

PRINCE GEORGE PUBLIC LIBRARY



**2017
ANNUAL REPORT**



The Prince George
Public Library
www.pgpl.ca



@pglibrary



@pg_library



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MISSION

The Prince George Public Library connects people and ideas, inspiring the community to read, learn and discover.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Create welcoming physical and virtual spaces
- Enhance community well-being and engagement
- Expand and safeguard access to information and ideas
- Nurture an innovative and adaptive organization
- Communicate and celebrate the library's achievements and impacts

Letter From **Carolynne Burkholder-James & Janet Marren**

What a memorable year! We began 2017 with a visit from the Royal Thai Consulate-General, hosting Thailand Corner at the Bob Harkins Branch. Then, in February, we received welcome news from City Council; the Bob Harkins Branch entrance renovation was added to the funded portion of the City's capital plan. We were thrilled.

In the spring, PG Motors kicked off our fundraising campaign for an outreach vehicle with a \$10,000 donation.

In May, the Leadership Team was once again complete with the hiring of new Public Service Manager, Ignacio Albarracin.

Staff spent months planning June's Beyond Hope Library Conference. The biennial conference brings libraries from throughout the north together for two days of collaboration and learning. The keynote speaker was award-winning author Ivan Coyote.

In the summer, we rallied with the City of Prince George to support communities impacted by wildfires. Staff volunteered at emergency reception centres, provided books and other materials at the centres, and hosted a movie night for evacuees. The library also worked with Hoopla Digital to make digital content available to evacuees.

The Board hosted its first annual Plot Twist fundraiser at the end of September. The Gatsby-themed party took over both floors of the Bob Harkins Branch with live entertainment and a dance floor. Funds raised were allocated to the outreach vehicle.

In October, City Council declared Library Month in Prince George; this was echoed by a declaration at the Provincial level. Minister Rob Fleming presented the declaration during a visit with Janet Marren and the board.

We look forward to launching our outreach vehicle and continuing to work with the City of Prince George on the entrance design as we meet our strategic priorities in 2018.



2017 Board Members

Myta Blacklaws

Mike Erickson

Mike Gagel

Kirk Walker

Elizabeth MacRitchie

Terri McConnachie

Alan Idiens

Dawn Stevens - to Jan. 2017

Laura Mueller - from Feb. 2017

Board Chair

Carolynne Burkholder-James

BY THE

23,203 PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED
IN OUR FREE
PROGRAMS

PATRONS
BORROWED 1,500
AUDIOBOOKS
FROM OUR
DIGITAL
COLLECTIONS
EACH MONTH

54,921
LIBRARY
CARDHOLDERS

PATRONS
BORROWED
2,181 ITEMS
A DAY

WE ADDED
4,103 NEW
CARDHOLDERS
AND 25,185
ITEMS TO OUR
COLLECTION

74,205
REFERENCE
QUESTIONS

353,498
VISITS TO OUR
BRANCHES

NUMBERS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Garrett Dobson, Kiwanis Club,
presents a grant to Public Service
Manager Ignacio Albarracin.



- BCNE
- BIG – Brain Injured Group
- Books & Company
- Canadian Red Cross
- Canadian Home Builders Association
- City of Prince George
- College of New Caledonia
- Crisis Prevention, Intervention & Information Centre
- Downtown PG
- Enhance PG
- Heritage Commission
- Kiwanis Club
- League of Canadian Poets
- Northern Bear Awareness Society
- Prince George Citizen
- Prince George Community Foundation
- Prince George Conservatory of Music
- Prince George Council of Seniors
- Prince George & District Community Arts Council
- Prince George Native Friendship Centre
- PG Retired Teachers' Association
- Read Local BC
- Regional District of Fraser Fort George
- School District #57
- Theatre Northwest
- Tourism PG
- Two Rivers Gallery
- University Hospital of Northern BC
- University of Northern BC
- World Community Film Festival
- YMCA
- Youth Around Prince

PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS

The physical collection currently holds approximately 170,000 items including over 25,000 items that were added in 2017. These include books, audiobooks, music, DVDs, video games and more.

Patrons have the option of requesting materials that are not in the collection. Material published within one year of the request is considered for purchase.

Last year, 926 patrons submitted requests for materials.

For the second consecutive year, the library participated in Northern FanCon. Over 500 people visited the library's exhibit where they registered for library cards, browsed the collection, borrowed material, and learned more about programs and services.

The library received funding for 'Six for Summer' from the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between the Prince George Community

Foundation, the City of Prince George, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast. With the funds, multiple copies of six titles were purchased for the collection; these were books the librarians felt explored the topic of Canadian identity. Small groups of community members, including Marnie Hamagami, Hira Rashid,

Nick Drazenovic and Lola-Dawn Fennell, read the books and were featured on the library's podcast throughout the summer as they discussed the titles. 'Six for Summer' aimed to engage individuals who weren't interested in attending a traditional book club, but who were still interested in hearing about their peers' experiences reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction.





DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

With the launch of two new digital services in January, Gale Courses and Hoopla Digital, library card registration grew by 68% over the same period of the previous year. Gale Courses provides hundreds of free, instructor-led online courses that are available to any library cardholder. Topics range from Accounting and Finance to Personal Development. One of the library's mandates from the provincial government is to make education accessible. By introducing Gale Courses the library has been able to extend public education to people who may not otherwise have access to such opportunities. Hoopla Digital is a digital collection offering over 600,000 titles including eBooks, audiobooks, movies and more. Patrons of the Prince George Public Library borrowed 4,400 items from the collection in its first year.

Two additional digital resources, Ancestry.ca and the Canadian Subsidy Directory, were also made available to library patrons in 2017. Ancestry.ca is an online collection of genealogical records, including census data, vital records, immigration records, family histories, military records, and more. Canadian Subsidy Directory is dedicated to providing information leading to financial help, subsidies, grants, loans, joint ventures or any funding program offered by the federal and provincial governments, associations and foundations.



“My 9 year old is doing the coding class and he loves it! Every day when it ends he asks to go back tomorrow.

Great job!” - Theresa

With over 1200 programs offered in 2017, staff continued to focus on enhancing the well-being and engagement of our community.

Highlights included Coding for Kids, Six for Summer Book Club, and in collaboration with the City of Prince George and H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, SESQUI, a full dome screening experience with virtual reality storytelling, interactive games and learning resources.

EVERYDAY EXPERTS

Born out of a desire to offer adult programming that would draw on the talents and interests of community members, Everyday Experts give a talk or demonstration on a subject they're passionate about. The series continued to expand in 2017 with over fourteen speakers.

- Open Source Open Space
- Cedar Strip Canoes
- 3Rs Container Gardening
- Net Zero Housing
- How to Buy a House
- How to Sell a House
- Gridlessness
- Newfoundland
- Bike Maintenance
- Fly Tying
- Rock Hound
- How to Become an
Artist-in-Residence
- Alex Oehler,
Anthropologist
- Travel Tips for Vintage
Travellers

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Prince George Public Library raises open discussions with local agencies, the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George to enhance the barrier-free experience of all users. Our staff members have strong, ongoing relationships and outreach services that connect them with groups outside the physical library.

One such service, Home Service, makes library materials freely available through direct home delivery to eligible patrons. Volunteers made regular deliveries to over 70 patrons in 2017. Each patron receives, on average, five items per delivery. Staff and volunteers also deliver to nine care homes.

Fourteen percent of library programs were held outside of the two branches at a variety of venues including daycares, schools and community events. The library participated in Winterfest, Summerfest, the Pride Parade, Chili Cook-off, Seniors Info Fair and Heritage Lane at the BCNE, and Ron Brent Reads.

Chief Librarian Janet Marren and Board Chair Carolynne Burkholder-James accepted the Community Impact Award at the Prince George Chamber of Commerce 32nd Annual Business Excellence Awards. The award honours organizations for projects, services, and events that give back to the community, and for efforts contributing to the social and cultural well-being of Prince George.

Local community members joined library staff to discuss six books over the summer. The podcasts are available at www.pgpl.ca/podcasts.





BCNE Seniors Fair



ACCOLADES

Library Board Chair, Carolynne Burkholder-James, and Chief Librarian, Janet Marren, accept the Community Impact Award from Sara Viveiros at the 2017 Business Excellence Awards.

FINANCIALS

REVENUE	
Municipal Funding	3,934,935
Provincial Funding Sources	216,229
Patron Charges	85,690
Other Income	20,105
Fundraising/Grant Funds Used	105,825
Assets Funded by Grants/Fundraising	3,000
Total Revenue	\$4,365,785

EXPENSES & ASSETS	
Wages & Benefits	2,779,373
Supplies	23,102
Material Costs	466,891
General & Administrative	222,230
IT Expenses	125,512
Rent	485,814
Repairs & Maintenance	110,509
Expended Grants/Fundraising	105,825
Other Assets & Equipment	11,781
Total Expenses	\$4,331,037

**ON BEHALF OF PATRONS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF,
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE
FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR
THEIR DONATIONS OVER \$100:**

Lynn Andersen, Emery Cawsey, Laura Chandler,
Corestock Industrial Supply Ltd., Jacqueline Dewhurst,
Friends of the Library, Doreen Gray, Bernice Gunderson,
Doug and Betty Hallman, Shelley Hatcher, Thomas
Haworth, Jim Imrich, Nancy Kerr, Robert Klick, KPMG
Foundation, In Memory of Ray Lawson, James and Ellen
Loughery, Denise Low, M. Sims Consulting Services,
Marguerite Mackenzie, Dr. Donald MacRitchie, Match
MG Canada Inc., Carolyn McGhee, Joy McKellar, Zoe
Meletis, Philip Nellis, Earl Nent, John and Ellen Norman,
James Pepler, Noreen Rustad, Roots Family, Paul
Sanborn, Uta Schuler, James Spankie, Patrick Stapleton:
In Honour of Canadian Veterans, Robert Steventon,
Storm Mountain Technical Services, Albert Taylor, Maria
Tejero, Judy Wakabayashi, Shauneen Wayland, Bernice
Wilmot and many other anonymous donors.

GRANTS

Kiwanis Club of Prince George; The Community Fund for Canada's 150th: a collaboration between the Prince George Community Foundation, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast; City of Prince George; PG Literacy Advisory Committee; United Way of Northern B.C.; Courthouse Libraries BC; Raise A Reader

BEYOND HOPE LIBRARY CONFERENCE

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre; Ministry of Education, Library Branch; North Central Library Federation; Saunders Book Company; United Library Services

PLOT TWIST

Norcan Consulting Ltd., College Heights Veterinary Clinic; Library Board of Trustees; CIBC; Canadian Tire; Pinnacle Renewable Energy Inc.

OUTREACH VEHICLE

Friends of the Prince George Public Library, Prince George Motors

We gratefully acknowledge the continuing contributions by
the City of Prince George, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort
George and the Province of BC.



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PRINCE GEORGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bob Harkins Branch, Downtown
888 Canada Games Way
Prince George, BC V2L 5T6
250-563-9251

Nechako Branch, in the Hart
6547 Hart Highway
Prince George, BC V2K 3A4
250-563-9251

WWW.PGPL.CA