



North Vancouver District  
Public Library

Connecting Community. Sharing Knowledge. Inspiring Stories.

# Inspiring Stories

May 2019

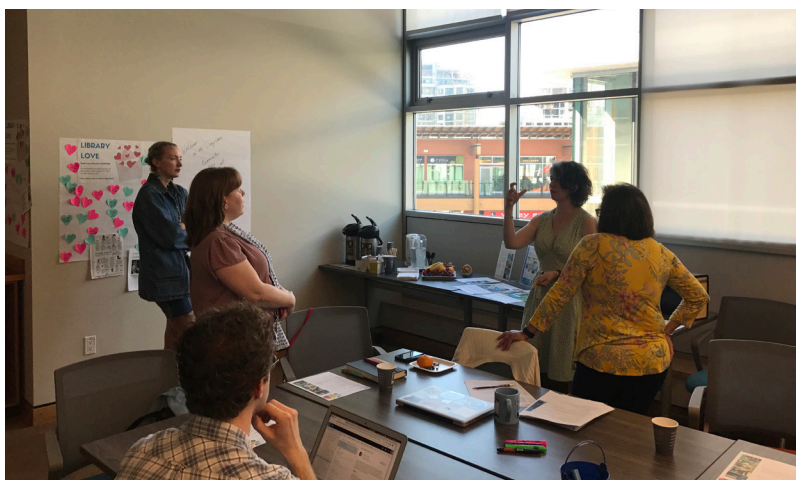
## Collaborating with our Community on StoryLab

At NVDPL, we're building on a culture of community collaboration. On May 23 and 24, the Library hosted a series of community outreach meetings about the design and development of StoryLab at NVDPL. In order for StoryLab to truly be a place where patrons can see themselves creating, it was important for us to connect with patrons, volunteers, and community partners to get their feedback on this new service. Over the course of two days, we welcomed faculty from Capilano U, local voice actor Tosca Hopkins, and current community partners like North Shore Community Resources, North Van Arts, North Shore Baha'i, North Shore Multicultural Society and the North Shore Inclusion Partnership. We also had potential partners attend from the North Shore Thingery, Vancouver Animation School, Kickstart Entertainment and Zen Maker Lab.

We asked questions like "Can you see yourself or your organization using StoryLab?", "How might we be able to partner together for programming in StoryLab?", "What problems do you see with StoryLab as it is currently proposed?", "What tools would you see as being important to have?", "What program times are most successful for you and what would you recommend for our service hours?", and more! These questions prompted fantastic discussions and we received a tremendous amount of useful feedback.

These community conversations were incredibly eye-opening for us, and really lit up our path with innovative new ideas as we seek out our first "50 great ideas" for StoryLab @ NVDPL 2019-2021. We had great discussions about what learning at the library looks like now and how it can evolve in the future. In particular, representatives from organizations with whom we are forming new relationships with challenged us with new ideas that pushed our boundaries on programming and generated rich feedback on the proposed StoryLab space. We are definitely taking it all in to consideration!

A StoryLab for everyone is developing, and we're grateful for being able to rely on key community stakeholders to help co-create a new offering for a wide variety of people from beginners to experts, children to adults, to newcomers, to entrepreneurs and more.



*Representatives from Capilano University, the Thingery, North Shore Baha'i hear about StoryLab from NVDPL's Maryann Kempthorne.*



*Staff from North Van Arts and Zen Maker Labs get a tour through the future home of StoryLab.*