

SHORT TALKS

Small Group Presentations

Grades K–1

Maximum group size: 65

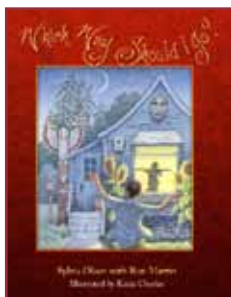
Duration: 25 minutes

♦ **Yetsa's Sweater**

How did the Coast Salish make wool and sweaters? How did Sylvia come to create this picture book?

♦ **Which Way Should I Go?**

Sylvia shares the history of this traditional Nuu-chah-nulth story about coping with difficult circumstances. Children will hear the original song that inspired the story.



WORKSHOPS

♦ **Just Ask Us**—Roundtable Discussion

Duration: varies. Max group size: 16.

♦ **Writing Workshops** (also available for adults)

Duration: varies Focus: varies

Maximum group size: 25, ages 14+

Note: Teachers are welcome to attend writing workshops providing they agree to take part in all writing exercises. No spectators!

♦ **Storytelling Workshops**— story creation and

delivery techniques. Encourages full participation by all participants. Workshops for adults also available. Duration: varies Focus: varies

Maximum group size: 25 Ages: 12+

LONG PRESENTATIONS

Assembly Presentations

Grades 4+

Maximum group size: 200

Duration: 60 minutes, includes Q&A

How Do Books Get Made?

Learn how an author's ideas are shaped, captured on the page, edited, and, eventually, turned into a book.

No Time to Say Goodbye

Learn why hearing the stories of First Nations people in residential schools made Sylvia determined to be a writer

Just Ask Us—Grades 8–12

For young mothers & First Nations communities—a discussion about teen pregnancy.

On Race and Community

Learn how living on a First Nation reserve impacted the life of a blond haired blue eyed girl.

“NOBODY HAS EVER REACHED THIS HARD-TO-REACH GROUP LIKE SYLVIA DID. SYLVIA WAS REAL AND THE STUDENTS GOT IT IMMEDIATELY.”

LINDA KENNEDY, LIBRARIAN
TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARIES
EAST MALVERN BRANCH

FEES

Fee Schedule—School Visits

January 2010–June 2011

Full Day: \$600.00 plus travel expenses

Includes a maximum of three 45–60 minute presentations, autographing session, and book sale.

Single Presentations for grades 4+
(45–60 minutes each)

\$300.00 plus travel expenses

Includes time for autographing, book sale

Single Presentations for K–1 (25 minutes)

\$150.00 plus travel expenses

Maximum group size: 2 classes

*Two short K–1 presentations count as a single long presentation when scheduling a full day program.

Please contact Sylvia to discuss fees for

workshops, keynote addresses,

and roundtable discussions. Don't forget to

inquire about Sylvia's storytelling presentations.

BOOKS



Counting on Hope, Sono Nis Press

Which Way Should I Go? Sono Nis Press

Yetsa's Sweater, Sono Nis Press

Catching Spring, Orca Book Publishers

The Girl With a Baby, Sono Nis Press

Just Ask Us, Sono Nis Press

Murphy and Mousetrap, Orca Book Publishers

Yellow Line (Soundings), Orca Book Publishers

No Time to Say Goodbye, Sono Nis Press

White Girl, Sono Nis Press

• WHICH WAY SHOULD I GO?

• "... [this] tale is conveyed with a sensitivity that adds beauty to [the] story..."

• *CM Magazine*

• YETSA'S SWEATER

• "... the story will have wide appeal..."

• *School Library Journal*

• WHITE GIRL

• "... resonates with a reality that comes from having lived the experience..."

• *CM Magazine*

• JUST ASK US

• "... a rich and revealing discussion..."

• *CM Magazine*



A FEW THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SYLVIA

"I love storytelling. I tell stories about the things I know, the people I meet, and the faces I see every day."

Sylvia was born and spent her childhood in Victoria, British Columbia. When she was seventeen years old she married a Coast Salish man and moved onto the Tsartlip Indian Reserve. She has lived there for more than 30 years.

Her experience of being a blond haired, blue-eyed girl in a community where everyone else was First Nations stimulated Sylvia's curiosity about how different sorts of people treat each other.

FACT: Sylvia gets up at 4 am and writes until 6:30 or 7:00 am

FICTION: Sylvia read a lot as a child.

FACT: Sylvia believes that by knowing other people we begin to know about ourselves.

FICTION: As a teenager, Sylvia dreamed of someday becoming a writer.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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SYLVIA OLSEN



SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS FOR ALL GRADES

TO BOOK A VISIT CONTACT:
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