



**VANCOUVER ISLAND
REGIONAL LIBRARY**

News Release

Teen Tech Week Kicks Off on March 8-14th

NANAIMO, March 5, 2015 – Teen Tech Week 2015 starts on March 8th and teens everywhere are being invited to showcase their creativity and make, build, code, fix, write, knit, draw and design at their local library!

This year's theme, "**Libraries are for Making...**" encourages teens to use their library space as their canvas to developing their creations by providing a place to explore, be inspired, create and share content.

Participating branches of Vancouver Island Regional Library will be offering a host of resources for teens during Teen Tech Week, including:

- **Scavenger hunts** and contests (with Apple iTunes gift cards up for grabs)
- **Web video production** tutorial for aspiring athletes and web video producers
- **Design-your-own-smart-phone-case** workshop for teens to craft their own mobile phone cases

To learn more about Teen Tech Week, visit virl.bc.ca/teens. To see what your local branch has in store March 8-14th, visit virl.bc.ca/programs-and-events for a complete programs listing.

Teens can also check out our Tumblr blog that hosts content and links tailored specifically for young adult literature. Visit <http://virlibraryteens.tumblr.com> and look for reviews, events, graphic novels, pop culture links, and much more!

Teen Tech Week, supported by the American Libraries Association, is when libraries make the time to showcase all of the great digital resources and services that are available to help teens succeed in school and prepare for college and 21st century careers.

The week helps demonstrate the value the library gives to the community by offering teens a space to extend learning beyond the classroom. Libraries can tailor the making theme to connect in meaningful ways with teens in order to help them gain the digital literacy skills they need to be successful.

Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) is the fourth 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, CD's and DVD's. Administrative offices are located in Nanaimo.

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