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MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

LIBRARY-USE RISES DURING ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

Rediscover Your Local Library

Abbotsford, BC— Public libraries across North America typically see usage rise during times of economic downturn. Fraser Valley Regional Library, with 24 community-based locations, expects to be no exception in the coming year. With job seekers visiting the library to search and apply for jobs online; others are rediscovering their public library as the place for easy-on-the-pocket entertainment – where movie DVDs and music CDs are free to borrow with a library card.

Maureen Woods, recently named CEO of FVRL, says, “It makes sense that if you’re hit by an economic recession, you’d stretch your budget by taking advantage of all the library has to offer”.

While job search information and public access Internet computers are popular during economic decline, another draw is the daily newspapers and wide range of current magazines. Add in the library’s bestseller paperback and hard copy fiction and non-fiction books—it’s easy to see why the library gets popular during times of belt-tightening.

Read. www.fvrl.ca Learn. Play.

WHITE ROCK PITT MEADOWS CLEARBROOK FORT LANGLEY MOUNT LEHMAN AGASSIZ BOSTON BAR YALE
CHILLIWACK YARROW LADNER PIONEER GEORGE MACKIE ALDERGROVE TSAWWASSEN LANGLEY MURIEL ARNASON
BROOKWOOD MURRAYVILLE MSA CENTENNIAL WALNUT GROVE HOPE MAPLE RIDGE MISSION TERRY FOX

The library provides a welcome alternative to that of a shopping mall and the temptation to spend money. Families can enjoy library events and children's storytime programs, and school study groups can bring their laptops to take advantage of wireless Internet access (at select locations).

Stay Home, Get It Online

The library's website has many research and entertainment options. Visit www.fvrl.ca and click on [Download Books](#) under Play to listen to a book (NetLibrary) or read it online (TumbleReadables). Download an audiobook to your iPod (Library to Go) or read-along with your youngster in English, French or Spanish with TumbleBooks. You can even play an animated kid's picture book with BookFLIX. Got homework? Access live chat-based Homework Tutors, Sundays through Thursdays, for grades 6-12.

The library's Online Resources are not just for research (WorldBook Online, Encyclopedia of BC) or for finding your next book (NextReads or Novelist). There's a wealth of popular database titles that range from Do it Yourself (DIY) – Auto Repair Reference Manual, Small Engine Repair Centre; to Travel – Global Road Warrior; to Hobbies and Crafts – Price it! Antiques & Collectibles; and age-specific databases – such as Teen Health & Wellness. With a library card you have unlimited access to these database resources and more: visit www.fvrl.ca and click on [Online Resources](#).

Membership is Free – Get a Library Card

Visit your local library with two pieces of identification, one with your current mailing address. Teens (13-18 yrs) require one piece of identification (e.g. student card). For children under 13 yrs, the library card requires signature of parent or guardian. Find your local FVRL community library's address and phone number at www.fvrl.ca and click on [FVRL Locations](#).

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www.fvrl.ca
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About Fraser Valley Regional Library

Fraser Valley Regional Library is the largest public library system in British Columbia, with 24 community libraries serving over 670,000 people in its service area.

Established in 1930, it is funded with taxes raised in the community it serves, plus a Government of BC operating grant. The governing Board consists of elected officials representing 15 member municipalities and regional districts. With its mission "to connect people to the world of information and ideas," FVRL plays a prominent role in the communities throughout the Fraser Valley.

FVRL Member Libraries

Agassiz	Aldergrove	Boston Bar
Brookwood	Chilliwack	Clearbrook
Fort Langley	George Mackie	Hope
Ladner Pioneer	City of Langley	Maple Ridge
Mission	Mount Lehman	Muriel Arnason
MSA Centennial	Murrayville	Pitt Meadows
Tsawwassen	Terry Fox	Walnut Grove
White Rock	Yale	Yarrow

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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