

Newest VPL Branch Opens

By Jean Kavanagh.

Not since Andrew Carnegie lent his name to the Carnegie Library at Main and Hastings streets in 1903 has a Vancouver Public Library branch been named after a living person.

The Terry Salman Branch, named after the VPL Foundation Board Chair, opened on October 13th in the legacy Hillcrest Centre near Queen Elizabeth Park. The Centre was home of the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Centre during the 2010 Winter Games and in addition to the VPL branch now houses a community centre, aquatic and fitness facilities, a skating rink and curling club.

The branch naming honours Mr. Salman in recognition of his decade-long philanthropic and volunteer commitments to the Foundation that include chairing the Board for 10 years, a significant donation and a commitment to encourage others to contribute to an endowment established with his latest financial gift.

"This is a great honour and I believe it is a recognition that in our country volunteerism and philanthropy matter and are appreciated," Mr. Salman told dignitaries and guests who gathered on October 29th for the official opening of the Hillcrest Centre and Terry Salman Branch.

Vancouver South Member of Parliament Wai Young, BC Minister of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government Margaret MacDiarmid and Mayor Gregor Robertson also addressed the opening and thanked Mr. Salman for his generous financial and personal contributions to VPL.

It was Mr. Salman's past, present and promise of future leadership and commitment that led the Library Board to name the Terry Salman Branch, said Library Board Chair Catherine Evans.

"Terry has brought tremendous dedication, financial acumen and a passion for networking to the Foundation that serves the Library excellently," said Ms. Evans. "I know that Library users, staff and board trustees would like to join me in thanking Terry and the VPL Foundation for everything they do to enhance literacy and library service in Vancouver."



Branch Manager Cathy Wang and Terry Salman welcome the first visitors to the Terry Salman Branch. Photo by VPL.

Under Mr. Salman's leadership, the Library Foundation has raised nearly \$4.5 million, said City Librarian Sandra Singh.

"Foundation funding supports vital projects like the Library's Story Bus, Mother Goose and Man in the Moon early literacy programs and pilot projects like the unique First Nations Storyteller in Residence," said Ms. Singh.

She added that the opening of a new branch in the Riley Park/Hillcrest area is especially exciting because the community will now benefit from having a full-service Library branch that offers materials in English, Cantonese and Tagalog.

"Vancouver Public Library is thrilled to be expanding in this part of the city where families and individuals of all ages will have diverse programs and materials to choose from seven days a week," said Ms. Singh.

"Library staff have been consulting with community members for many months to determine the programs and services that will best meet community needs and in the coming months this work will no doubt be refined as people come to use the branch."

The Terry Salman Branch features areas for children and teens, a row of computer terminals that look out upon a beautiful garden, areas for reading and a meeting room. The branch is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Salman is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Salman Partners Inc., an investment dealer firm he founded in 1994. For eight years he was Chair of the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation and he has served on the boards of a

number of health-related and arts organizations in Vancouver.

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