

## News Release

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For immediate release

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### **Library Board adopts balanced 2012 operating budget**

The Board of Vancouver Island Regional Library has adopted a balanced operating budget of \$18,213,906 for 2012.

Under the Library Act, public libraries are required to adopt a balanced budget for the following year prior to December 31.

This year, the provincial government provided \$1,265,213—\$79,294 more than last year—which included grants for BC One Card and Literacy Equity that were expected to be eliminated after 2010. The government announced that it will require comprehensive reporting for the grants to meet provincial priorities, develop local capacities and ensure accountability. This fiscal year, BC government's budget for the public library sector is \$13,990,000.

Municipal and rural levies will contribute \$16,486,603 to the library budget, which includes increases to cover expenditures due to provincial minimum wage and pension rate adjustments, and expenditures for future new or expanded facilities.

In June of last year, the Board approved a 10-year plan to deal with the more than \$2.4 million in deferred maintenance issues of VIRL's 38 branch libraries identified in its consolidated facilities master plan. The plan calls for a 1.25% annual increase for future new or expanded facilities, as well as a 1% increase for maintenance, fixtures, furniture and equipment.

The remainder of budgeted revenues come from overdue and other fees, and investment income.

Budget expenditures include \$2,228,283 for purchase of library materials, up 3% over last year.

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**Strong Libraries ■ Strong Communities**

Bella Coola Bowser Campbell River Chemainus Comox Cortes Island Courtenay Cowichan Cowichan Lake Cumberland  
Gabriola Island Gold River Hornby Island Ladysmith Masset Nanaimo Harbourfront Nanaimo Wellington Parksville  
Port Alberni Port Alice Port Clements Port Hardy Port McNeill Port Renfrew Quadra Island Qualicum Beach Queen Charlotte  
Sandspit Sayward Sidney/North Saanich Sointula Sooke South Cowichan Tahsis Tofino Ucluelet Union Bay Woss