

For immediate release

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## **News Release**

### **New user friendly library catalogue is here.**

**NANAIMO, June 29, 2011:** The long awaited, improved online library catalogue is here.

Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) has recently introduced a user friendly catalogue with many new features.

Fiona Anderson, VIRL's director of library services, said that there were many requests from customers for an improved online catalogue.

"During last year's strategic planning process we consistently received feedback from our customers that they wanted to see improvements in our online catalogue system," Anderson said.

"Together with Toronto-based company BiblioCommons, we created a much improved catalogue with many useful features," she added.

The new catalogue is easy to browse, has improved search capabilities, displays cover art and staff pick pages, keeps track of items already borrowed, and incorporates social network features.

The site also allows users to build lists of items to be borrowed and add reviews, similar to features found on Amazon.com and Chapters.ca.

Anderson said that the site has been 'live' for several months, and many customers have already tried it out.

"We've received very positive responses to our new catalogue. Customers find it easy to use, and they really appreciate all the advanced features it offers. For those not yet ready to try the new catalogue, there's help available at all our branches," she said.

First time users will log in with their 14-digit library card and 4-digit code and set up their own username and user ID. After that they only require their username and ID.

Anderson said that the library is developing a new website and, once it is ready to be launched, the old catalogue will be replaced by the new one.

To try out the new catalogue, visit [www.virl.bc.ca](http://www.virl.bc.ca) and click 'New Catalogue'.

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