



North Vancouver District
Public Library

Inspiring Stories

March 2016

Going Places with Google

On Thursday, March 24, the Library had the opportunity to host Google as a part of an exciting tour for Google’s new app—**Google Expeditions**.

Google Expeditions is a new product that allows teachers to take their classes on **virtual field trips**, immersing students in experiences that bring abstract concepts to life and giving students a **deeper understanding of the world beyond the classroom**.

The world was our oyster! The virtual reality app had staff and patrons transporting from Robben Island in South Africa, to the Pyramids of Egypt, and even to outer space. Nothing seemed off limits. This technology allows educators to transport their pupils – and the Library was a big part of bringing these new technologies to our community.



Top R: Jacqueline van Dyk, Director of Library Services, and staff test out Google Expeditions. **Bottom L:** Young patrons travelling through virtual reality! **Bottom centre:** A look at earth through the Google goggles. **Bottom R:** What’s down there?!

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

What our patrons are saying about NVDPL

“ Thank you so much for your kind support and help. We are so fortunate to live in an area where our library services are so excellent. I went to a movie: *The Suffragette*” at Capilano branch last Monday with 2 friends. We enjoyed it very much. I also belong to David’s afternoon bookclub in Lynn Valley...So many services from musical concerts, lectures, book clubs of all ages, Interlibrary loans, study groups, etc.. We are very blessed on the North Shore. Thank you all for all that you do for our community! ”



Circulation Simulation!

Starting on Thursday, March 17, NVDPL staff worked hard on a special project at the Lynn Valley Library! Being an engaged, adaptive organization is of extreme importance to the NVDPL. As such, we strive to embrace opportunities to experiment, while constantly evaluating and measuring the outcomes and impacts of our services. So what to do with a proposed renovation plan for the Lynn Valley circulation area? **Why, of course: create a simulated circulation area to ensure what we have on paper works for staff and patrons!**

Here are a few photos of the “mock” circulation area:



What we’ve heard from Staff:

- *“I’m glad we did this! Now we know what we need to change.”*
- *“This is so necessary for the comfort of staff. This is great.”*
“I’m a visual person & I didn’t understand the design when it was just on paper- this was a helpful process”
- *“This has been a very inclusive process and I really appreciate that!”*

What we’ve heard from patrons:

- *“Very cool!”*
- *“Neat idea to make sure you’re doing it right.”*

A few facts:

- 20 circulation staff from across all 3 libraries completed feedback forms (so far)
- Over 40 staff have gone through (about 1/3 of our staff!)
- Meeting with the architects on Monday, April 4th to discuss our findings and design the next iteration of the floor plan