

The Rare Bird

Church Library Association of British Columbia Newsletter



April 19 & 20, 2013
St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church
Duncan, BC

Come to CLABC's 41st annual conference for workshops, speakers, vendors and church librarians and be informed and inspired. And prepare!

Make up a list of questions you need answered and challenges you face. Box up material for the Exchange. Pack a camera, and a bag to bring home your goodies.

In this issue

Council contacts	2
Chapter news	2
CLABC and you	3
Conference Information	4
Collection development	5
Book reviews	6
Resources	7
Serving Seniors part 2	8
Calendar	9
Membership form	10

Notes from the President

February---the month of hugs, hearts, gifts etc---all expressions of LOVE! In our church library the books on that subject all have small red hearts on the spines and they go out on special display for that month. However, love is so much bigger than Valentines all through the year. It is because of God's perfect and sacrificial love for us that we are in a church ministry that helps folk to grow deeper into that love.

I have just returned from holiday and all around us was evidence of that love -- in the beauty of nature -- flowers, shells, no two alike, waves, etc-- the kindness of staff at the resort, families interacting, and an amazing church family expressing God's love to strangers.

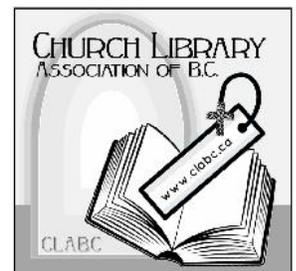
Our CLABC conferences always strengthen our faith and love for each other as well as motivating us to make our library ministries a greater source of God's love and strength for the congregation. Our logo says, "Each One Reach One – Widen the Circle". I pray that we will all make an effort to do that and enrich our very worthwhile organization.

~June Wynne, President



New logo for CLABC

Kathy Yeo, our Chair of Promotions, has been hard at work over the last year, arranging this and other key items she and Council had identified for a two year plan. Wendy Moe, who had designed the wonderful logo used for last year's Conference, is the creative genius. She produced several versions which were presented to Council before the final version was agreed on. The Logo now graces the revised membership brochure and a variation is on our Facebook page.



Kathy's two-year term ends next month and she hopes to pass the mantle on to someone else. Please prayerfully consider it.

CLABC Contacts

Council officers

President	June Wynne
V-P/ Pres-elect	<i>To be appointed</i>
Secretary	Wynanda Polman
Treasurer	Keren Ferguson
Membership	Marg Conn 250-954-1244 muggins46(at)shaw.ca
Archivist/Historian	Marianne Lazaro
Newsletter Editor	Louise Booth 250-472-3546 staidans.library(at)gmail.com
Promotions	Kathy Yeo
Services	Louise Booth

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**Contact information for  
Council and Chapter Officers  
is in your membership list, or  
[clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com)**

### Chapter officers

**North Shore Chapter**  
Linda Baxter  
[604-990-0507](tel:604-990-0507)  
[clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com)

**Vancouver Island North Chapter**  
Joan Palmer  
250-287-4864

**Victoria Chapter**  
Louise Booth  
250-472-3546

## Chapter News and Notes

### NORTH SHORE CHAPTER

Long-time Chapter Chair Linda Baxter has stepped down after many years of dedicated service. The Chapter plans to hold a meeting sometime after Conference. Contact Winnie Bradford or Donna Simon for further information (see your membership list).

### VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH CHAPTER

The next meeting will be held on Sat. March 16 at Knox United Church in Parksville, starting at 10:30 am. Bring a bag lunch, books for the Exchange, and the names and reports of any good books you can share. Also on the table for discussion will be the upcoming Conference, at which member Marg Conn will be presenting a workshop. Contact Joan Palmer for any other details.

### VICTORIA CHAPTER

Louise and June have been working hard laying the groundwork for the upcoming conference in Duncan in April. The next step is to work with the Chapter members to divide up responsibilities at the Conference. The next Chapter meeting will be Sat March 16, time and location to be determined. Contact Louise [staidans.library\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:staidans.library(at)gmail.com) for details.

### RICHMOND INTEREST GROUP (not a chapter)

The next meeting will be on Saturday March 9th. We've had two round-table meetings with church librarians from Richmond and Vancouver. Delta members are also welcome. Please contact Kathy Yeo [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com) for more information.

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The Rare Bird (ISSN: 0380-2566) is published four times a year as a source of practical help in material selection, operation and promotion for church libraries. It is also a forum for exchange of news and ideas among Council, chapters, and individual members of CLABC.

Many thanks to Feb 2013 contributors: **Sue Benish, Shawn Brouwer, Marg Conn, Evelyn Kingston, Kathy Yeo**, and for permission to reprint from NCLA's website and CSLA's Chapter newsletters.

The CLABC Newsletter supports the moral and legal right of authors, artists and creators to benefit from their work by making all reasonable efforts to abide by copyright law, and encourages others to do so.

For information about the Newsletter, contact Editor **Louise Booth** at 250-472-3546 or [staidans.library\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:staidans.library(at)gmail.com)



CLABC

needs

you!

Your Church Library association gives you resources and connections with other church librarians and ideas. Now is the time to think about what you can give back, what you can share of your time and talents. Your Council needs you. We are blessed to have most of the current Council continuing in their roles for another 2-year term.

Our current Archivist/Historian has received offers of assistance scanning the archives, and has decided to stay on to oversee the process. Where we still need people to step up and help are in the positions of **Vice President**, **Promotions Chair** and **Services Chair**. Each of these positions is described in the Bylaws (on the website on the Membership page) or on last November's Rare Bird Newsletter.

Each position would entail attending 4 Council meetings a year, alternating between the Mainland and Vancouver Island. You would not be alone, and would not be expected to know everything before you start. You'd be working with others who stand ready to teach you the ropes. All you need to bring is enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and to share your ideas, to listen, and to work with others. Think about it, pray for guidance, and then contact us on our email [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca@gmail.com).

Membership?

Why should I join CLABC?

Membership entitles you to vote, hold office and serve on committees. A copy of the Rare Bird, the CLABC newsletter is sent to you by mail, e-mail or access granted to the website version. Support is provided by the Chapters to beginning, developing and experienced librarians and their libraries. Registration fees for the Annual Conference are subsidized.

Your membership fees (we are non-profit and have no other source of income) go towards maintaining our Archives, Chapter rebates, Council meeting ferry expenses, CSLA membership, Membership brochures and lists, Newsletter printing and distribution, postage, Promotion, Website maintenance and security, and CSLA guides for Services. Chapter rebates are used to provide support at the local level, for example, some provide resource libraries for local members. All of this is done by volunteers on your behalf. What a deal!

~ Kathy Yeo & Marg Conn

The Congregational Librarian's Psalm,

From the Book of Melvil,

A non-canonical Book of the Old Testament

The congregational librarian is the shepherd of our books.

For what we pay, we have no right to want.
He maketh us desire to lie down and read.
She leadeth us beside the still reference section.
Yea, though we walk through the valley of
information blizzard,
We will fear no evil clutter.
Thy decimal system and thy subject headings,
they comfort us.
Thou restoreth our library, and putterest away in
it for the Lord's sake.
Thou preparest our books before us in the
presence of kibitzers and committees.
Thou annointest our card pockets with glue;
Our shelves runneth over.
Surely order and retrievability will follow us all
the days of our lives,
And we will dwell in the house of Melvil
whenever we can find the time.

Translated from the library-speak Ur-text by Steven Olderr, MA, MLS, 2001. Reprinted with permission from CSLA's Northeastern Ohio Chapter Newsletter Mar 2012.

CLABC CONFERENCE 2013



"Widen the circle -- Each one, reach one" is the theme for our 42nd annual conference to be held on Friday April 19th and Saturday April 20th at St. Andrew's

Presbyterian Church in Duncan. By popular request, we will start with a Friday night social especially for out-of-towners. Come and connect to get to know us. Take a tour of the church library (and possibly another in town). There are a couple of motels so stay over one or two nights. This year, some billets are also available. Conferences alternate between the Mainland and Vancouver Island so invite others to come with you and explore our beautiful Island while you're at it.

Keynote Speaker

We are excited that award-winning and much requested author Mark Buchanan has agreed to be our key-note speaker. He is a pastor, teacher, and father of three who lives with his wife, Cheryl, on Vancouver Island. Educated at the University of BC and Regent College, his work has been published in numerous periodicals, including *Christianity Today*. He is the author of seven books, the most recent of which is *Your church is too safe*. His books have been commended by other well known authors like Philip Yancey who wrote, "Mark Buchanan's writing always leaves me moved, stimulated and convicted. I find myself mulling it over days later and wishing for more." Mark's books will be on sale after his talk. You are invited to bring your Christian education chair and/or members of your Library Team to hear Mark Buchanan.

Workshops

This is professional development and encouragement for our church library ministry. Contrary to what you hear in the secular world, there will always be a place for church libraries and Christian books. Workshop leaders will help

us with useful tips, and there will be something for new as well as experienced librarians. In the morning there will be a choice of workshops on promotion, led by Marg Conn, Knox United librarian, or on starting or re-starting a library, led by Kathy Yeo, library consultant for beginning libraries and Louise Booth, St. Aidan's librarian. In the afternoon Past President, Winnie Bradford will share her wisdom and experience on getting volunteers. The Conference will also include an exploration of the CLABC website and some handy online resources.

Lunch is included, catered by St. Andrew's and we will also have more bookstores so come with your money and bags to carry away what you've bought. Co-conveners June Wynne and Louise Booth from the Victoria Chapter, assisted by the Library Committee of St. Andrew's and by the Victoria Chapter of CLABC, have been working hard on this conference to help us grow as an association and personally as church librarians.

Special invitation!

Conference 2013 ends on Saturday afternoon, but the fellowship doesn't. CLABC members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian invite conference attendees to stay a second night in historic Duncan. St. Andrew's is delighted to welcome all to attend one of the Sunday services (9am or 10:30am), and join with them for a time of fellowship after.

Explore the area!

Duncan, the heart of the Cowichan Region, is rich in history and heritage. It can be found just off the Trans Canada Highway, about half-way between Victoria and Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. Dubbed the "City of Totems," Duncan has more than 80 First Nations carvings located throughout town, and is also home to the Quw'utsun' Cultural Centre (open only in the summer, unfortunately). Duncan is also known for great shopping and dining, the Saturday Farmer's Market, Aboriginal experiences, BC Forestry Discovery Centre, and its historic old-town quarter.

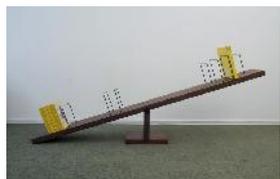


~ Kathy Yeo, CLABC Promotions Chair

The balancing act

by Shawn Brouwer

I spotted a recent blog posting entitled "[How to create a Church Library](#)" that covered the basics very well and linked to some interesting resources.



What I really appreciated from the author was the comment: "One librarian might have a hard time creating a balanced collection, so ask several church members of various interests to help create an acquisitions list."

That's a very good point. Balance, for the church library may not mean that you have every viewpoint on an issue represented, but it should mean that your collection represents the broad interests of the congregation within the limits of your library's mission.

Small church libraries can sometimes be one-man shows - (or, more often, one-woman shows.) Try as we might to be balanced and find good material for all of our church library users we have our preferences and prejudices. It's easy to keep selecting the familiar favourites of series fiction and genre authors. Even vendors help us stay in a rut with their "if you like this you'll like that" recommendations.

Asking for recommendations from well-read non-library users is a great way to diversify your collection - and attract new users. [Review sources](#) like [Christian Library Journal](#) or denominational magazines are another way to get fresh recommendations. How do you maintain balance in your collection?

<http://libraries-in-churches.blogspot.ca>

So many books!

Book selection isn't always easy. Just because another church library has a title that is wildly popular doesn't necessarily mean that it will circulate as well or be a fit in yours. I was at a

workshop a number of years ago where this was vividly illustrated. We were all asked to write down ingredients for our favourite recipe for chili. We didn't need to know how much of any ingredient, just the items that went in it. It turned out there were lots of differences, but there were key ingredients in common.

So it is with church libraries. The common denominator is spirituality, but everything else varies depending on your denomination, congregation, region, demographics, etc. With Chili it depends on where you live, what you've learned to like, what you consider healthy (vegetarian??), how adventurous you are, and so on. So don't expect your collection to be a cookie cutter version of someone else's library - the people who use your library are as different as your collection will be. Your readers may prefer fiction far more than non fiction - but in our congregation the adults borrowing books have consistently chosen non fiction far more frequently than fiction.

Our chili is currently mostly made up of biographies, social issues, science and religion, with Bible studies, prayer and spiritual growth, and a dash of families and ageing, served up with a side of fiction. What's yours made of?

~ Louise Booth



Most libraries begin with a pastor or church member who is an avid reader and who envisions a church library as a new ministry. The key to success is to integrate the library with other programs and ministries of the church to keep it from becoming just a room with books.

~ Sue Benish, NCLA



You're never too old, too wacky, too wild,
to pick up a book and read to a child.

~ Dr. Seuss





The following book is one of the books written by the keynote speaker for our upcoming conference:

Buchanan, Mark. *Your Church is too Safe: Why Following Christ Turns the World Upside-Down*. 2012. Zondervan 2012, 240 p, 9780310331230.

Mark Buchanan, a Baptist pastor from Canada, has written a clarion call to all Christians to wake up and see how our churches are often complacent safe places and not the powerful forces for change that God intended them to be. In a book filled with Biblical passages as well as personal stories, the author reminds readers of what the early church was like—a group of bold revolutionaries intent on changing the status quo and spreading the love of God. In a time of waning church membership, this is a challenge for churches to return to those early days, to be willing to take risks and to be bold in spreading the message of the Gospel. He believes congregations often spend so much time writing mission statements and visions for the future that they forget that they are already God's chosen, blessed and loved people who would better serve him by devoting themselves to teaching, fellowship, sacraments, worship and stewardship. Buchanan also stresses that the church should welcome sinners as Jesus did and not shun those who hold different values. "We find that as we walk in the power that was in Christ, we can touch unclean things and not only are we not tainted by them, we make unclean things clean." This book is not for timid souls happy and comfortable with things as they are, but for those Christians hungry to be a part of a church that is willing to take bolder action to spread God's word and love to the world. Rating: 4 —AL

From NCLA's "Libraries Alive" Fall 2012

The book to read is not the one which thinks for you, but the one which makes you think.

~James McCosh

Vujicic, Nick. *Life without Limits : Inspiration for a ridiculously good life*. Doubleday, 2010, 238 p. 9780307589736 (hc), 9780307589743 (pap), also available as a Kindle e-Book.

The first time you look at the cover you are drawn by the look of joy and enthusiasm on the author's face, and only later do you realize that he has no arms or legs – all you see is a vestigial foot. When Vujicic (pronounced Voy-a-chich) was born, his parents wondered what God had in mind in creating him, how could he have a future. Today he is an inspiring motivational speaker who can reach out with the message that everyone needs to find their life's purpose and that you can overcome what seem like impossible obstacles. He speaks frankly about his disabilities and the battles he had to overcome them as he was growing up. Yes, life knocks you down, but you can get up again – check him out on You Tube and see him literally do that. He and his parents are uniquely able to reach out to families of special needs children and show them that there are opportunities and possibilities for a full life. "I found happiness when I realized that as imperfect as I may be, I am the perfect Nick Vujicic. I am God's creation, designed according to His plan for me." This is a book to make you take a second look at your life and see what God might be trying to accomplish through you. My thanks to the newsletter of the the Australian Church Library Association for drawing this book to my attention.

~ Louise Booth

Mundy, Linus, *Being Sad When Someone Dies; a book about Grief*, a Just for Me Book. Illustrated by Anne FitzGerald. Abby Press, St Meinrad, IN, 2012. 978-0870295010

A book for grieving children, answering difficult questions about death and sadness with understanding and reassurance. It offers practical coping skill as well. The illustrations are delightful. (Other Just for Me Books e.g. "How to be a Friend")

~ Evelyn Kingston,
Roots & Wings Book Cooperative

Graham, Rochelle, and others, *Healing From the Heart; a Guide to Christian Healing for Individuals and Groups*. Woodlake/Wood Lake Publishing, Kelowna BC, 2008. 978-1551452944

In Christian scripture and literature there is a rich history of healing. This book traces this tradition of healing and the wonder of prayer. It contains meditation resources, healing services, and well-tested and practical hands-on healing methods. Many personal stories with evidence that support healing.

~ Evelyn Kingston

Williams, Di. *Labyrinth: Landscape of the Soul*. Wildgoose Publications, The Iona Community, 2011. 978-1849521857

This delicious book offers a unique insight into labyrinths in the UK and wider. It begins with the history, hints for walking a labyrinth, creating and leading your own walk. Filled with many beautiful photographs that illustrate and inspire us to slow down and “Be still and know that I am God”.

~ Evelyn Kingston

New Resources from CSLA

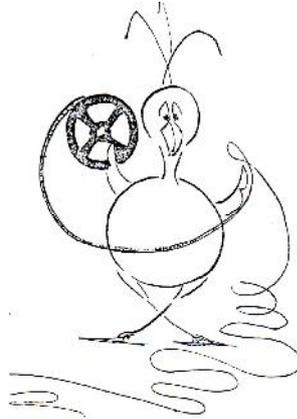
Helping those who hurt. 2013. An annotated bibliography by Susan Meghan Harper. The bibliography is for those who need material to help children and youth dealing with difficulties not of the ordinary kind. Dr. Harper gives an abundance of ideas in several media types to assist not only the hurting people, but material for those who help the hurting. In useful and to-the-point subject headings, this will be a wonderful resource for congregational librarians and their patrons. Such headings as addictions, adoptions and foster care, bullying, grief and loss, jail, hope, prayer and faith, are divided into two major sections, one for children and one for teens. There are also lists of valuable web sites.

Dr. Harper is an Associate Professor at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. She serves as the Coordinator of the Library School Program and currently teaches three courses in the area of

CLABC Newsletter The Rare Bird

Youth Services in the School of Library and Information Science.

NOTE: This is not yet listed on the CSLA Publications page <http://cslainfo.org/> – thanks go to the San Jose Bay Area Chapter newsletter for bringing it to our attention.



Resources for selecting movies

~ Graphics by Lifetime Member Jean MacKenzie, Featuring the original “Rare Bird”

Christian Spotlight on the Movies

<http://www.christiananswers.net/spotlight/>

Cinema in Focus (Methodist) “... we are primarily concerned about the social and spiritual values being presented [in a film]. Writing from a Christian worldview we appreciate viewpoints that are different from our own and may rate a film high simply because it causes us and other viewers to think about deeper issues, not because we agree with the values presented.”

<http://www.cinemainfocus.com/>

Movie Theology -- movie reviews and resources. It consists of links to movie review sites, movie theology blogs, Christian resources, and much more. <http://www.cmu.ca/library/faithfilm.html>

Spirituality and Practice -- Includes reviews of DVDs and annual lists of Best Spiritual Films.

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/films/>

~ These websites are taken from the National Church Library Association’s website. Although the Association closed its doors at the end of 2012, you can still access the resource links. Be sure to check them out at <http://churchlibraries.org/> before they disappear forever. They are a goldmine, covering a wide range of topics.

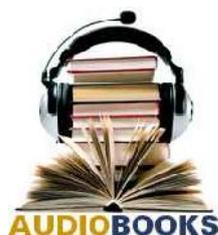
Serving Seniors, Part 2 of 3

One of the areas in which Seniors often have difficulty is the size of the print of books. Mind you, they aren't the only ones who are visually challenged! Three resources can be a great boon to them: Large Print, e-Books and audio books. While more and more titles are coming out in these formats, not everything is available – they might have to contact the publishers to give them a nudge. If someone you know is interested in books but wants or needs one of these formats, it's worth your while to do some checking to see what you can find for them. It's easiest if they are looking for a particular book or author – you can check online with the library or either Amazon or Chapters Indigo to see if the items are available in one of these formats.

Currently, e-Books, are cost-prohibitive for church libraries, but we can still keep our readers informed of good Christian books that are available electronically. Some may be in the public library, and can be borrowed on any e-Reader except a Kindle (only currently possible in the USA). Others may have to be bought.

Audio Books are another possibility, both in your library and through referrals to the Public Library. Tight budgets mean that you're going to be limited in what you can pick up, but you could possibly make an appeal to the congregation. Tell them why you want to build up the collection, and either provide a list of suggestions or ask for donations of money so you can purchase what you want. Ask someone computer savvy to help you search the internet, and to add copies of the CD covers to your list to add appeal. You might even tie in a drive to honour a mother or father, tied around Mother's or Father's Day.

Recently I listened to a free webinar hosted by Booklist www.booklistonline.com/webinars. Most of the webinars they offer aren't a fit with church libraries, but every once in a while there's one that is. This one featured representatives from a number of audio book companies, and of them all, Oasis Audio was the one most relevant, for they feature Christian and Inspirational titles. For their full catalogue, go to oasisaudio.com.



Audio Books suggestions

I looked at what has been borrowed by Seniors in our congregation, and here are some suggestions from Oasis and also from our church Seniors:

Fiction:

Geraldine Brooks – *People of the Book*
Wanda Brunstetter (many Amish novels)
Pearl Buck
Davis Bunn/Jeanette Oke
Jan Karon (Mitford series)
Jane Kirkpatrick
Beverly Lewis
Michael Neale – *The River*
Jodi Picoult – *My Sister's Keeper* and others
Lauraine Snelling
William Young – *The Shack*

Biographies:

Ayaan Hirsi Ali – *Infidel* and *Nomad*
Abuelaish, Izzeldin – *I Shall Not Hate*
Hilary Spurling – *Pearl Buck in China*
Miep Gies – *Anne Frank remembered*
Billy Graham – *Nearing home*
Alister McGrath – *C. S. Lewis – a life*

Understanding the World

Sandy Tolon – *The Lemon Tree*
Halima Bashir – *Tears from the Desert*

Spiritual Growth

Karen Armstrong – *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*

Science and Religion

Collins, Francis – *The Language of God*

Growing Older

Joan Chittister – *The Gift of Years*

And more suggestions from Oasis Audio

John MacArthur – *Twelve unlikely heroes: How God Commissioned Unexpected People in the Bible and What He Wants to Do with You*
Sara Young – *Jesus calling* (Devotions)
Tod Burpo – *Heaven is for real*
Gary Chapman – *The five love languages*
Bibles – *The Message* and *The Action Bible*

~Louise Booth



Check your Calendar Conferences

Church Library Association of BC

www.clabc.ca

2013 Conference

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Duncan, BC
April 19th 7pm – Apr 20th 3:30 pm
Keynote speaker: Pastor Mark Buchanan



Church and Synagogue Library Association

cslainfo.org

July 28th -30th
46th Annual CSLA Conference
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina



Church Library Association of Ontario

www.claa.ca

Sat. May 4 8:30 – 3:30
Calvary Pentecostal Assembly
Cambridge, Ont.



Pacific NW Association of Church Librarians

<http://pnacl.org/conference.htm>

Jul 12th, 2pm - July 13th, 5pm
Northwest Nazarene University
Nampa, Idaho
Theme: "Leaves of Grace"
Keynote speaker: Lauraine Snelling



Catholic Library Association

<http://www.cathla.org/>

April 2nd -4th
Houston, Texas



For more, check out

<http://churchlibrarians.ning.com/events>

Or 'google' church library conference 2013

Opportunities for displays and promotion

March:

Spiritual Wellness Month
Read an E-book Month

Feb 13 to Mar 30 ~ Lent

Mar 3-9 ~ Return the borrowed books week

March 8 ~ International Women's Day

March 20 ~ First day of Spring

March 21 ~ International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 22 ~ World water day

March 31 ~ Easter



April

Celebrate Diversity Month
Holy Humour Month

April 1 ~ International Children's Book Day

April 22 ~ Earth Day

April 21-27 National Volunteer Week

April 25 ~ Pay it Forward Day -- inspire acts of kindness

April 30 ~ May 6 Screen-Free Week -- turn off all screens and turn on to life!

May

Get Caught Reading Month

May 4-11 ~ Canadian Children's Book Week

May 5-11 ~ Hospice Palliative Care Week

May 12 ~ Mother's Day

May 15 ~ International Day of Families

May 12-18 ~ Reading is Fun Week

May 21-24 ~ Aboriginal Awareness Week

June

National Audio Book Month

June 15 ~ World Elder Abuse Day

June 20 ~ World Refugee Day

June 21 ~ Summer arrives



See you in Duncan at our Conference!

