

Okanagan Regional Library

Fall 2007 Update



Summary Message

- Library services are expanding
- Maintaining traditional services
- Greater space and resources for technology
- Demand for better and more consistent information and surprise at our products
- Public pressure for:
 - Larger branches
 - More open hours



Recent Items of Note

Technology Improvements

- Horizon upgrade – windows based
- Network challenges for bandwidth
- Cherryville and N Shuswap examples



Recent Items of note con't

Buildings

- N. Shuswap Fall 2006
- Osoyoos September 2007
- Replacement HQ distribution and processing center 2008
- Princeton 2008
- Large new branches expected in Summerland and Vernon in 2009 and early 2010



Recent items of note con't

Usage

- Traditional methods of counting use and busyness such as book circulation changing
- Traditional circulation finally stabilizing and slightly lower after years of increase – still > 3 million/yr
- Significant amount of use and research going electronic and rising significantly (Some of electronic resources available commented on later in presentation)
- We believe we are seeing and servicing more people but way counted and serviced changing



Recent Items of note continued

- Staff turnover
 - Demographics of staff
 - Demographics of community

Both a challenge and an opportunity



Recent Items of Note con't

Strategic Plan

- Up to now attempt to re-use allocated \$ for 1-time projects
- Future initiatives require ongoing \$ and include
- Virtual Branch Manager 2008
- Publicity and Communication 2009 – to ensure public is aware of the resources available to them that we are paying for on their behalf



Some products and services of interest

Popular Databases

- Ebsco Auto repair reference center
- BC Building code, fire and plumbing, etc
- Ancestry.com
- Legalese
- Canadian Literary Center
- Search a Saurus
- Worldbook Encyclopedia



Some products and services of interest

Popular Databases continued

- Canadian Business and Current affairs index
- Canadian Newstand
- Library to Go



Some products and services of interest

- Dear Reader.com

Provincial initiatives we participate in

- Ask Away
- One Card
- Library Card for every schoolchild



Finances

- Past 5-6 years Board targeted average valued home increase \$1-2 per year
- Significant inflation, expanded population, technology change give fiscal pressure
- ORL 20% below provincial average in expenditures per capita in spite of showing 100% of our costs
- 2008 increase will be at higher end of Board target area due to above and large building and technology changes



Further Information

For lots of information, including the results of our annual tax survey requests of all treasurers from our members go to

WWW.ORL.BC.CA

