

News Release

Results of Request for Proposals (RFP) process for Cortes Island Library Branch

NANAIMO, September 18, 2012 – Members of the Board of Trustees for Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) voted at their September 15 Board meeting to enter into an intent to lease agreement with the Linnaea Farm Society for the operation of a library on Cortes Island. The “Roque Room” in the former Linnaea School is intended to be leased and operated as a library.

The lease agreement is subject to resolving any issues regarding floor loading, access for persons with disabilities, and legal use as a library.

“I know all residents of Cortes Island are as eager as the staff and Board of Vancouver Island Regional Library for a new library on Cortes Island,” says Ronna-Rae Leonard, Chair of the Board of Trustees for Vancouver Island Regional Library. “The Linnaea Farm Society will now seek the approval of the Strathcona Regional District to re-zone the land so a library can be established within the former Linnaea School.”

Members of the Board of Trustees for Vancouver Island Regional Library voted at their June 9, 2012 Board meeting to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) process for a space of 660 to 2750 square feet for a new library on Cortes Island. The purpose of the RFP process was to identify a long term solution for library services on Cortes Island as quickly as possible. The Linnaea Farm Society was the sole response received.

“We are pleased we have reached this stage in our journey to find library services on Cortes Island that are appealing, comfortable, inviting and safe,” says Ronna-Rae Leonard.

Now that the Board has entered into an intent to lease, next steps involve satisfying the conditions laid out above. Once that happens, plans will be made to convert the 1,359 sq. foot Roque Room into a library.

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