

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, the County of Clark joins other counties across our great state and nation to honor Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries (FVRL) Staff. We celebrate and pay tribute to the remarkable efforts that FVRL Staff put forth, each and every day. FVRL Staff make a positive impact that resonates throughout our libraries, neighborhoods, schools, faith-based organizations, community and civic groups, and government agencies. FVRL Public libraries are the heart of community, and FVRL public library Staff are the human heart of our libraries. Public libraries are brought to life through human staff that bridge the gap between copious general information and vetted specific knowledge access for everyone. This honoring of humanity and everyone's right to knowledge democratizes the world's knowledge and therefore is an invaluable resource at the heart and soul of all our cities, counties, and nation; and

WHEREAS, FVRL staff are reliable public servants daily creating positive exchanges in our communities by consistently and unfailingly bringing their compassion, creative ideas, talents, technical skills, dedication, education and professional expertise to strengthen and help our county flourish as a welcoming vibrant place for all. As societies' change, FVRL Staff are there to meet these needs and support inclusion for individuals to participate in a better quality of life, however the patron chooses to access. FVRL Staff provide support for all people to have access to library resources regardless of economic or other limitations, and support public education, health and social services, local businesses, housing and food service organizations, public safety and emergency preparedness agencies, literacy learning, and to environmental and economic initiatives, regardless of how challenging the times we experience in our society. FVRL staff uphold the dignity of all by helping communities provide basic human services and access to community resources, as well as creating original community-empowering programs that reflect the needs articulated by the communities the library serves. FVRL Staff directly assist and empower those who have been marginalized; and

WHEREAS, FVRL staff have played an integral part in this county's proud history, beginning with the establishment of our Carnegie library, and expanding as Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries to include multiple counties and community branches, as well as bookmobiles that directly serve rural areas. Libraries and library staff are at the foundation of building and maintaining the vibrancy of our community life. Library Staff travel beyond the library walls to meaningfully connect with people of all ages and abilities to ensure access to library resources. FVRL staff benefit organizations that promote and support the arts, philanthropy, historical preservation, civic engagement, business and education, literacy, and efforts to protect and support our environment. These contributions improve the lives of all community members and help our local economy prosper. FVRL Staff individually and as a collective, demonstrate their power to make a difference and are an inspiration for all of us to follow; and

WHEREAS, the County of Clark recognizes that FVRL Staff are key to assisting the entire county in meeting the needs of residents and accomplishing individual and community goals; we acknowledge that FVRL Staff help unite our great county, supporting democracy daily through their dedicated service; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, do hereby proclaim the City of Vancouver's profound recognition and appreciation for Honoring All Fort Vancouver Regional Library Staff and call on all community members and organizations to help us thank, celebrate, and recognize the contributions of all FVRL staff.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 18th day of December, 2023.

  
ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR