What is Sitka?

- A BC-based library consortium sharing a centrally managed ILS.
- Powered by Evergreen, the award winning open source ILS.
- Professionally hosted and supported by a dedicated, BC-based team.
- Core strategic infrastructure – ensures all member libraries are able to provide the latest electronic services and resources.
- Poised for considerable growth and the delivery of impressive new ‘large library’ functionality for its membership.
How is Sitka Different from a Commercial Solution?

- Local, dedicated capacity and expertise – hosting, support, development and more.
- Sitka’s members are its users and its managers.
- Sitka collaborates with jurisdictional partners to actually **carry out** software development.
- Software development costs are shared and benefit the global Evergreen community; the larger the community, the more returns.
Just a Few Consortial Advantages:

- Strength in numbers. Growing capacity in our own jurisdiction.
- Sitka creates and leverages tremendous economies of scale regionally, provincially, and globally.
- Access to negotiated products with real savings.
- Member libraries have a real voice. “Own” versus Rent
- Protection against marketplace volatility.
- Centralized database and centralized staffing ensure service continuity and relieve local pressures while fostering a development community.
- Empowering ourselves to empower our users.
Fit in the ILS marketplace

• Proactive and collaborative; the best of libraries.
• The Evergreen ILS was designed for – and is primarily used by – large and complex consortia, like Sitka.
• Evergreen ranks in the top of its class, according to the most recent comprehensive ILS survey.
• Strong cross-jurisdictional and cross-institutional partnerships that benefit all libraries.
Current status and future prospects:

- 44 libraries live, serving over 100 communities:
  - Over 1M bibliographic records
  - Over 500K patrons served

- Upgrade to latest software release this month:
  - “large library” functionality: engaging the “BIG 16”

- By the end of this year:
  - 57 libraries in 2 provinces: public & post-secondary
  - 75% of all public libraries in BC
What is the Cooperative?

• BC – based, limited liability, non-profit.

• Founded by the BC Library community in 2009 in order to shape a collaborative future for libraries and develop cost-effective solutions to 21st century library challenges.

• Harnesses the tremendous buying power and cost savings of a consortium while providing the corporate ability to limit risk.

• 80 member organizations.
The Cooperative Model & Purpose:

• BC Libraries Cooperative Members “own” the Cooperative and guide and shape its services, policies and direction through the Members Council, Business Function Groups and the Board of Directors.

• The Cooperative exists, not to maximize profits, but to promote the economic success of its members.

• The Cooperative’s primary purpose is to address the common needs of members through shared solutions which benefit the Cooperative’s members and the people and communities in BC that they serve.
BC Libraries Cooperative

SITKA
Libraries growing together

Licensing Business Function Group

?
Who is behind the BC Libraries Cooperative?

Board of Management – eight directors each serving either two or three year terms:

• Greg Buss, Chief Librarian, Richmond Public Library
• Shannon Ellis, Director, Pemberton Public Library
• Kevin Kierans (Vice Chair), Director of Libraries, Thomson Nicola Regional District Library
• Joanne Richards, Coordinator, Kootenay Library Federation
• Margo Schiller, Director, Terrace Public Library
• Lauren Stara, Library Director, Whistler Public Library
• Edel Toner-Rogala (Chair), Chief Librarian, Burnaby Public Library
• Brian Owen, Associate University Librarian, Simon Fraser University
• Jacqueline van Dyk, Director, Public Library Services Branch (ex-officio)
Communications Sub-Committee
- Gordon Coleman, Project Coordinator, BC Electronic Library Network
- Shannon Ellis (Chair), Library Director, Pemberton & District Public Library
- Rue Ramirez, Associate University Librarian, Library Systems & Information Technology / Technical Services, University of British Columbia Library
- Joanne Richards, Coordinator, Kootenay Library Federation
- Jacqueline van Dyk, Director, Public Library Services Branch (ex-officio)

Finance Sub-Committee
- Greg Buss (Chair), Chief Librarian, Richmond Public Library
- Joanne Richards, Coordinator, Kootenay Library Federation
- Margo Schiller, Director, Terrace Public Library

Staff and Contractors
- Managing Director (starting May 2, 2011)
- The Sitka team and other notable contractors
Plans for the Near Future:

• Growth of Sitka
• Growth of Licensing offerings
• Infrastructure growth
• Increased communications
• More opportunities to engage
• Strategic Planning

For more information:

• www.cooperative.bclibraries.ca
• Email: office@cooperative.bclibraries.ca