



## Designing a collaborative literacy alliance for Greater Victoria

### 2015 Strategic Plan Grant Application

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## The Challenge




- Thomas Edison – slow learner
- Albert Einstein – unsociable, lazy daydreamer
- Walt Disney, Winston Churchill - dyslexic
- Agatha Christie - the *slow one* in the family
  
- Who is being left behind in Victoria today?
- Can an efficient, collaborative approach prevent these losses in creativity and prosperity?




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


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- Imagine Greater Victoria as Canada's most literate region
- We are perfectly situated to be a model for the Nation
- BC has the highest literacy levels of all provinces
- Greater Victoria has the highest literacy level in BC
- Universities, colleges, museums and institutions
- An excellent K–12 education system
- Many volunteer and non-profit organizations take on pieces of the illiteracy / innumeracy challenge



## Current situation

- 40% of South VI adults are below Level 3 literacy and numeracy levels (OECD)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century jobs require good literacy skills
- Regional literacy-related support services are facing funding challenges
- Centred on the needs of people, the agencies need to deliver services together more effectively and efficiently; and as part of an integrated continuum with all contributors





## Our collaborative project

- Hosting a dialogue with the literacy community to understand needs, challenges and opportunities to achieve greater impacts by working together better
- Using a proven Challenge Dialogue process.
- Gathers direct insight into community needs to build a common vision



## Expected outcomes from the dialogue

1. More complete understanding of current state of literacy support system
2. Better understanding of what people need and want
3. Measurable outcomes we want to address are identified
4. Priority outcomes most critical over next 5-10 years – 2-3 flagship initiatives
5. Strategy, action plan and initial operating model for the “alliance” to move forward



## Contribution to City of Victoria's strategic objectives

- Innovate and lead
- Engage and empower the community
- Facilitate social inclusion and community wellness
- Nurture our arts, culture and learning capital

