



**VANCOUVER ISLAND
REGIONAL LIBRARY**

News Release

Library Board adopts balanced 2014 operating budget

NANAIMO, October 2, 2013 – The Board of Vancouver Island Regional Library has adopted a balanced operating budget of \$23,038,586 for 2014.

Under the Library Act, public libraries are required to adopt a balanced budget for the following year prior to December 31.

Municipal and rural levies will contribute \$18,678,364 to the library budget, which represents an increase of 6.94% or an average per capita amount of \$2.89. This includes technology, facilities and maintenance expenditures. The expenditures drive the Vancouver Island Regional Library's strategic 10-year plan to financial sustainability and service level expectations to the 38 communities it serves.

In June of 2010, the Board approved a 10-year plan to deal with the more than \$2.4 million in deferred maintenance issues of VIRL's branch libraries. Now in year four, this year's budget both balances the redevelopment and maintenance of these branch facilities while investing in technology services that will offset the demands of bricks and mortar library locations in the future.

"We are balancing redevelopment and maintenance of facilities by taking advantage of new technologies. We are staying the course towards achieving sustainability by utilizing moderate budget increases to support long term plans," comments Adrian Maas, Director of Finance, Vancouver Island Regional Library.

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

"We're driven to provide the public with services that meets their expectations while operating within a balanced budget and we believe that we've accomplished this," says Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Chair, Bruce Jolliffe.

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 38 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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