

PRCVI / ARC-BC Program Report June 2012.

Enrollment — Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired

Currently 699 Students registered, of which 102 are Braille users. We serve 57 Teachers of the visually impaired in the Province.

PRCVI — Projects

1. PRCVI have been working over the year with our partners and stakeholders in a working group called Shared Vision BC. Our main focus for the year has been to improve the transition for pre-school students. We also wanted to make it more consistent around the province where practice varies. PRCVI re worked our referral form for Certificate of Eligibility into a two part process, Part 1 can be filled out on diagnosis and once we receive it a file can be opened, Part 2 is completed at school intake. PRCVI sent out a survey to all teachers of the visually impaired and administrators in the province to find out how the transition process varies, and results from that were presented to the CASE spring conference. PRCVI is now working on developing best practice guidelines for the transition.
2. PRCVI have re organized our website to make it easier to use and to find information, as part of the process we created a new learning centre page and divided that up into categories, including information on a number of eye conditions for reference. We have also developed the Board Authority Authorized (BAA) Courses on the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) and created a new web interface for them.
3. PRCVI has launched a new enterprise version of a web based corporate networking forum called Yammer which will replace our dated list serve - currently we have three networks, BC Vision Teachers, Transcribers and Orientation and Mobility instructors. Yammer has proved hugely popular, it is really encouraging great provincial collaboration and sharing of the BC educational vision community, already a number of special interest groups have splintered where people can post questions and information on specific topics such as Braille Note takers or children with multiple exceptionalities with a visual impairment.
4. Auditing our collection of assessment material and development of a document to compare kits by category, is available on PRCVI website
5. GPS project review underway, evaluation, questionnaire and relaunch in different form.

PRCVI Training

1. Training days for Transcribers and VI teachers in Corel Draw Macros, Braille 2000 and tactile diagrams and Omni page and Math type.
2. Student Activity Days (Joint SET-BC / PRCVI) — Independent Access to Print. Using Open book and Pearl camera
3. Freedom Scientific technology days, three around the Province

Braille support

1. We offer outreach training and support to individual Braille users in the province
2. We have 23 Education Assistants doing the Braille course
3. In January 2012 Program Manager attended a national Braille meeting designed to create a new entity by combining the Canadian Braille Authority (CBA) with Canadian Braille literacy foundation (CBLF) to create Braille Canada with the purpose to provide leadership and governance for braille in Canada. We developed a vision, mission and goals. In May 2012 PRCVI hosted major stakeholders from Canada and USA to discuss the implementation of Unified English Braille Code (UEB) and to begin work on a plan
4. PRCVI hosted an international UEB Braille summit May/June 2012

PRCVI CIRCULATION STATISTICS JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012 BY NUMBER OF TITLES									
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Braille and Print Book			4	16	21	3			44
Braille Commercially Produced	17	12	26	22	7	6			90
Braille Produced for PRCVI	49	52	44	23	10	9			187
Brailler	23	3	25	9	19	10			89
Calculator	2		4	3	6				15
CD Audio and Book Set									0
CD Audio Commercially Prod.				1					1
CD DAISY Digital Audio Format									0
Descriptive Video DVS									0
Equipment	2	2	19	21	20	2			66
Exams Braille	5		3	2	29	12			51
Game		6	17	1	14	14			52
Globe		1		2					3
ILL Items From Another Library	19	2	9	15	4	2			51
Kit	5	12	71	35	22				145
Kit - Short Loan - 60 Days	3	1	38	22	15	9			88
Large Print	409	47	152	132	59	12			811
Large Print Commercially Prod.	48	1	7	7	4	37			104
Long Loan Braille	8	10	10	4	6	42			80
Long Loan Large Print	1		2	2		2			7
Maps Geography Kits		3							3
Model	5		1	3	2				11
Professional Assessment Kits		1	2	4	3	1			11
Professional Audio Tapes									0
Professional A/V Materials									0
Professional Compact Disk			1	3	2	2			8
Professional Text		1	39	19	18	5			82
Professional Video or DVD		1	3	2					6
Student Reference Texts Braille	1	2	4	1	6				14
Student Reference Texts CD	1	1							2
Student Reference Texts LP	13		12	8	6	5			44
Student Reference Texts Tape									0
Tactile Supplement Etext on ARC	4	7	3		1				15
Tape and Book Set									0
Tape Rec Commercially Produced	1								1
Tape Player Recorder									0
Tri Vision Book			21	27	5	2			55
Tri Vision Kit				2					2
TOTAL LOANED EACH MONTH	616	165	517	386	279	175	0	0	2138

Enrollment — Accessible Resource Centre British Columbia (ARC-BC)

All BC school districts have now joined ARC-BC, we have 3,700 registered users

Right now in ARC-BC

Titles:	3729
Individual Files:	82522
Registered Users:	4028
Downloads:	313646

The ARC-BC annual report is available on the website

ARC-BC Version 3

We have launched the newest version of ARC —BC with some major changes, previously we were only able to track the number of users who download material for their students, however we now require users to register each student and include their Personal education Number (PEN) number, this makes tracking and reporting more efficient. ARC-BC is now almost five years old and we have also had to re write the informational materials and move them into our new Training Centre

ARC-BC Staffing

The ARC-BC team increased to include a facilitator and two production assistants. The facilitator works closely with the project leader and team on standards, introduction of new formats, we have introduced Pictello files, plans to also add Clicker 6 and Boarmaker

ARC-BC SET —BC and CRANE Library (UBC) joint project

Another exciting initiative that ARC-BC would like to share is that we have coupled with SET-BC on the Bella Colla Project. This project will focus on the conversion of 260 books featuring First Nations heritage and culture. As the books are uploaded into the repository they will be accessible to all school districts around the province. ARC-BC production staff will spend time producing the files in Kurzweil 3000 that offer text to speech to support student reading. ARC-BC is very pleased to be part of this project. Crane provided the human voice through donation of sound booths and volunteer readers

Chris Marshall — June 2012