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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

BC PUBLIC LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES
Will you share your story?

Vancouver, BC – British Columbia public libraries have long been known as respected community destinations. They are an essential resource for literacy, recreation and informed decision making. Libraries across the province have had significant impact on the lives of many British Columbians. These inspirational stories deserve to be told and a new project is underway to do just that.

A website has been created to share these stories – www.bclibrarieschangelives.ca. The purpose of this project is to collect and share the stories of public library users in BC. “This project serves to reinforce the reality that today’s BC public libraries are vibrant, dynamic community resources,” says Andy Ackerman, President of the British Columbia Library Trustees’ Association (BCLTA).

“Millions of British Columbians visit libraries across the province each year and the experience for each is as unique as the individual. In many cases people’s lives are changed because of their library experience and we’d like to collect those stories.”

Some stories will be told with photos and text on the website and in print materials, others will be shared through video clips. You can share your story by completing the online form or a paper form available at your local BC public library.

“Library use is up dramatically and we’re excited about this project because we believe that it is an opportunity for British Columbians to share the meaningful ways that BC public libraries have positively impacted their lives,” says City of Langley Mayor Peter Fassbender, Board Chair of Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL). “Public libraries are unique among taxpayer-supported institutions and this project will let us celebrate all that we have become.”

This project is a joint partnership between British Columbia Library Trustees’ Association (BCLTA), British Columbia Library Association (BCLA), Association of British Columbia Public Library Directors (ABCPLD) and BC’s public libraries. For more information, or to submit your story please visit www.bclibrarieschangelives.ca.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Andy Ackerman

President, British Columbia Library Trustees' Association

Telephone: 250-787-8457

Mayor Peter Fassbender

City of Langley; Board Chair, Fraser Valley Regional Library

Telephone: 604-514-2801

Ken Cooley

President, British Columbia Library Association

Telephone: 250-721-6088

Ursula Brigil

Chair, Association of British Columbia Public Library Directors

Telephone: 250-426-4063 ext. 101