

# from the Board Table

## Intro

On May 28th, the Vancouver Island Regional Library [Board of Trustees](#) convened for their second regular meeting of the year. The Board received a finance report and updates on the development of facilities for the quarter. As a part of this update, the Board received exciting news from Trustee and Councillor for the District of Sooke, Kerrie Reay, who shared that the District had found land for the purposes of a new library in the community of Sooke. In addition, the Board approved the final iteration of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan which will be launching later this year. Staff shared a presentation to the Board, which was given at the annual British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) conference on VIRL's methods of planning and deploying children's programs and services that incorporates research and current early literacy methodologies. The Board also approved the [2015 Annual Report](#) which featured key highlights and accomplishments from the previous year.

## Award-Winning Programs



On May 4th, two VIRL programs [received honours](#) from the American Library Association (ALA), taking home the Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects award. The two awards - of an available five by the Association - went to the Librarians on the Radio program and the Nanaimo Correctional Centre Book Club program. To learn more about these award-winning programs, visit us at [virl.bc.ca](http://virl.bc.ca).



*As active advocates of early children's literacy, VIRL staff presented at the annual BCLA conference in 2016.*

# Finance Report

“The financial position of the Library is healthy and regular replacement of our base materials puts VIRL in a relatively good stance for the future.”

**Balance Sheet:** At the end of April the balance sheet shows a reasonable balance of cash and investments, totaling approximately \$5.6 million and reflecting the fact that we continue to have reserves as well as sufficient operational funds. Member levies are billed quarterly, but recognized monthly. Accounts receivable consists mainly of levies due from member municipalities and regional districts, and a small amount of GST rebates receivable. The refundable deposits related to Nanaimo North for landscaping have now been received. The current year position shown in the surplus/ equity section is acceptable with approximately \$10.1 million in surplus and equity in assets at the end of April. Fixed Assets totaled \$26.1 million with approximately \$17.6 million of our \$43.8 million in assets having been amortized. At the end of April an amount of \$16.5 million of long term debt, used to fund the purchase of fixed assets, was outstanding. Fixed assets are recorded at cost and amortized over their remaining life. The cost to replace those assets will be significantly above the original cost due to inflation. Long term plans need to provide funding for these replacements. We are now in year six of a ten-year funding requirement.

**In summary:** The financial position of the Library is healthy and regular replacement of our base materials puts VIRL in a relatively good stance for the future.

# Finance Report cont.

**Revenue and Expenditures:** As at the end of April the net current position was a positive \$41,152. Expenditures are currently in line with expectations, with the positive net financial position being largely due to timing factors, including:

- Provincial Per Capita Funding for the year was received at the end of March and recorded as revenue at that time;
- Expenditures that are incurred at the beginning of each year, including computer costs, insurance costs and materials acquisitions reflect as higher in the first half of the year;
- Repairs, maintenance and equipment replacement costs are lower in the first half of the year due to the timing of construction and renovation projects.

**In summary:** VIRL's finances indicate that results are in line with expectations.

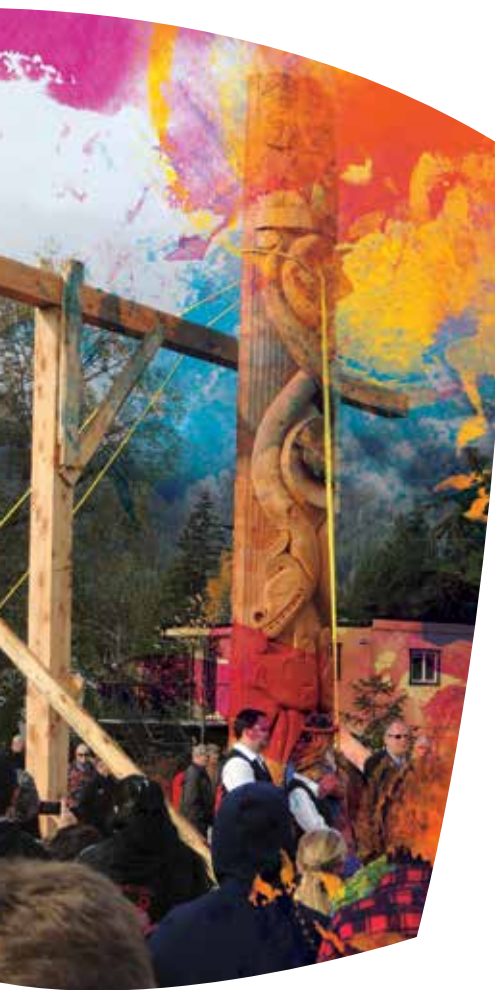
**Reserves Report:** At the end of April reserve balances stood at \$5.0 million. Of this the most significant is the Reserve for Outfitting New & Expanded Facilities, with a balance of approximately \$3.1 million. Other reserves include funds that have been set aside for Furnishings & Equipment, Vehicle Replacement, System and Network Replacement, the Integrated Library System Replacement, Sick Time, and Long Term Maintenance.

**In summary:** Reserves are as anticipated for the quarter and in-line with supporting 2016 initiatives.

*Mobile Media Kits at the Creativity Commons, Nanaimo Harbourfront Branch*



# Facilities Updates



*Raising the totem pole at the Cowichan Lake branch*

## Sooke

The District of Sooke [announced on May 28th](#) that land is confirmed for a new 10,000 - 12,000 sq. ft. library near the town centre and that planning is underway. The public will soon be invited to a public consultation session to provide feedback and receive information about their new branch.

## Chemainus

A site has been selected and work is being conducted to ensure the land meets all environmental standards. The planning process will commence shortly and a public consultation session is being arranged for the near future.

## Tahsis

A suitable space was found in the local school to house the Tahsis branch. VIRL staff are working with the Village towards the next steps in the planning process.

## Tofino

A feasibility study has been conducted and pre-planning is being considered. VIRL staff have made a presentation to Council regarding the Board's Facility Policy & Funding.

## Nanaimo Wellington

Following a recent [public open house held on April 14th](#), customer feedback has been incorporated in the planning process and construction of the new facility at the nearby Country Club Centre has begun. The new facility is expected to open in 2017.



# Facilities Updates cont.



*A celebration at the Cumberland branch*

## Sidney/North Saanich

VIRL staff have reviewed a stand-alone location for a new North Saanich branch at the Panorama Recreational Centre. Following the results of a joint public consultation session, the District of North Saanich is pursuing further feedback from the community. VIRL is in dialogue with both Sidney and North Saanich with respect to facilities for both jurisdictions.

## Hornby Island

The branch will be undergoing refurbishment in 2016 with the branch expected to reopen in the fall of 2016. A temporary location will be provided during the refurbishment.

## Masset

Discussions regarding a new library are underway with Masset seeking to identify viable land for the project.

## Port Hardy

The doors to the newly refurbished branch were opened in April 2016 to the delight of the community. The branch is now celebrating its reopening with an open house scheduled for June 11th at 1:00pm. The celebrations will include children's entertainment, music and a ribbon cutting, and is open to the entire community.



# General Updates

**Strategic Plan (2016 - 2020) Update:** The [Strategic Plan](#) provides the catalyst that brings the public, the Board and staff together in the development of a common vision, direction and goal. Following a series of [community consultation sessions](#) that took place in every member jurisdiction, as well as an online [public survey](#) distributed at every service location, a final plan has been developed. On May 28th, the Board of Trustees approved the plan. The Board and staff look forward to launching the Strategic Plan to all of VIRL's 39 communities this summer!

**2017 Budget Assumptions:** While the first draft of the budget is still being prepared for presentation to the Executive Committee in July, budget assumptions for the coming year are presented as a high level summary for information and to garner feedback. In 2010, the Board adopted a Facilities Plan which maintains a regular 2.25% increase in previous years' levies to accommodate for deferred maintenance and repair of VIRL's 39 branches. The 2017 budget will be presented at the September 2016 Board meeting for review and approval.

**BCGEU Negotiations Update:** On May 28th, VIRL Board of Trustees approved a 5-year collective agreement between BCGEU (British Columbia Government and Service Employees' Union) and VIRL. BCGEU members ratified the agreement on May 18th. Negotiations with both parties moved quickly and without issue, with both parties agreeing to mutually beneficial terms.



Read more: [virl.bc.ca](http://virl.bc.ca)

# Highlights

## Awards and Achievements

VIRL is home to award-winning, exceptional staff!

- Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer 2016 Award: Wayne Hartley
- ALA (American Library Association) Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects: Justin Unrau (and team) and Jennifer Seper
- BCLA (British Columbia Library Association) Director-at-Large: Thom Knutson

## Kid's Summer Reading Club

The [Summer Reading Club \(SRC\)](#) is a province-wide initiative sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) and local public libraries, with support from the Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education, and the RBC Foundation. At Vancouver Island Regional Library, [SRC](#) is a popular, system-wide program, and all children aged 0-12 are encouraged to join in! **SRC 2016 officially starts July 4th!**

## Adult Summer Reading Challenge

The Adult Summer Reading Challenge runs from July 2nd to August 31st, 2016. During this 7 week period, participating adults will mark their calendar (provided by VIRL) each day that they read or listen for at least 15 minutes. For every 7 days marked on the calendar, they can visit the branch and fill out a ballot (total of a possible 7 draw entries over the summer). Top prizes are an iPad mini (and bragging rights)!

## Teen Summer Challenge

The [Teen Summer Challenge \(TSC\)](#) is a VIRL system-wide program that runs from June 13th to August 31st, 2016. Participation can be completely online, but branches have the option of offering on-site programs for their teens, as well. TSC begins in June to provide the opportunity for teens to make use of their school's resources during the last few weeks of June. TSC is a task-oriented program in which teens accumulate points to be entered in prize draws at the end of August. The tasks have a multi-literacy focus (e.g. literature, digital, media) to appeal to a wide range of interests, and have been designed to encourage teen participants to engage with the various programs available to them through VIRL.







# 2015 Annual Report

The [2015 Annual Report](#) highlights VIRL's accomplishments during the year, summarizes its finances, acknowledges donors and recognizes the continued dedication and support from the Board of Trustees. This year, the 2015 Annual Report works in-line with VIRL's culture of collaboration: Featuring articles and editorials developed by a cross-selection of staff across the organization. The theme *Moving Toward Sustainability* supports the 2015 budget which sought to implement programs, software and initiatives that could support VIRL for today and well into the future. To view the Annual Report, visit us online or check out our flip-book style [version here](#).



Read more:  
[virl.bc.ca/reports-and-plans](http://virl.bc.ca/reports-and-plans)