

# MEDIA ADVISORY/ PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2009

**Vaughan Public Libraries launches lots of FREE summer fun, at this year's TD Summer Reading Club with renowned children's book author and award-winning illustrator Werner Zimmermann, June 17.**

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**WHAT:** An event to launch **VPL's TD Summer Reading Club**. This year's theme is **Agent 009!** Well-known children's book author and award-winning illustrator Werner Zimmermann will discuss the process of illustrating this year's eye-catching Summer Reading Club poster in a fun and entertaining way. He will talk to **two Grade Four classes** from **Blue Willow Public School** (approximately 50 students) about how he writes and creates characters for picture books. He will also show original works from his studio, from manuscript to finished book. Werner's zany antics will charm the students as they witness the creative process come alive.

**WHEN:** **Wednesday, June 17 at 10:00 a.m.**

**WHERE:** **Ansley Grove Library**  
350 Ansley Grove Rd., Vaughan, 905-653-READ (7323).

**WHY:** To create an awareness of Vaughan Public Libraries' Summer Reading Programs. To encourage residents to visit the library as a family and to promote that reading is a fun, enjoyable, family affair, for all ages to share and talk about during their summer vacation.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Background Information on the 2009 Summer Reading Club.

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## ATTACHMENTS:

### **Vaughan Public Libraries TD Summer Reading Club for Kids!**

This year's Summer Reading Club theme is **Agent 009**. The librarians have developed a wide variety of great programs, such as *Detective Training 101*, *Evil Geniuses*, *Villains and Masterminds*, and *Geronimo Stilton: Secret Agent*. These programs are designed to motivate children to read for pleasure, develop their curiosity and stimulate their imagination. Most Summer Reading Club programs are offered **FREE** and are delivered in a fun-filled environment where children can also meet new friends during their summer vacation.

Registration, for the Summer Reading Club, kicks off June 17 at all branches of Vaughan Public Libraries. Programs start the week of July 6. Each child will receive a free reading kit, illustrated by well-known children's author and award-winning illustrator, **Werner Zimmermann**. The reading kit contains a poster, a sticker, a bilingual activity booklet full of games and a log sheet for recording the books they have read.

### **TD Bank Financial Group**

Since 2000, TD Bank Financial Group has sponsored the nation-wide public library Summer Reading Club, enabling libraries to distribute booklets, posters and sticker sheets to all participants, beautifully illustrated by a prominent Canadian children's book illustrator. Vaughan Public Libraries gratefully acknowledge this tremendous support that takes Summer Reading into so many homes in the City of Vaughan.

### **SUMMER READING CLUB IS FOR ADULTS TOO!**

VPL has selected five mystery novels for adults to read and vote on to determine their top pick. Ballots can be cast at all library locations or online. All participants in the Summer Reading Club for adults will have a chance to win a prize by casting their ballot and voting for their top pick! At the end of the summer, a draw of the votes will be held and the winner will receive a copy of all 5 mystery novels listed below!

To participate in the Summer Reading Club for adults, please visit your local library, pick up a copy of the books and start reading!

**Selections are:**

- The Thin Woman* by Dorothy Cannell
- The Cooperman Variations: A Benny Cooperman Mystery*  
by Howard Engel
- Darkly Dreaming Dexter* by Jeff Lindsay
- The Murders in the Rue Morgue: The Dupin Tales*  
by Edward Allan Poe
- Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story* by Leonie Swann

### **Author and Illustrator – Werner Zimmermann**

Werner Zimmermann is a well-known children's book author, award-winning illustrator and a teacher of animation at the Seneca College at York University program. This year, Zimmermann is the official artist of the 2009 TD Summer Reading Club. Born in Austria, he grew up in southern Ontario, where he discovered in grade two that he wanted to be an artist. Werner works in a variety of media that include watercolour, pastel, oil, ink, and pencil.

Though a resident of Guelph, Ontario, his true love is for the north where he acted as printmaking advisor to the Inuit of Povungnituk and other Northern Quebec Inuit communities. No longer in the north, he still finds inspiration in winter and snow having written and illustrated the popular book *Snow Day!*

He has toured extensively across the country, giving presentations in schools and libraries and speaking at conferences. Werner still maintains a studio on the Bruce Peninsula, a place where he finds a bit of the landscape and sea shore of most parts of Canada.

Werner is a recipient of the Mr. Christie Book Award (illustration) for *Pippin the Christmas Pig* (2003), and was twice-nominated for the Governor General's Literary Award for Children's Illustration.

Visit **Word from Werner** at [www.wernerzimmermann.blogspot.com](http://www.wernerzimmermann.blogspot.com) where you can read about upcoming visits and presentations and find news about his latest work and illustrations. Werner also maintains a website with lots of pictures and descriptions of his art. Visit [www.wernerzimmermann.ca](http://www.wernerzimmermann.ca) for more information.

### **Partial List of Publications**

*The Pirates of Captain McKee*. Written by Julie Lawson and Werner Zimmermann. Scholastic Canada, 2008.

*Snow Day*. Written and illustrated by Werner Zimmerman. Scholastic Canada, 2007.

*Listen Said the Donkey: Tales of the First Christmas*. Written by Jean Little; illustrated by Werner Zimmermann. Scholastic Canada, 2006.

*Pippin the Christmas Pig*. Written by Jean Little; illustrated by Werner Zimmermann. Scholastic Canada, 2003.

*Brave Highland Heart*. Written by Heather Kellerhals-Stewart. Illustrated by Werner Zimmermann. Stoddart Kidds, 1999.

### **VAUGHAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

Vaughan Public Libraries contribute to the success of our growing diverse community; serving its information, learning, leisure and cultural needs in a welcoming and safe environment. In 2008, VPL welcomed over 1.7 million visitors making it one of the top leisure and information destinations within the City of Vaughan. For more information on all of VPL's programs and services call 905-653-READ (7323); pick up a copy of *@ The Library, Your Guide to Programs, Special Events and Using Your Library* at your local library or visit the website at [www.vaughanpl.info](http://www.vaughanpl.info).

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