

# The Vancouver Island Interest Group Pub Night: Exploring Island Interests

By Adrienne Wass.

There are more libraries on "the island" than you'd think!

On Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> over 50 librarians and library staff members gathered at the Swans Brewpub in Victoria to mingle and learn more about the newly-created Vancouver Island Interest Group (VIIG). A wide range of libraries was represented, giving guests the opportunity to meet their public, government, academic, student and archival colleagues.



VIIG pub night attendees

This lively event was generously sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association. Adrienne Wass and Meg Rintoul, the VIIG Co-Convenors, organized the event. Alane Wilson, BCLA's Executive Director, greeted each guest as they arrived and provided some much-appreciated guidance leading up to the evening itself. Lynne Jordon, BCLA President, was also in attendance and spoke with a number of fellow islanders. Several Vancouver Island Regional Librarians took the time to drive from Nanaimo to attend (and kindly helped with the display set-up).



Alane Wilson, Lynne Jordon, Adrienne Wass and Iona Reid

While the event was casual, attendees were later contacted and asked to complete a brief, online survey. The focus of the questions; what do librarians and library staff members on Vancouver Island want from their interest group? The 30+ survey results proved interesting. Approximately 53% of respondents stated that education and training events were "very important" and in that area, 85.7% replied that "library trends presentations" would interest them the most. This valuable information will help guide planning for future VIIG events in the Victoria region.

If you're living on the island, watch for coming events at <http://www.bcla.bc.ca/VIIG/default.aspx>! Better yet, contact one of the Co-Convenors to learn more about volunteer opportunities! Email correspondence can be sent to Meg Rintoul at [mrintoul@virl.bc.ca](mailto:mrintoul@virl.bc.ca) or to Adrienne Wass at [awass@gvpl.ca](mailto:awass@gvpl.ca).

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Vancouver Island Interest Group.*