



Annual Report
2018-2019

Decoda
LITERACY SOLUTIONS

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.



Literacy programs support children, youth, adults and seniors.



Message from the Board Chair and the Executive Director

We are proud of what we accomplished this year, thanks to our supporters and partners. Decoda embraced a train-the-trainer approach to family literacy practice and embarked on a three-year research project with the federal government to learn more about supporting displaced workers in Canada. Through Family Literacy Week in January and Literacy Month in September, we elevated the importance literacy plays in our communities.

Every day, we hear stories from the field about learners achieving what they never dreamed possible. We are honoured to support the work of literacy practitioners, who touch so many lives across BC.

This is just a snapshot of what you have helped make possible. As always, we are grateful to our government partners: BC Ministry of Education; BC Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training; Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada; and Employment and Social Development Canada. Finally, thank you to our volunteer Board of Directors and the Decoda staff team for holding steady the vision of a BC where everyone has the literacy skills they need.



Anne Cooper, Chair



Margaret Sutherland, Executive Director

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 2018-19 program year:

- 2,138 community members worked on community-based literacy action plans
- 16,619 adults engaged in improving their reading, writing, technology and financial skills
- 26,702 adults engaged in their children's learning
- 34,731 children engaged in early literacy learning
- 29,252 school-aged children and youth engaged in improving their reading, writing and financial skills
- 5,047 seniors engaged in improving their reading, writing, technology and financial skills
- 73,579 people participated in literacy related workshops, seminars and events

Board and Staff

Dr. Ralf St. Clair, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Victoria, joined the Board of Directors.



We welcomed Marci Bulloch, Heather Deal and Natasha Loh to our staff team. We said farewell and thank you to Carolyn Moi and Nicole Davies.

Kudos Decoda Staff Team for another great year!



Training and Support

Decoda provides training for literacy practitioners:

- 18 family literacy trainers
- 10 BC regions
- 190 family literacy practitioners
- 16 training webinars
- 125 webinar participants

Just wanted to say THANK YOU so very much for putting on such a fabulous workshop! I have been to a lot of workshops and yours by far was one of the best! I came away feeling supported, equipped and inspired!

— Mitra Evans, LOC Westshore



The Westcoast Reader has a new website!



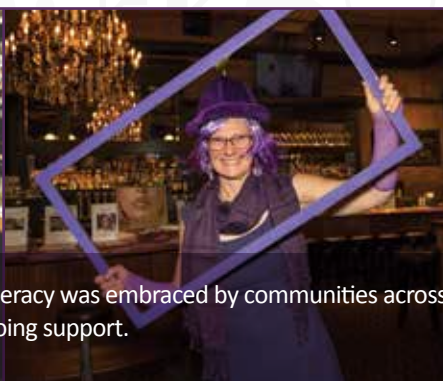
Decoda Literacy is proud to publish *The Westcoast Reader*, a useful resource for learners of all ages. Our new website offers many enhanced features. Check it out at thewestcoastreader.com.



Programs and Services

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

- The Decoda Literacy Library is a free-of-charge service with more than 5,000 resources on adult literacy, youth literacy, family literacy, early learning, non-profit management and financial literacy.
- Fostering Literacy is a program that serves children (in particular, those in foster care) who struggle with reading. Trained volunteers and high school students provide one-to-one tutoring to over 200 children in 14 communities.
- Immigrant Parents as Literacy Supporters (IPALS) welcomes immigrant and refugee families by providing a play-based, bilingual family literacy program that helps prepare children for school in Canada.



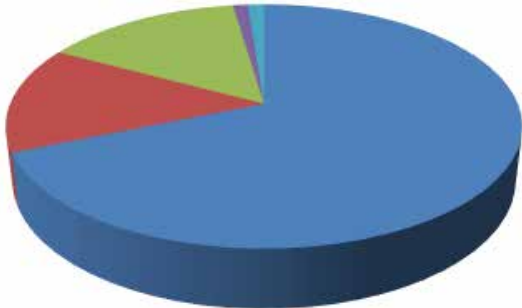
September is Literacy Month! #PutOnYourPurple for literacy was embraced by communities across BC. Thank you CBC Vancouver, Exclusive Broadcast Media sponsor, and Blue Sky Clothing Co. for your ongoing support.

Financials

Revenue

Province of British Columbia	\$2,800,811
Federal Government	\$576,543
Program services	\$604,104
Donations and fundraising	\$45,674
Interest and other revenue	\$48,773

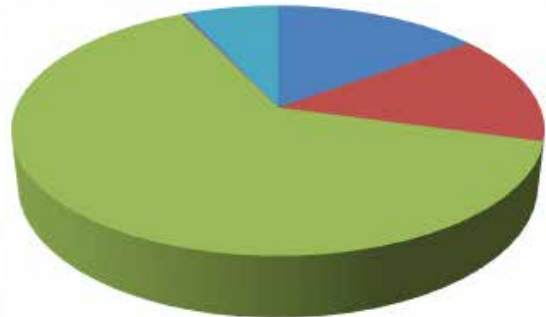
\$4,075,905



Expenses

Adults program	\$600,707
Children and families program	\$576,740
Community program	\$2,558,588
Fundraising	\$9,865
General office	\$272,077

\$4,017,977



Thank You to Our Supporters

Partners

BC Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
BC Ministry of Education
Camosun College
Employment and Social Development Canada
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Lift Philanthropy Partners' Society
Postmedia Raise-a-Reader Campaign

Literacy Month

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Bosa Family Foundation

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