



Library Board Adopts Balanced 2016 Operating Budget

NANAIMO, September 19, 2015 – The Board of Trustees for Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) has adopted a balanced operating budget of \$33,062,045 for 2016.

Under the Library Act, public libraries are required to adopt a balanced budget each year.

Municipal and rural levies will contribute \$20,372,451 to the library budget, which represents an average increase of 3.66% or a per capita increase of \$1.68. The expenditures drive VIRL's strategic 10-year plan to financial sustainability and the continued appropriation of library services to the 39 communities it serves.

The focus of the 2016 budget is to assure that VIRL can continue to meet its service standards and maintain financial sustainability while achieving the Board's mission and vision. The 2016 - 2020 Financial Plan is a secure means to balance the needs and aspirations of the present, without compromising the future needs of our growing communities. The 2016 budget supports the Board's Strategic Plan, reinforces the principles of the Consolidated Facilities Master Plan, and provides systematic funding development as previously approved by the Board.

"It is our goal to balance the pressures of maintaining existing services and evolving business, in order to meet the expectations of our communities with available funding and resources," comments Steve Hurcombe, Acting Director of Finance, Vancouver Island Regional Library.

"The Board's commitment to financial sustainability and quality service delivery for our Regional Library participants is underscored in the 2016-2020 Financial Plan," says Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Chair, Bruce Jolliffe.

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

For more information about the 2016 – 2020 Financial Plan, visit us at virl.bc.ca/reports-and-plans. To watch a video about the budget and the 2016 – 2020 Financial Plan, [click here](#).

You can also view a [budget explained infographic here](#).

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Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) is the fifth-largest library system in British Columbia. We serve over 430,000 people on Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii, and Bella Coola on the Central Coast through 39 branch libraries, a virtual branch, and a books-by-mail service. VIRL's holdings number one million and include books, magazines, CDs and DVDs. Administrative offices are located in Nanaimo.

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