

# Member News

By Sandra Wong.

## Appointments

May Chan is head of cataloguing at Burnaby Public Library.

## Librarians and BC libraries in the media

Peter Tupper. "[E-books: coming soon to a BC library near you.](#)" *Globe and Mail* (February 10, 2009).

A story describing the Best of BC Books project to purchase electronic books from BC publishers for school and public libraries in BC.

Nickie Polson. "[NIC opens libraries to public.](#)" *Canada.com* (February 18, 2009).

Campbell River, BC residents can now borrow books from North Island College with a free Community Library Card.

"[Rossland \(BC\) Public Library goes live with Evergreen.](#)" *Linux PR* (February 23, 2009).

"Rossland Public Library has become the 14th library in British Columbia's SITKA consortium to go live with Evergreen, the consortial-quality open-source library automation software."

Darrell Bellaart. "[Books are only one part of the service libraries offer; VIRL works hard to keep up in an age of digital information.](#)" *Nanaimo Daily News* (February 24, 2009).

Evidence from the Vancouver Island Regional Library system that public library use goes up during economic downturns.

Emily Mathieu. "[Experience that speaks volumes.](#)" *The Toronto Star* (February 26, 2009).

A description of *Living Library* programs in Canada, including Douglas College in Coquitlam.

Cheryl Ross. "[Mormons help tap family history.](#)" *Vancouver Courier* (March 6, 2009).

A description of Vancouver Public Library's agreement with the Genealogical Society of Utah to assist patrons in the pursuit of their ancestral roots.

Eugene Barsky, Lisa Schattman, and Aleteia Greenwood. "[Comparing Safari Tech Books Online and Books24x7 E-book Collections: A Case Study from the University of British Columbia Library.](#)" *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* 56 (Winter 2009).

Most academic libraries are seeking to provide electronic access to the very dynamic and changing field of technology related material. *Safari Tech Books Online* and *Books24x7* are the major e-book collections in this area. We compared the *Safari Tech Books Online* and *Books24x7* e-book packages as to their usefulness for the University of British Columbia Library, second largest academic library in Canada. In our sample, we found that *Books24x7* had more titles to offer (25% more); the overlap between the collections was relatively small (13-16%) and publishers varied considerably; and although there were no major differences in the "usefulness" measures of the titles in the two packages (Amazon.com ratings, WorldCat holdings and Reviews.com reviews were quite similar for both packages), O'Reilly titles, available only through *Safari Tech Books Online*, were held by a slightly higher number of libraries worldwide. We conclude that in order to have comprehensive coverage of this constantly changing area of knowledge, a large research academic library needs to subscribe to both collections. If subscribing to both collections is not an option, we recommend selecting a package based on the pricing that the library can negotiate with ProQuest, the vendor of both products, since the collections are complimentary in their nature. [Abstract]

Sandra Wong is a science liaison librarian at Simon Fraser University and Membership Secretary for BCLA.