



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 14 August 2009

Yarra Plenty Regional Library Garners Accolades in Peer Review

Yarra Plenty Regional Library has been awarded a four-star quality rating from the Being the Best We Can state-wide library review.

The Being the Best We Can quality audit is being managed by the State Library of Victoria, the Victorian Public Library Network and consultants from Australian Continuous Improvement Group and relies on independent review of libraries by other library organisations in Victoria.

A four-star accolade means the library has major strengths and a high standard of provision, with any weaknesses not having an impact on library users' experience.

Yarra Plenty Regional Library Chairperson Cr Sam Alessi says he is thrilled YPRL has received four stars. "We are very proud to be assessed as a 4-star library and we are working hard to become a 5-star one — Five stars means a library that is international best practice!"

The audit found YPRL to be an innovative industry leader with an excellent range of programs and services, and ground-breaking in the e-library area.

"I'm very appreciative of the hard work library staff have put in to achieve this," Cr. Alessi added.

Cr. Alessi also pointed out that part of the process is identifying opportunities for improvement. "We will be working on promoting the library to non-users, improving circulation and promotion of collections, increasing community engagement in planning processes, and improving availability of new items for loan," he said.

Yarra Plenty Regional Library provides library services for three local governments, Banyule, Whittlesea and Nillumbik, in 2008/2009 serving a total population of 324,000 people over an area of 983 square kilometers. With eight branches, the library does 3.8 million loans a year, has a collection of 480,000 items and two mobile libraries.

##

Photograph attached

Caption: Being the Best We Can delegates present the 4-star-rating certificate to YPRL CEO Christine Mackenzie



For further information:

Suzanne Male

Marketing & Media Coordinator

Yarra Plenty Regional Library

P 9401 0755 smale@yprl.vic.gov.au

