

Advisory Committee discusses best practices

In an effort to provide a high quality video conference experience for your patrons, RISE has formed a **Video Conferencing Advisory Committee**. This committee is made up of the RISE Team (consultants and directors), as well as library staff, vendor representatives and experienced video conference programmers from external organizations. The Video Conference Advisory Committee will discuss and make recommendations on many aspects of the video conference service, including program development, promotion, registration procedures and technical usage best practices.

The committee has been divided into four sub-committees based on major themes identified during the first meeting. The sub-committees are:

- Content Development and Promotion
- Partnerships and Sustainability
- Technical Usage
- Evaluation and Long-term Planning

This committee was formed to ensure that a culture of video conferencing use is developed among library staff and managers. To help us deliver useful recommendations for best practices, we would like *your* input. If there is an aspect of the video conferencing service that you would like the committee to address, please contact your RISE consultant.



Training by request

The current RISE Coffee Break series that ran weekly from January—March has now concluded. But, the training doesn't stop here! Now we want to hear from you. If you would like training on specific aspects of video conferencing, let us know and we will schedule a session. Training can be arranged one-on-one or in groups on any of the previous coffee break topics or other topics by request. Contact your RISE Consultant to discuss your training needs.

Got an idea?

Do you have a program idea that you would like to share? An idea for collaboration with other libraries?

We can help. The RISE Team is always available to help with program planning and can help facilitate collaborations among libraries.

Talk to us!

Delia Municipal Library hosts Yukon writer

With the help of the RISE Network and the Delia Municipal Library, author Jessica Simon "went" to the library from her home in the Yukon in January 2010. After meeting Kathy Friendley (Delia book club member) on the Chilkoot Trail in the summer of 2009, Simon was asked to be a guest at the library to talk about her novel *From Ice to Ashes*.

Simon used *Movi* (the RISE Network's desktop solution) to connect to the library from her home computer. The experience was a positive one for book club members, library staff as well as the author herself. In an article written for Marigold Library System's newsletter, Simon writes about the experience:

We opened with a lively discussion about life and writing in the North, and I read new writing to the eight-member audience. The hour flew by in real time as natural as if I'd been in the room. After questions, instead of physically signing copies of From Ice to Ashes, Leah [Delia's library manager] distributed signed bookplates to commemorate the first no-fly author at-home at the Delia Library.

This experience really showcases the power of the technology - as Simon puts it, "book tours at the speed of light."

Yukon author Jessica Simon is "making book tours at the speed of light."



Living with change

Lethbridge Public Library and the Alzheimer Society are pleased to offer Part II of the Progressive Family Learning Series: "Living with Change: Caring for a Person with Alzheimer's Disease or Related Dementia." This four part series will be available at Lethbridge Public Library and by video conference at a number of RISE libraries.

These programs are for clients and families of the First Link Program, family caregivers, attendees & facilitators of Alzheimer Caregiver Support Groups and other interested persons.

If you or your patrons are interested in these programs, contact your RISE consultant.

Alzheimer Society
ALBERTA AND
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Patrons learn to thwart fraud artists

On March 25th, patrons in six southern Alberta libraries learned how to protect themselves and their retirement savings from fraud artists. In a session entitled "Investment Fraud: How to Protect Your Retirement," Lorinda Brinton, Senior Advisor for Investor Education with the Alberta Securities Commission shared tips on how to recognize and respond to common tactics used by scammers to separate people from their money.

The session, offered at noon and again at 7 PM, was part of a larger campaign for Fraud Prevention Month and was designed for those close to or in retirement. As the ASC is entrusted to provide all Albertans with the information they need to make informed investment decisions, using the RISE Network was a great way to reach the rural and senior demographic.

The program was well-received and Lorinda was pleased to report that one patron actually contacted the ASC the following day to ask an investment question.



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