

# Celebrating Libraries

By Errin Morrison.

## Celebrating 100+ Years of Library Service to British Columbians

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, a Celebration of Library Service was held at the main branch of the Vancouver Public Library.

Library staff, trustees, government officials, school children, and members of the public were in attendance for a series of wonderful events, including a CBC North by Northwest taping of "Lost Childhood Books"; an interview with Dave Obee, author of *The Library Book*; and the official launch of the "Express Yourself" kids writing contest and the 2011 Summer Reading Club.

A very big thank you to all those who helped organize the event and make it a success. A full list of all those involved is included below.

For those who were unable to attend, the following photos capture the day!

### Lost Childhood Books Taping



Sheryl MacKay of CBC's North by Northwest records an episode of "Lost Childhood Books" with librarians Elizabeth Austin and Alison Campbell of North Vancouver District Public Library.



### Express Yourself Writing Contest



Emcee Maureen Sawa, of Greater Victoria Public Library, introduces a North by Northwest interview of Sarah Ellis and Christopher Kevlahan, who talked about the summer 2011 "Express Yourself" BC Kids writing contest (<http://expressyourself.bclibraries.ca>). Both Sarah and Christopher are members of the jury for the contest, which runs until September 16, 2011.



### Dave Obee Interview



Sheryl MacKay interviews Dave Obee, author of *The Library Book: A History of Service to British Columbia* (<http://thelibrarybook.bclibraries.ca>).



### Cake!



Dave Obee cuts *The Library Book* cake!



### Door Prizes



Percilla Groves, Jim Looney and Maureen Sawa draw for door prize winners.



### Summer Reading Club



Twenty-two years of Summer Reading Club posters are displayed for the official launch of the 2011 Summer Reading Club (<http://kidssrc.bclibrary.ca>).



### Everything eBook



Several Lower Mainland public libraries host an "Everything eBook" session for the public in conjunction with the day's events at VPL.



### Future of Libraries Panel



Sandra Singh of Vancouver Public Library introduces the Future of Libraries Panel.



Edel Toner-Rogala of Burnaby Public Library and Dr. Charles Eckman of Simon Fraser University give their Pecha Kucha presentations during the Future of Libraries Panel.



### “Express Yourself” Launch



Vancouver-Fairview MLA Margaret MacDiarmid and BCLA President Christopher Kevlahan officially launch the Express Yourself writing contest in the children's area of VPL.



Christopher Kevlahan presents Dr. MacDiarmid with her own copy of *The Library Book*.

### Thank you!

We are very grateful to a number of individuals, institutions and organizations who were involved in organizing, supporting and holding the Celebration of Libraries.

Special thanks to Jim Looney for leading the charge!

Thank you to Jacqueline van Dyk and the staff of Libraries & Literacy for all their support.

Thank you to Sandra Singh and the staff of VPL – especially Daphne Wood, Marya Gadison and Debra McGerrigle. Thank you, as well, to VPL's Friends of the Library.

Thank you to Maureen Sawa of GVPL for making the trip over from the Island to emcee the festivities.

A very big thanks to Colleen Smith – BCLA volunteer extraordinaire!

Thank you to Heather Daly and the BCTLA for arranging school trips to VPL for the launch of Express Yourself and the Summer Reading Club.

Thank you to Edel Toner-Rogala and Dr. Charles Eckman for their thoughtful presentations on the future of libraries.

Thank you to Sheryl MacKay and Derek Bird of North by Northwest. We were thrilled to have CBC onsite!

Thank you to Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid for taking the time to join us for the launch of the “Express Yourself” kids writing contest; and a special thank you to Sarah Ellis for inspiring all the young writers who joined us!

Thank you to special guests Ray Culos, Margaret Brunette, Lois Bewley and Judith Saltman; and thank you to the past BCLA Presidents and Helen Gordon Stewart award winners who joined us.

Thank you to Christina de Castell, Tami Setala and everyone involved in the “Everything eBook” session. Participating libraries included Burnaby Public Library, Fraser Valley Regional Library, Richmond Public Library, and West Vancouver Memorial Library.

And thank you as well to all our exhibitors for setting up an excellent and informative display onsite: Fraser Valley Regional Library, Burnaby Public Library, InterLINK, and the BC Libraries Cooperative.

There are many more people who contributed to the event than I can mention individually, so I will conclude with a thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success!

A Ministry of Education News Release on the day's events is also available online through the following link:

[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2009-2013/2011EDUC0064-000790.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2011EDUC0064-000790.htm)

*Erin Morrison is BCLA's Executive Director.*