

## News Release

### Next steps to provide library services on Cortes Island

NANAIMO, May 22, 2012 – Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) has been unsuccessful over the past eighteen months, with the Expression of Interest process for a new library on Cortes Island. The most recent proposal made by the Southern Cortes Community Association falls outside the scope of the original Expression of Interest which was for rentable space for the library. Vancouver Island Regional Library staff has not been authorized by the VIRL Board to negotiate outside the scope of the original Expression of Interest. Regretfully, negotiations with the Southern Cortes Community Association have therefore ceased.

“We will be recommending a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board at their June 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting,” said Rosemary Bonanno, Executive Director of Vancouver Island Regional Library. “This RFP process will allow the Board to make a decision consistent with sound procurement practices and will ensure a fair, open, and competitive process.”

The Request for Proposal process will identify a long term solution for library services on Cortes Island as quickly as possible. In the meantime, the search for, and work towards, a temporary location for library services continues.

Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) is the fourth largest library system in British Columbia. We serve over 417,000 people on Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii, and Bella Coola on the Central Coast through 38 branch libraries, a virtual branch, and a books by mail service. VIRL’s holdings number over 993,000 and include books, magazines, CD’s and DVD’s. Administrative offices are located in Nanaimo.

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