

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2007

VAUGHAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES PRESENTS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) Week, March 19 – 25

VAUGHAN, ONTARIO.... Vaughan Public Libraries (VPL) presents its seventh annual **Information Technology (IT) Week, March 19 – 25**. “IT week is a great opportunity for customers to learn about the benefits of information technologies within their libraries,” announced Rosemary Bonanno, CEO, Vaughan Public Libraries.

“VPL has kept pace with technological developments to give Vaughan residents the most modern and effective service possible,” Bonanno continued. “We offer free wireless internet access at most of our library locations. Last year we were the first public library system in Canada to offer a free Video download service to our users, part of our new digital media collection. In addition, we offer a variety of free computer courses for all ages and experience levels. These “hands-on” lessons let customers practice new skills or learn about computer basics, email and/or searching the internet. We also provide public internet access at every VPL location, free to all VPL members.”

“Building on the success of last year’s program, IT Week 2007 will include a new selection of *Take 5* tutorials for busy library customers,” added Bonanno. “These *Take 5*’s walk customers through various library technologies in five easy steps, including our *Self Checkout Stations* and our new *Digital Collection*, which in addition to the free video downloads offers eAudio books and eBooks that are available 24/7 to anyone with a VPL library card and internet access, from anywhere in the world!”

Through *Knowledge Ontario*, a provincial government initiative, VPL has added 32 databases to its already diverse list of 51 subscription databases. These databases offer customers access to information and articles from thousands of newspapers, magazines and journals worldwide. They are essential resources for school or university assignments, business information and other advanced searching. VPL databases and the digital collection are accessible to VPL members in the libraries or through the ELibrary at www.vaughanpl.info.

During March 19 – 25, each branch of Vaughan Public Libraries will have IT Week displays and librarians available to assist customers with any library technology.

IT WEEK PROGRAM LISTINGS

ANSLEY GROVE LIBRARY – 350 Ansley Grove Road, Woodbridge

Blogging for Beginners, Tuesday, March 20, 7 – 8:30 pm

Do you wish to share your experiences and opinions with the rest of the world? Then discover the joy of blogging! Learn about the best blogging sites and how to create your own. For ages 12-18. Please pre-register by phone or at the Information Desk.

Keep Your Kids Safe on the Internet, Thursday, March 22, 7 - 8:15 pm

Join Constable Morris Shaw, Community Safety Officer, for this informative program about what you can do to help keep your children and teens safe on the Internet. Constable Shaw will give you signs to look for that might indicate your child is at risk, strategies for protecting your children, and general Internet safety tips. Find out about cyber-bullying, what not to do on the Internet, and more. For adults aged 18 and up. This program is not appropriate for children. Please pre-register by phone or at the Information Desk.

BATHURST CLARK RESOURCE LIBRARY - 900 Clark Avenue West

Introduction to Digital Photography, Tuesday, March 20, 7 – 8:30 pm

Glen Neville of Henry's School of Imaging gives a seminar on digital photography! Learn all about digital cameras, downloading your photos to your computer, and other workshops offered by Henry's. Admission is free; please pre-register by phone or at the Check-out Desk.

MAPLE LIBRARY – 10190 Keele Street

Introduction to Digital Photography, Monday, March 19, 7 – 8:30 pm

Glen Neville of Henry's School of Imaging gives a seminar on digital photography! Learn all about digital cameras, downloading your photos to your

computer, and other workshops offered by Henry's. Admission is free; please pre-register by phone or at the Check-out Desk.

Digital Media Collection Training, March 19 – 25

All you need is your VPL card and Internet access. Browse, check out and download a best seller, a great documentary or video. Sign up for a one-on-one training with a librarian to find out about this newest technology. Please pre-register by phone or at the Check-out Desk.

PIERRE BERTON RESOURCE LIBRARY – 4921 Rutherford Road**The World's Newspapers Online, Thursday, March 22, 2 - 3:30 pm**

Newspapers from all around the world are available online through Vaughan Public Libraries. Learn all about them in this instructional session. Admission is free; please pre-register by phone or at the Welcome Desk.

Vaughan Public Libraries has seven locations serving Concord, Kleinburg, Maple, Thornhill and Woodbridge. For information on programs, including One on One Computer training programs, pick up a copy of our *At The Library* publication, contact your local library by calling 905-653-READ (7323) or visit the ELibrary at www.vaughanpl.info.

Last year Vaughan Public Libraries welcomed over 1.6 million visitors making it one of the top leisure and information destinations within the City of Vaughan.

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