



Decoda Literacy Solutions is BC's provincial literacy organization. We provide resources, training, funds and support for community-based literacy programs and initiatives in over 400 communities across BC.

MISSION: We work to increase the literacy and learning skills of children and families, youth, adults, and seniors to improve their quality of life at home, at work and in the community.

VISION: A British Columbia where everyone has the literacy skills they need.

Message from the Board Chair and the Executive Director



Dr. Valerie Overgaard
Chair



Margaret Sutherland
Executive Director

This year, we reached an important milestone: 10 years as BC's provincial literacy organization! We celebrated our birthday with those who were with us at the beginning and those, who along the way, contributed to our success. It was a time to reflect on our achievements and a time to move forward on what we still wish to accomplish.

In January, community groups, libraries and schools across the province celebrated Family Literacy Week with the theme "Let's Be Active! Move * Play * Learn." The theme of our 8th Literacy Month in September was "Literacy connects us!" Thank you to all who participated and helped raise funds and awareness of community-based literacy programs.

Through online platforms, we kept the literacy network connected to each other and to professional development workshops, webinars and training sessions. And, we updated the *Literacy Outreach Coordination Guidebook*, a tool to strengthen the community literacy planning process.

As always, we are grateful to our government partners: BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs, BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada.

Working together for literacy, we see a bright future ahead.

Board and Staff

We expressed our gratitude to Anne Cooper for her leadership as Chair, and for continuing to serve on the Board. Dr. Valerie Overgaard was elected Chair and we welcomed Dr. Pat Campbell as a new director.

Decoda librarian Tina Chau retired, and three new staff members joined the team: Lea Edgar, Librarian; Trish Weatherall, Communications Specialist; Jade Chan, Training Specialist



Lea Edgar



Trish Weatherall



Jade Chan

Our Work

Literacy Outreach Coordination: We support a network of 100 Literacy Outreach Coordinators who work in over 400 BC communities. The numbers below show the activity throughout the network in the 2020-2021 program year:

- 1,885 community members worked on community literacy action plans
- 13,357 adults engaged in improving their reading, writing, technology and financial skills
- 16,058 adults engaged in their children's learning
- 31,094 children engaged in early literacy learning
- 20,106 school-aged children and youth engaged in improving their reading, writing and financial skills
- 5,534 seniors engaged in improving their reading, writing, technology and financial skills
- 49,238 people participated in literacy related workshops, seminars and events



A MESSAGE FROM
PREMIER JOHN HORGAN

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Decoda Literacy Solutions as you celebrate your 10th anniversary.

Anniversaries offer meaningful opportunities to reflect on your past achievements and successes while looking forward to a bright future. You can take pride in the crucial work Decoda has done over the past decade to ensure all children in BC have a solid foundation for life-long learning and people of all ages have the literacy skills they need to succeed. Offering access to literacy programs in over 400 communities, Decoda has improved the quality of life for so many in our province. It has also been wonderful to see the innovative ways Decoda has adapted to connect members of our community in these challenging times, including your invaluable contributions to make a safe Family Literacy Week possible through virtual events and resources.

I want to express my gratitude to everyone at Decoda Literacy Solutions for your hard work and determination in moving literacy forward in BC. Our government shares your commitment to building a better tomorrow where no one is left behind, and we could not do it without dedicated community partners like you.

Congratulations, again, on this milestone occasion. I wish you continued growth and success for many years to come!

John J. Horgan
HONOURABLE JOHN HORGAN
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Literacy connects us at home, at work and in the community

Happy Birthday, Decoda! Congratulations on an incredibly productive decade! Thank you for all your support and leadership over the years. We're proud to be part of an amazing network that you've played such an important role in developing. We look forward to the next 10 years!

– Lori Campbell, Executive Director, Bella Coala Valley Learning Society

Working together for literacy

Decoda provides valuable services to the literacy network and the community at large.

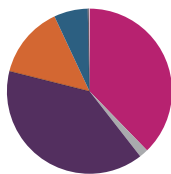
- Fostering Literacy supports children (in particular, those in care) who struggle with reading by providing one-to-one sessions with trained tutors in 15 communities.
- Immigrant Parents as Literacy Supporters (IPALS) is a play-based, bilingual family literacy program that helps immigrant and refugee families prepare their children for school in Canada in 16 communities.
- The Westcoast Reader is a newspaper and online resource for learners of all ages, with a print distribution of over 12,000 copies per month in addition to digital access for subscribers.
- Displaced Workers is a research project with Essential Skills Development Canada designed to identify supports for workers who have been displaced to improve their employability.
- Decoda provides BC's 94 Community Adult Literacy Programs (CALP) with training, resources and support.
- The Decoda Literacy Library has over 6,000 literacy resources free to borrow anywhere in BC.



Financials

Revenue

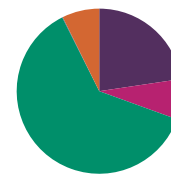
● Province of British Columbia	\$2,808,585
● Federal Government	\$1,004,637
● Program Services	\$471,539
● Donations and Fundraising	\$13,056
○ Interest and other revenue	\$11,556



\$4,309,373

Expenses

● Adults Program	\$964,302
● Children and Families Program	\$335,693
● Community Program	\$2,642,349
● Fundraising	\$4,558
● General Office	\$310,955



\$4,257,857

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Dr. Ralf St. Clair
Diana Twiss

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