#) (CADDAC) is a national charity providing leadership in awareness, education, and advocacy for ADHD across Canada. CADDAC's programs and initiatives support parents and individuals affected by ADHD.

## LITERACY GAMES TO ENTERTAIN YOU DURING THE HOLIDAYS

- ❖ I am hooked on [New York Times word games](#), especially Word Connections. Play for free once per day (to cultivate patience and moderation) or subscribe to binge play.
- ❖ How could we end the year without a corny Christmas joke?
  - 🦉 What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the regular alphabet?  
The Christmas alphabet has no-el. [Find more groaners here](#).
  - 🦉 Solve this winter math puzzle.



The solution and more math, spot the difference, and matching puzzles [are here](#).

# CHRISTMAS IN STORY & SONG

Date & Time:

**December 13, 2023**

**1:30 pm to 3:00 pm**

**VIA ZOOM**

Registration:

**Free + \$10 SaveOn Gift Card (supporting Sources) for all participants. Registration is limited to first 100 sign ups.**

To Register:

**Please email [admin@comfortkeepersvancover.ca](mailto:admin@comfortkeepersvancover.ca) with your name and home address for delivery of the gift Card**

**Photo by Jessica Fadel on Unsplash**



**PRESENTED BY:**



**Semiahmoo Seniors  
Planning Table**

*Celebrate the season with festive stories and songs. Relax in the comfort of your home and enjoy story/poetry readings, holiday book recommendations, fun yuletide facts, and Christmas carols. Wear your favourite Christmas hat!*

*With special musical guests Andrew Armstrong and Josie Bennett.*

The City of Surrey recognizes that this work takes place on the traditional unceded territories of the Semiahmoo, Kwantlen, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen First Nations.

## Development of the City of Surrey

# Social Action Plan

2023–2024

## What is the Social Action Plan?

The City of Surrey’s Social Action Plan envisions a City where all people have equitable opportunities to thrive. The Plan will identify key social priorities impacting Surrey residents and the community, and actions to address these priorities.

The Social Action Plan will guide the work of the Community Services Department’s Housing and Social Development Division. The Housing and Social Development team will develop the plan through research and community engagement with a focus on equity deserving groups.

## Why the City of Surrey Needs this Plan

- To address and improve the social conditions impacting residents and community in the City of Surrey
- Replace the current 2006 Social Plan
- Identify current social priorities for the City of Surrey
- Clarify the role of the City (and other partners) with respect to addressing social issues
- Identify strategies and actions for the Housing and Social Development Division to implement over the next 5 years

### BACKGROUND RESEARCH

April–Aug 2023

### ENGAGEMENT & REFLECTING

Jan–April 2024

### FINALIZING THE PLAN

Oct–Dec 2024



### ENGAGEMENT

Sept–Dec 2023

### DRAFTING THE PLAN

May–Sept 2024

The following topics, identified through background research and an examination of current social conditions, fall within the scope of the Housing and Social Development Division.



## What is the City's Role in Social Development

The City's ability to address and improve the social conditions for those in Surrey is a shared responsibility and depends on the actions taken by all levels of government (Federal, Provincial and Local), our government partners, such as Fraser Health and the Surrey School District, post-secondary institutions, and by the rich network of non-profit organizations that serve the Surrey community.

The Social Action Plan provides a real opportunity for the City of Surrey to be innovative and lead by working in partnership and with the community to create actions that are fair, equitable and achievable.