

Board members recognized for service

The Board recognized Barry Avis (Qualicum Beach) and Tim McGonigle (Lake Cowichan) for their eight years of service on the Board of Vancouver Island Regional Library. Under legislation, members can only serve a maximum of eight years on the Board.

The Board also recognized 14 members who will not be returning in 2012, as follows:

- Marcia Turner (Comox)
- Ray Cadorette (Duncan)
- Bruce Whittington (Ladysmith)
- Bill Holdom (Nanaimo)
- Dave Haywood (North Cowichan)
- Gail Neely (Port Alice)
- Scott White (Port Hardy)
- Shelley Downey (Port McNeill)
- Gladys Noddin (Queen Charlotte)
- Debbie Coates (Sayward)
- Jeannette Hughes (Sidney)
- Ron Dumont (Sooke)
- Martin Davis (Tahsis)
- Rose Zilliken (Tofino)

Sooke Library Manager introduced

Adrienne Wass, the new library manager of the Sooke branch was introduced to the Board. She has been working at the branch as a customer service librarian since May 2011 and was previously employed at the Greater Victoria Public Library, Legislative Library of British Columbia, University of Western Ontario, and Winnipeg Public Library. She received her MLIS degree from the University of Western Ontario in 2002.

I ♥ my library teen video contest winners honoured

Jamie Ruddick and Josh Richardson, from Nanaimo, and David Krisner, from Comox—first prize winners in the ‘I Love My Library’ teen video contest Age 16-18 and Age 13-15 categories, respectively—were honoured by Board members and awarded a certificate of recognition and \$500 each. The teens were praised for their creative talent and technical abilities. Winning entries for both age groups can be viewed on the VIRL web-site at <http://virl.bc.ca/news/teen-video-contest-winners>.

Funding for children's literacy initiatives

For the 2010/11 budget year, VIRL received a \$46,324 Ministry of Education Literacy/Equity Grant from PLSB, a \$15,000 Times Colonist Raise-a-Reader grant, and a number of one-time grants from various local groups that helped provide financial support to develop Literacy Kit materials, computers loaded with educational software for children, and Kindergarten Readiness Kits.

Facilities update

Facility development is guided by the Consolidated Facilities Master Plan, approved by the Board in June 2010. A long-term funding plan was approved by the Board in November 2010.

Bella Coola: The current landlord has issued a notice of eviction, effective November 30, which will result in a temporary closure of the branch. Saturday, November 26, was the last day of service in that location. Meanwhile, the lease with the Bella Coola Valley Co-op has been finalized and work is underway to renovate the space to house the branch. Tender documents have been issued for furniture and fixtures. Service in the new location is expected to resume early in the new year.

Cumberland: Development of the new branch has been delayed due to a legal dispute between the landowner and a third party.

Lake Cowichan: Donations of building materials are being solicited to help offset costs. Tender documents are being prepared, and the development permit and development variance permit for parking have been submitted to the Town of Lake Cowichan.

Nanaimo North: Design work continues to evolve; the development permit application will be the next significant step.

Quadra Island: VIRL has taken possession of the premises in Quathiaski Cove. The landlord is completing leasehold improvements, and tender documents for furnishings and shelving have been issued.

Sooke: Sooke will be the first branch to fall under the revised facilities policy for new or expanded branches. A joint public consultation will be scheduled for community input and, upon completion, a request for proposals will be developed and issued.

2012 Board meeting dates

- January 28 – Annual General Meeting
- March 31
- June 9
- September 15
- November 24