



Administrative Centre | 34589 Delair Road | Abbotsford, BC | V2S 5Y1
Tel: 604-859-7141 | Toll-free: 1-888-668-4141 | Fax: 604-852-5701

October 31, 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

TEENS AND TWEENS EXPERIENCE VR FICTION AT THE LIBRARY FVRL Hosts *Inanimate Alice: Perpetual Nomads*

[Abbotsford, BC] – Teens and tweens will soon experience interactive virtual reality fiction at their library. Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL) is launching [*Inanimate Alice: Perpetual Nomads*](#) at three library locations in Delta, Maple Ridge and Abbotsford, starting November 2018. This program uses the HTC Vive VR system to immerse participants in the world of Alice Field, a fictional teenage girl with a globetrotting family and an interest in video game design.

This new initiative builds on the success of FVRL's [virtual reality](#) programs, which have been popular with young people throughout the Fraser Valley. *Inanimate Alice: Perpetual Nomads* takes library VR a step further by immersing participants in a world where they play a fictional character and solve problems to move the story forward.

Perpetual Nomads is the most recent installment in the *Inanimate Alice* “digital novel” and the first to be offered in virtual reality. This award-winning series – a co-production of Nanaimo's [Bradfield Narrative Design](#) and Australia's [Mez Breeze Design](#) – uses a combination of text, sound, imagery and gaming elements to engage viewers. The series is laced with themes that resonate with today's youth, such as striving to stay positive in the face of global upheaval and geographic displacement. In *Perpetual Nomads*, Alice finds herself alone in the middle of the desert, stuck on a broken down bus. Her phone battery is quickly dying. What's Alice to do?

FVRL's new program is the result of a unique partnership between the library and Bradfield Narrative Design. While *Inanimate Alice* has been used as a classroom teaching tool in Canada, Australia and the United States, this is the first time it will be offered in a library setting. FVRL

Director of Customer Experience Heather Scoular explains: “FVRL has developed a new program model that will allow libraries to replicate the *Inanimate Alice* experience in other locations. *Inanimate Alice: Perpetual Nomads* is an innovative learning tool that helps teens explore the exciting world of digital fiction and supports STEAM learning in our communities.”

Over the past two years, FVRL has promoted STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) through its Playground collection. The [FVRL Playground](#) offers a variety of lending items and in-library experiences, including virtual reality, telescopes, robots and ukuleles.

Inanimate Alice: Perpetual Nomads is for tweens and teens, ages 10 and up. Each session is approximately 45 minutes and can accommodate groups of up to six participants. Please register by phone or in person at the library:

- [George Mackie Library \(North Delta\) – Saturday, November 3](#)
- [Maple Ridge Public Library \(Maple Ridge\) – Friday, November 9](#)
- [Clearbrook Library \(Abbotsford\) – Friday, November 23](#)

###

About Fraser Valley Regional Library

Fraser Valley Regional Library is the largest public library system in British Columbia, with 25 community libraries serving almost 700,000 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 of “opening minds, enabling dreams,” FVRL plays a prominent role in the communities throughout the Fraser Valley.

FVRL Member Libraries

<i>Abbotsford Community</i>	<i>Agassiz</i>	<i>Aldergrove</i>
<i>Boston Bar</i>	<i>Brookwood</i>	<i>Chilliwack</i>
<i>Clearbrook</i>	<i>Fort Langley</i>	<i>George Mackie</i>
<i>Hope</i>	<i>Ladner Pioneer</i>	<i>City of Langley</i>
<i>Maple Ridge</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Mount Lehman</i>
<i>Muriel Arnason</i>	<i>Murrayville</i>	<i>Pitt Meadows</i>
<i>Sardis</i>	<i>Tsawwassen</i>	<i>Terry Fox</i>
<i>Walnut Grove</i>	<i>White Rock</i>	<i>Yale</i>
<i>Yarrow</i>		

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Heather Scoular, Director of Customer Experience

Telephone: 604-859-7141 ext. 7022

Email: heather.scoular@fvrl.bc.ca Website: www.fvrl.ca