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## FLETCHER FREE LIBRARY PILOTS NEW NORTH END BRANCH

**Burlington, VT**—The Fletcher Free Library, in partnership with Champlain Broadband LLC dba Burlington Telecom, announces the launch of a pilot library branch in the New North End of Burlington. The ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for December 15th at 1 pm at the Burlington Telecom office, 1127 North Ave Unit #36 (Ethan Allen Shopping Plaza).

"We respond to evolving community needs in innovative ways," said Library Director Mary Danko. "One of the requests that we have heard both directly from patrons and in our surveys is for library service in the New North End (NNE) of Burlington. We are excited to pilot this new branch." Danko noted that all three NNE City Councilors had praised the new branch pilot.

The NNE pilot library branch will be open four days weekly for four hours per day, Wednesday through Saturday, sharing existing library staff. This pilot will bring expanded library services to Burlington's New North End Community providing access to information, books, media, public computers, internet access and librarians.

The pilot opportunity evolved from discussions with Burlington Telecom regarding sharing their office space. The company has generously partnered with the Fletcher Free Library to provide this location free of charge through May 2022 for this pilot library branch. They also kindly offered to gift some of the furnishings, electronic devices (computers & TV), and provide free internet service, making this space quickly able to serve the public. David Hauke, owner of the shopping plaza, facilitated access to the space and welcomed this endeavor to better serve the NNE community.

The Fletcher Free Library main branch is located at 235 College Street, Burlington. For more information visit www.fletcherfree.org.

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