

Children's librarian's career celebrated

By Deb Thomas.

Joyce Pinsker,
Children and Teen
Services
Coordinator for
Burnaby Public
Library for 20 years,
retired in February
after a long and
accomplished
career in children's
services. Joyce
began working as
a librarian for
Burnaby Public
Library in 1981.



Joyce Pinsker. Photo by Lisa Artuso.

Joyce was influential in promoting early literacy and diversity both in Burnaby and in the InterLINK library community. She was an active participant at the Burnaby Early Childhood Development Table and with the Burnaby School Aged Initiative, and the Literacy Now Burnaby Steering Committee.

She showed leadership in the regional public library community on the InterLINK Children's Services Committee, which she chaired in 2010. Joyce brought her knowledge and connections with the multicultural community to the larger InterLINK table and enabled the committee to complete the translation of essential library literature regarding children's services into several languages. In 2010, Joyce chaired a sub-committee to create and translate a brochure regarding the Children's Summer Reading Club into 39 languages. Upon request from the InterLINK Children's Services Committee, Joyce created a workshop in 2011 to introduce and facilitate access to the Embracing Diversity website for member Children's Librarians. She has been a mentor and a guide to many children's librarians, both at Burnaby Public Library and in other library systems.

She has been recognized for her contributions both in Burnaby and in the British Columbia library community:

- In 2010, Joyce was recognized by the Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table (BIPT) for her contribution and leadership in the development of Burnaby and New Westminster as Welcoming and Inclusive Communities. BIPT created "Profiles of a Welcoming and Inclusive Community" – photographs and profiles of individuals who have generously supported new residents to feel welcome and included. The photographs hang in the Bob Prittie Metrotown Branch of Burnaby Public Library.
- Joyce received the BCLA Achievement in Library Service Award in 2011 for her strong support of projects and initiatives that celebrated cultural diversity.

Among her successful projects were:

- "Embracing Diversity: Sharing our Songs and Rhyme" (www.embracingdiversity.bpl.bc.ca), video performances of children's songs and rhymes in 15 languages plus resources to support the use of this material, launched on February 21, 2011.
- Burnaby Public Library's "My First Language" kits (<http://bpl.bc.ca.nmsrv.com/kids/stories-in-world-languages/my-first-language-kits>) and the "Your First Language: A Precious Gift to Your Child" (<http://bpl.bc.ca.nmsrv.com/kids/newcomer-families/your-first-language>) parent handout that has been translated into 26 languages for inclusion in the "My First Language" kits.
- Burnaby Public Library's "Help Your Child Get Ready to Read" parent workshops (<http://bpl.bc.ca.nmsrv.com/kids/help-your-child-become-a-reader/workshops-to-help-your-child-get-ready-to-read>), which Joyce regularly leads.
- Burnaby Public Library's new website with improved pages for kids, teen and newcomer families. Joyce led the development of these pages and did most of the work on them herself.

Burnaby Public Library is proud of Joyce's many accomplishments and wishes her a well-deserved and enjoyable retirement.

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