

News Release

Grand opening of Bella Coola Library Branch

NANAIMO, March 17, 2012 – The residents of Bella Coola on the central coast celebrated the grand opening of their new library today, Saturday, March 17th.

“The public library is a community gathering place and the centre of the community,” says Ronna-Rae Leonard, Chair of the Board of Trustees for Vancouver Island Regional Library. “I know everyone in Bella Coola has been waiting for this grand opening and I am sure they will be very proud of this beautiful new facility.”

This new branch in the Co-op building on MacKenzie Street is much larger than the former library and includes more books, CD’s and DVD’s, designated areas for quiet study and reading and warm and inviting spaces for children and for teens.

An electronic “commons” includes computer stations, a stand-alone catalogue station, an express check out station, and a photocopy machine.

“The public library is a community hub that provides everyone equal access to computers, technology, and online resources,” says Rosemary Bonanno, executive director, Vancouver Island Library. “At the same time, traditional library materials, services and programs are alive and well.”

The one room Bella Coola Library opened in 1981 with a collection of 4,000 books. In 2011 the collection stood at almost 10,000 items. 86% of the population served by the Bella Coola branch have a library card and over 25,000 items were borrowed last year.

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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