



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kids can take a bite out of library fines, one book at a time

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, Nanaimo, BC – Hungry readers can get their fill of books, and read-away their library fines this summer at Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL). Part of Summer Reading Club (SRC), Read Down Your Fines gives children, aged 0 – 12, the chance to have \$5 of library fines waived for each SRC Reading Record page they complete. Each child is eligible for a total fine reduction of \$35.

“The goals of Read Down Your Fines are to encourage families to return to their library and to foster a love of reading at a young age,” says VIRL’s Executive Director Rosemary Bonanno. “Studies show that reading as few as three to five books over the summer months can help elementary students maintain or improve their reading levels for the school year. School-aged literacy is integral to developing lifelong library customers.”

For some families, the financial barriers of library fines can present a significant challenge, and there can also be a sense of embarrassment associated with the fines. Read Down Your Fines aims to reduce these barriers and let families know that we want them to use their library again.

Summer Reading Club and Read Down Your Fines kick off on July 4, and run all summer long. When they sign up, participants receive a package that includes their reading record (which they can use for Read Down Your Fines), a bookmark, a tattoo, and a magnifying mirror.

Registration is now open at all VIRL branches. More information will be available on our [Facebook page](#), starting Thursday, June 29.

Read Down Your Fines is a VIRL Board-approved initiative.

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For more Information

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