

BOOKS FOR ME! LITERACY FOUNDATION  
ANNUAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 1, 2012 - AUGUST 31, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Ann Cummings (President)  
Ann Charlton (Vice President)  
Dana Hirst (Secretary)  
Karen Lo (Treasurer)  
Sheila Rozen (Director)  
Sharron (Shar) Levine (Director)

OPERATIONS

- Books for Me! programs were held during the year at:
  - Bob + Kay Ackles YMCA Neighbourhood House
  - Collingwood Neighbourhood House
  - Collingwood Neighbourhood School
  - Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House
  - Henderson Annex
  - Waverley Elementary
  - Queen Alexandra Elementary School
  
- As of August 31, 2013, 10,842 books have been distributed, representing an increase of 9,199 books over year end 2012.
- A total of 26 volunteers have been recruited and trained, plus Board Members. All program volunteers must pass a criminal record check.
- A Volunteer Appreciation Tea was held in May.
- A four page newsletter was produced for Summer 2013, and distributed in hard copy and electronically to volunteers and donors.
- Books for Me! was represented by Ms. Cummings and Ms. Rozen at the June 2013 Walking Read Fundraiser for Children's Hospital Foundation.
- Any books not currently at program locations are stored at Maple Leaf Storage on Quebec Street in Vancouver.
- Directors and Officers Liability Insurance is in place.
- The website is updated monthly.
- Through a partnership with CWILL BC (Children's Writers and Illustrators of BC) Books for Me! arranged a program that encourages CWILL BC members to give presentations at reduced rates to the schools that are currently part of the program.
- During the year, Tiffany Stone, Lee Edward Fodi and Sheri Radford gave presentations at Henderson Annex, Waverley Elementary and Queen Alexandra Elementary, respectively, under this program.

- A volunteer coordinator was recruited to begin in September 2013.

#### BOOK DONATIONS

- Book drives were held at many schools and organizations.
- Many individuals and families made donations of books.
- A number of children asked that donations of books be made in lieu of gifts for children's birthday parties.
- Book drives are planned for the coming year through schools, organizations and corporations.

#### FUNDING

- Revenues received during the year totalled \$9,855.98.
- The Society is registered with CanadaHelps.org. which allows it to accept online donations through the website.
- Many private donations have been received. Each donor receives a personalized letter or email of thanks along with a tax receipt, except where the donation is made anonymously through the website. Donor contact information is kept private and never shared outside Books for Me!
- BMO Capital Markets granted a request to fund the start up of two new schools in the coming year, Walter Moberly Elementary and Champlain Heights Elementary.
- The Taylor Taliesin Foundation made a grant of \$1200 through Canada Gives.
- A funding application was made to Canada Post Community Foundation and a \$900 grant was approved for the coming year to fund the start up of two new schools in January 2014.
- Books for Me! benefited from a "Whiskey and Chocolate" event held at Chocolate Arts in Vancouver in November 2012 which raised \$1,310.
- Board Member Shar Levine asked for donations to Books for Me! in lieu of birthday gifts from family and friends, resulting in a total of \$860.

#### EXPENSES

- Storage costs for the book collection remains the highest expense at approximately \$2600.
- Directors/Officers/Volunteers insurance is \$1,010.
- Costs for the cardboard boxes to store the books, clear plastic buckets for presentation of the books to children, bookplates, signage and criminal record checks for volunteers was approximately \$2000.
- Books for Me! has no paid staff.