VPL appoints new director

By Jean Kavanagh.

Vancouver Public Library is pleased to announce that Christina de Castell has been appointed Director, Resources & Technology.

Christina joined VPL in 2006 as Manager, InfoAction, the Library’s fee-based research service. She became Manager, Online Information & News in 2009, responsible for managing the Library’s online services, including the website, electronic resources and related training, as well as the email, telephone and in-person information services delivered at the Central Library.

In her new position, Christina is responsible for oversight of service and strategy for four areas of Library activity: Collection Development, Technical Services (Acquisitions, Cataloguing and Processing), Digital Services and Information Infrastructure. Christina will work to ensure that the Library’s print and electronic collections continue to be vital community assets and that the Library’s digital technology services are key components of the community’s access to learning and development opportunities.

Christina is a member of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council Task Force on eContent and maintains the Uncovering eBooks blog at http://pwp.vpl.ca/culc/. She participates at local, provincial and national levels on issues relating to public libraries access to eBooks. She has developed strong relationships with the Canadian publishing industry on this issue and is a Task Force media spokesperson regarding solutions for library purchasing and lending of eBooks.

Christina is an active member of the B.C. Library Association, most recently coordinating sponsorship for the 2012 BC Libraries Conference. She chaired the Fund Development Committee in 2010 and was Treasurer in 2009-10. Christina received the President’s Award for service to BCLA in 2011 and she is a past-president of the SLA Western Canada Chapter and a Fellow of SLA.

Prior to joining VPL, Christina worked at the B.C. Securities Commission, first as a research librarian, then managing the BCSC website and web projects as well as providing usability and information architecture expertise. Christina received a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of BC in 2001.

Jean Kavanagh is VPL’s Manager, Marketing & Communications.