

First Nations Interest Group: Annual Report: 2012-13

By Sarah Dupont.

This year, the FNIG has undergone a transition in leadership. The current executive wishes to thank Nancy Hannum and Gene Joseph for their many years of dedicated service and for mentoring the current executive. We are grateful for the time spent with us and thank them for their continued investment in this group! Thanks, also, to the other continuing members for their significant guidance and input.

In May 2012, a meeting was held at the Mount Pleasant branch of Vancouver Public Library where presentations were given about the history and roles of the FNIG and a new executive was elected. Beth Davies is the BCLA Liaison, Rachel Yaroshuk is the Secretary/Treasurer, and Sarah Dupont is the Convenor. We have held several meetings to discuss the vision and mission of the group as we move forward. A particular highlight was a field trip meeting to the Sto:lo Resource Centre. Thanks to Ashley Van Dijk for coordinating this visit! Other highlights

completed this year include finalizing our new vision and mission statements document, developing a new brochure, creating new fundraising materials for the Gene Joseph Scholarship, and presenting Heilsuk artist, Chester Lawson, with a thank you letter for his gift of the "Family Circle" piece to the FNIG as our logo and fundraising emblem. We send special thanks to Jessica Woolman for her excellent design work on our new fundraising products and marketing initiatives. We also coordinated a conference session to be given by Dr. Linc Kesler and Dr. Lisa Nathan at the 2013 BCLA Conference. The title of this presentation is "The Role of Libraries & Librarians in Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission."

In the coming year, we look forward to developing new content for our BCLA website pages, considering new province-wide initiatives, and continuing to fundraise for the Gene Joseph scholarship.