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from the Board Table

Intro

With the opening of four highly anticipated new Vancouver Island Regional Library facilities in 2013, the excitement, enthusiasm and passion for local libraries is building. A beacon in their communities, these purpose-built branches articulate the value of Vancouver Island Regional Library in both rural and urban centres. With the support of the Board of Trustees, local government, and the community, the Vancouver Island Regional Library system is swiftly becoming vital community destinations and continuing to enrich the lives of the patrons they serve.

Recap

Strategic Priorities



- 1. Collection**
Providing maximum diversity and value
- 2. Communications**
Promoting library services
- 3. Facilities & Operations**
Becoming welcoming places
- 4. Information Technology**
Enhancing the library experience
- 5. Delivery of Quality Service**
Quality service that meets customer's needs



Cumberland Branch - Official Opening



Welcome!

To Your New Library

We celebrated with music, festivities and dancing that spilled onto the streets... Hundreds of people joined VIRL in the official opening of **four** new Vancouver Island Regional Library facilities this year! Each opening was uniquely different and mirrored the unique, vibrant spirit of the community

Port Renfrew



Cumberland



**“It was a party!
The celebration
spilled out onto the
street.”**

STRONG LIBRARIES

STRONG COMMUNITIES





“I love my new Library.”

Cowichan Lake



New Items



Cowichan Lake Branch - Official Opening

“Art is an excellent compliment to a Library’s collection.”

Art Exhibits in the Library

A new policy that introduces exhibit space requirements: In response to requests from the Board of Trustees, VIRL has developed a “Use of Library Space for Art Exhibits” policy that would offer local artists an opportunity to display their artwork in a formalized process.

Board Recommendations: A medium of local culture, creative expression, and thought, art is a compliment to a community library’s collection. The Board recommends a 1-year trial period of the proposed policy.

Proposed Cedar Branch

Request for a library branch in Cedar: The VIRL Consolidated Master Facilities Plan (CMFP), commissioned by the Board in 2009, identifies and guides facility and maintenance developments to ensure equality and optimum service is achieved within the system. In response to a requested branch in Cedar, the VIRL Board defers to this plan for direction.

Board Recommendations: The Board’s current financial situation will not support or sustain the addition of a 39th branch at this time.

Tahsis Branch Facility

Facilities upgrades required: The findings of the Consolidated Master Facilities Plan identified that the Tahsis library branch facility is not meeting minimum safety, maintenance and accessibility requirements.

Board Recommendations: Enter negotiations with the Village of Tahsis to develop a strategy that is compatible with the needs and expectations of both organizations, and that satisfies CFMP requirements.

Branch Activities Report

A new format for reporting on VIRL branch activities: Designed to help communicate consistent, relevant and exciting library activities to the Board, the new template offers a dedicated space for program and event photos and will allow staff to collect and disseminate branch information more effectively.

Board Recommendations: The new format of branch reporting is accepted.



Thank You

For your invaluable contribution to the Vancouver Island Regional Library and community, we extend great thanks.



Ronna-Rae Leonard

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in 2006, Ronna-Rae Leonard represented the City of Courtenay. She served as the Board Chair in 2011 and 2012 and most recently served as the Past Chair.



Mel Dorey

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in 2006, Mel Dorey represented the Cowichan Valley Regional District. He served on the Board's Executive Committee as a Member at Large.



George Holme

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in 2006. George Holme represented the Regional District of Nanaimo. He served on the Board's Executive Committee as a Member at Large.



Merrick Anderson

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in 2006, Merrick Anderson represented the Powell River Regional District.



Cowichan Lake Branch - Official Opening

Highlights & Achievements

Program Success

No. of programs:

2013: **3,129**

2012: **2,434**

No. of program attendees:

2013: **63,576**

2012: **51,673**

Increased programs
from 2012:

28.5%

Gabriola Island Branch - The Kerplunks!

The community of Gabriola Island celebrated Canadian Library Month with The Kerplunks on Saturday, October 26th.



In the Media

30 Articles Published September - November, 2013

Including The Guardian, Canada.com, Oceanside Star, The Parksville Qualicum Beach News, Nanaimo Daily News, Nanaimo News Bulletin, Campbell River Mirror, Haida Gwaii Observer, Comox Valley Record, Victoria News, Cowichan News, Sooke News Mirror, Sooke Voice News, and the Gabriola Sounder.