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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

WILLIAM ALLISTER ART EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 3 ***It's your last chance to see the entire 'International Collection' in one place.***

Abbotsford, BC – It's your last chance to enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime art exhibit. The late William Allister's (1919-2008) entire *International Collection* will be displayed at Fraser Valley Regional Library's Ladner Pioneer location (4683 - 51st Street, Delta) only until Tuesday, September 3, 2013. The collection – 19 large acrylic on canvas paintings valued at nearly \$160,000 – was gifted to FVRL by the acclaimed Canadian artist's estate.

Allister was a Delta resident and an avid library customer. FVRL's Tsawwassen location was where he found his inspiration to paint the *International Collection*. He spent many hours at his library enjoying the books and completing research for his paintings. Near the end of his life he discussed his wish with his wife that the paintings be accessible to the community.

"William took so much joy in his creative expression that he wanted 'everyone' to see it, and what better place than at his library to make his art available to people of all ages and walks of life," says his widow, Mona Allister. The collection features colourful imaginative renderings and symbols highlighting the interconnection of cultures throughout history.

After the exhibit closes, the *International Collection* paintings will be dispersed to various FVRL locations, where they will be displayed permanently so that they can inspire and enrich library visitors for years to come – just as Allister wished.

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

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 "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

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