



'09 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Challenging and positive changes stimulated new vision, strengthened core values, and deepened partnerships for Fraser Valley Regional Library during 2009.

Fresh talent joined the Board in January with more than half of the appointed councillors being new to the FVRL Board. The strong relationships already established between the libraries, their local governments, and the communities they serve, were broadened even further as these new leaders brought their expertise to the Board table. Later in the year, Rob O'Brennan, a 21-year veteran of the organization, took the helm of FVRL as chief executive officer, bringing with him a skill set well suited to guiding the largest public library system in British Columbia.

In April, FVRL joined the "green movement" with the addition of two new diesel-electric hybrid delivery trucks to the fleet. MLAs and trucking industry leaders attended the launch of these trucks that were among the first 30 hybrid delivery trucks of their kind in the province. These trucks support the provincial government's carbon neutral objectives for BC and demonstrate FVRL's support for local governments committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2012. A much-appreciated grant from the Fraser Basin Council - Green Fleets BC program helped offset the additional cost of these hybrid trucks.

2009 was once again a year of economic downturn across the province - triggering rumours of significant reductions in provincial funding for public libraries. In light of these rumours, the FVRL Board, convinced that public libraries are high-yielding investments in communities, joined with other public libraries across BC proactively campaigning and engaging the public to urge the Province's ongoing funding of public libraries. Although library funding was reduced by about 78 per cent of previous years'

levels, we were pleased that the BC government recognized and acknowledged the integral role that public libraries play in community development and literacy. It is our hope to work in cooperation with government to restore and enhance funding to libraries as the provincial economic picture improves.

FVRL is successful and effective because of the passion of many people who recognize the true worth of public libraries. On behalf of the Board, I offer sincere thanks to the visionary donors who share their resources with us to enhance leisure, learning, and literacy in their communities. We applaud the efforts of our Friends of the Library, who give tirelessly of themselves so that others may be enriched. We extend our deep gratitude to our conscientious staff, whose steadfast dedication and service to their customers and communities have an invaluable, life-impacting influence.

The challenges and changes of 2009 confirmed the importance of FVRL to its customers as well as its significance to the communities it serves. As we move forward, we will continue to build upon the empowering vision, values, and partnerships that make us strong.

[Mayor Peter Fassbender, City of Langley, and Chair, Fraser Valley Regional Library Board](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The worldwide economic upheaval of 2009 had a noticeable impact upon Fraser Valley Regional Library as consumers needed help stretching their budgets...and we were ready.

Job seekers visited FVRL to search for jobs online while others rediscovered their library as the place for easy-on-the-pocket entertainment. Summer Reading Club and Reading Link Challenge became literacy-enriching attractions that drew more participants than ever before. More program initiatives enabled a host of new partnerships with schools and community agencies and included the implementation of Literacy Now action plans.

FVRL customers enjoyed the benefits of improved self check-out options and their free in-library Internet access was enhanced through increased bandwidth and wireless access in most locations. After remaining relatively unchanged for the past few years, circulation of library materials increased by a remarkable nine per cent in 2009 as more customers took advantage of all the free resources available at their local libraries.

Addressing the needs of customers with disabilities was another important focus of 2009. Outreach Services, a department that provides library service to print-impaired and homebound customers, responded to growing demand for its services by working with a consultant to develop strategies that will vastly expand its capacity over the next two years in order to meet the needs of its specialized customers.

Despite the economic pressures, particularly cordial negotiations were conducted in just five sessions to work out the terms and conditions of the 2009-2011 Collective Agreement. Representatives of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1698, upon agreeing to the terms, stated that they did

so in recognition of the fact that FVRL was facing financial hardship. We sincerely appreciate the positive relationship between CUPE Local 1698 and FVRL as well as the team-spirited negotiations that led to this settlement.

The support and commitment of our Board members and employees have been foundational to the achievements of 2009 and I extend my sincere appreciation to each one for their part in fulfilling FVRL's mission - to connect people to the world of information and ideas. I look forward to the future, confident that FVRL will continue to be ready and will maximize the opportunity contained within each challenge.

[Rob O'Brennan](#)
Chief Executive Officer

FINANCIAL REPORT



	Unappropriated	Appropriated	Restricted	Investment in Property and Equipment	TOTAL		
					Actual 2009	Budget 2009	2008
Revenue							
Member assessments	\$ 18,046,527	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,071,527	\$ 18,076,819	\$ 17,301,055
Provincial government grants	1,297,425	-	363,431	-	1,660,856	1,655,658	1,886,337
Federal government grants		-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500	16,836
Other donations and grants		-	140,262	-	140,262	97,542	185,678
Fines	569,466	-	-	-	569,466	570,150	493,700
Other library-based revenue	201,975	210,716	4,819	-	417,510	437,724	387,511
Return on investments	24,962	24,208	2,126	-	51,296	124,720	137,156
	20,140,355	259,924	512,138	-	20,912,417	20,964,113	20,408,273
Adjustment to deferred revenues	-	(125,000)	100,076	-	(24,924)	-	(79,915)
	20,140,355	134,924	612,214	-	20,887,493	20,964,113	20,328,358
Expenses							
Salaries and benefits	13,582,028	1,069	164,338	-	13,747,435	14,501,351	13,236,536
Library materials	554,933	13,775	243,302	-	812,010	625,938	750,286
Operating (Schedule)	2,241,745	171,792	204,574	-	2,618,111	2,653,028	2,719,056
Library InterLINK	130,006	-	-	-	130,006	130,596	127,334
Interest on capital lease obligations	9,830	-	-	-	9,830	-	22,020
Amortization	3,023,931	-	-	-	3,023,931	3,023,931	2,974,934
	19,542,473	186,636	612,214	-	20,341,323	20,934,844	19,830,166
Annual surplus (deficit)	597,882	(51,712)	-	-	546,170	29,269	498,192
Accumulated Surplus,							
beginning of year, as restated	2,775,501	72,209	-	7,836,244	10,683,954	10,683,954	10,185,762
Interfund transfers	19,756	-	-	(19,756)	-	-	-
Accumulated Surplus, end of year	\$ 3,393,139	\$ 20,497	\$ -	\$ 7,816,488	\$ 11,230,124	\$ 10,713,223	\$ 10,683,954

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION



FVRL was established in 1930 through a partnership with the Carnegie Corporation of New York. What started as a single bookmobile serving the Lower Mainland's rural communities has evolved into 24 community libraries between Boston Bar and Delta.

Today, the founding principles of collaboration and partnership continue to drive our mission, vision and values. In 2009 we were focused on developing and strengthening partnerships with our member municipalities, local school districts, literacy organizations, other library systems and service agencies.

Teaming up with outside partners through collaborative projects allowed us to maximize resources and take our enthusiasm outside of the

traditional library walls in order to bring the library to the people and offer programming where it was needed most.

In 2009, the library celebrated the vibrancy and diversity of our communities through many partnered cultural and literacy programs and creative experiences, including:

[Aboriginal Programming](#)
[All Aboard for Kindergarten](#)
[BC Libraries Change Lives Campaign](#)
[Canada Day Events](#)
[Good Reads - Author Readings](#)
[Reading Link Challenge](#)
[Summer Reading Club](#)

STATISTICS



Programs presented - **5,852**
 Programs attended - **179,041**

In-house collections use - **578,100**
 Questions answered - **301,411**

Items purchased - **197,079** items added
 (19,682 titles added)
 Total collection - **1,318,502** (292,175 different titles)
 Total system-wide print magazine subscriptions- **3,550**

Population of service area - **670,230**

Items borrowed - **6,552,969**
 Total items borrowed
 Adult - **4,696,123**
 Young Adult - **282,733**
 Juvenile - **2,275,495**

Total visits to the library
 In person - **3,410,174**
 Website - **1,383,195**
 Public Internet sessions - **664,093**

DONATIONS



Agassiz Library Society
 Ailsa Broun
 Albert & Thelma Vandermeys
 Alexis Hellyer
 Anne O'Leary
 Ardis Janzen
 Arlene Kropp
 Barbara Mason
 Barbara Sproxtion
 Brookwood Firefighters Hall #5 VFD
 Canadian Federation of University Women - Coquitlam
 Canadian Federation of University Women - White Rock/Surrey Club
 Canadian Western Bank
 Canwest Global Foundation
 Carol Wong
 Carole Ball
 Carroll Lum
 Catherine Abbuhl
 Cathy Krahn & Chilliwack Primary Teacher's Association
 Century 2 - Satwinder Singh Sidhu
 Charlesworth Insurance Services
 Cherise O'Kennedy
 Christine Lamb
 CIBC Grandview Corners
 Colleen Martin
 Darlene Johnson
 Della Conner
 Delta Friends of the Library
 Don McNeill & Ingrid Smith McNeill
 Dr. William Code & Family
 Ethos Career Management

Eileen MacKenzie
 Eleonore Comes
 Envision Credit Union - Clearbrook
 Envision Financial-Yarrow Branch
 Erik Talvila & Sharon Morsink
 ESL Group at the Tsawwassen Library
 Excellence in Literacy Foundation
 Fort Langley Community Association
 Frank Cowan Foundation
 Friends of the Chilliwack Library
 Friends of the Hope Library
 Friends of the White Rock Library
 George W. Peary
 Gladwin Language Centre
 GP Wodhawon Inc.
 Gurcharan Kaur Dhillon
 Harald Richter
 Harjinder Singh Dhillon
 Helen Schoenbach
 Hilary Russell
 Ilene Grant
 Indo-Canadian Business Association
 Isabel Dick
 Jagga Singh Gill
 Jagjit Singh Sidhu
 Jagjeet Singh Sidhu
 Jean Wilkinson
 Jo-Anne Harrison
 Joenan Escano Tolentino
 John & Hilda Stonoski
 Khalsa Credit Union - Dalbir Singh Sohi
 Leskun & Son Accounting
 Linda Berg

Lisa Tiller
 Lorna Taylor
 Louise Welsh
 Lynn Vendevelde
 Lynne d'Arville
 Malwa Auto Repair Ltd
 Maple Ridge Community Foundation
 Maria Vandyk
 Marian G. Balint
 Mary-Lee Webster
 Marinka K. Chan
 Maureen Bolton-Carr
 Mega Fruiticana #15
 Mission Community Foundation
 Mission Friends of the Library
 Mission Literacy Association
 Mission Literacy Foundation
 Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Mr. & Mrs. D.R. Lind
 Mr. & Mrs. F. Craig
 Mrs. Freddy Latham
 Mrs. Maninder Gill
 Ms. Jo Tymoschuk
 Ms. Ricky Skene
 Nash N.S. Gill
 Navjot Gill
 Noreen Dunbar
 Norman Mills
 Pamela Ferrel
 Pamela Rempel
 Peter Warkentin
 Pres Staging Resource Centre
 Quin Skuggedal
 R.A. Holroyd
 Ramandeep Singh Gill
 Ramondeep Singh Dhillon

Ridge Meadows South Asian Cultural Society
 Rob O'Brennan
 Rotary Club of Haney
 Rotary Club of Mission - Sunrise
 Rotary Club of Tsawwassen & Point Roberts
 Rupinder Devashax
 Rupinder Singh Daveshar
 Ruth Margaret Gillies
 S. Dal Edworthy
 Sandra Smith
 Satwant Singh Gill
 Sophie Klassen
 South Delta Low Vision Support Group
 South Fraser Animal Hospital
 Sunlife Financial - Bhagwant Sidhu
 Sunlife Financial
 Terry Gasperdone
 Tim & Sonia Jesson
 The Prouse Pretenders
 Traces of Danger Productions Inc.
 United Way of the Lower Mainland
 United Way Success By 6 Community Project Funding
 Wajeeha Raof
 White Rock Philosopher's Café
 W.J. Mouat Secondary School



Agassiz Library	Mission
Aldergrove Library	To connect people to
Boston Bar Library	the world of information
Brookwood Library	and ideas.
Chilliwack Library	
City of Langley Library	Vision
Clearbrook Library	To be an innovative
Fort Langley Library	organization that is
George Mackie Library	recognized as a vital
Hope Library	community destination
Ladner Pioneer Library	and resource for literacy,
Maple Ridge Public Library	recreation, and informed
Mission Community Library	decision-making.
Mount Lehman Library	
MSA Centennial Library	Values
Muriel Arnason Library	Community
Murrayville Library	Development
Pitt Meadows Library	Universal Access
Terry Fox Library	Respect for Diversity
Tsawwassen Library	Respect for Staff
Walnut Grove Library	Collaboration and
White Rock Library	Partnerships
Yale Library	Innovation and
Yarrow Library	Risk-Taking

Read. Learn. Play. | www.fvrl.ca