



2018 Report to the Community

“ This Library is one of the most valuable institutions to the community. ”

~ Library member





Chief Librarian
Tracey Therrien



Library Board Chair
Christine Deynaka

The Nelson Public Library continued to be a popular community resource for information, learning, innovation, and public events. We welcomed over 146,000 visits, which showcased an increasing demand for library services. Digital circulation increased by 13% during the year, which is a reflection of shifting preferences for how library users access information. School

and children's programs were expanded and continue to be well attended and fun! Innovation was a core theme and included the introduction of the Teen & Tech program. In addition to author readings, the Library also arranged a number of presentations and workshops as part its life-long learning initiatives.

The successes of 2018 could only be achieved with the ongoing and generous support from the City of Nelson, the RDCK and the Province of BC. The Library is also extremely grateful for our hard-working and committed volunteers, from the Friends of the Library group to the individual volunteers who help every day in the Library.

The backdrop to these achievements in 2018 was the ongoing implementation of the Library's five year Strategic Plan. The Board is proud of the efforts from the Chief Librarian, the staff and individual trustees to support the objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan, including an increasing focus on community partnerships and exploration of facilities options to meet community's needs.

In closing, we are proud of all the accomplishments of 2018 and excited for what 2019 will bring. Happy Discovering, Creating and Connecting at the Library!

Strategic Priorities

Community Needs

- ◆ **Library of Things:** we've diversified our collection to include ukuleles, radon kits, pedometers, and Exploration Backpacks, giving members an opportunity to experiment with new resources.
- ◆ **Online learning tools:** we added an online training service offering hundreds of instructor-lead courses. If you're interested in learning technology, writing, management, and much more you'll want to check out GALE courses.

Spaces to Connect

- ◆ **Reconfiguration:** we changed the layout of the main floor and added more public computers to address the growing demand; shelving was re-arranged to create more open spaces, and additional seating was installed.
- ◆ **Community partners:** the Library, in collaboration with Nelson at its Best, hosted a successful municipal election Candi-dating event. Hundreds came out to meet candidates one-on-one to learn about community issues.

Sustainability

- ◆ **Advocacy:** Library Board and Staff continued to work with local, regional and provincial agencies and associations to advocate for public libraries and improve and diversify funding opportunities.
- ◆ **Fundraising:** our Library cookbook, chocolate bar, book bag and card sales, plus individual donations, raised close to \$11,000
- ◆ **Grants:** the Library received \$36,000 to help improve technology and offer new services like our Teen & Tech program.



"I would not be able to read books without the Library visits. :)"
~ Senior's Outreach user



By the Numbers

Financial statement:

2018 unaudited	
Operating Income	\$ 53,020
City of Nelson	\$ 631,171
RDCK	\$ 151,758
Province	\$ 87,237
Donations	\$ 17,935
Project Grants	\$ 36,391
Total Revenue	\$ 977,512
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 695,027
Office Management	\$ 45,287
Building Operations	\$ 101,984
Equipment & Furnishings	\$ 21,796
Programs	\$ 9,448
Collections	\$ 94,331
Total Expenses	\$ 967,873
Net Income	-\$ 9,639

Key statistics:

On site traffic:

- ◆ Library members: **11,332**
- ◆ Library visits: **146,500**
- ◆ Items borrowed: **205,760**
- ◆ Public computer sessions: **22,402**
- ◆ Programs: **295**
- ◆ Program participants: **6,752**
- ◆ Outreach programs: **67**
- ◆ Outreach participants: **1,803**

Online Library:

- ◆ Online visits: **45,448**
- ◆ Online training sessions: **430**
- ◆ Database & online library usage: **34,441**
- ◆ e-book & e-Audiobook downloads: **26,486**

“ Thank you so much for fostering love for reading in my kids! ”

~ Reading Link Challenge parent

5,692 new BOOKS!
1,113 NEW members!
683 daily CHECK OUTS!
488 DAILY visits!

“ I had no idea a library could be so many things. ”

~ LVR student after Human Library event

The Friends of the Library

The Friends have been fundraising for the Library for 36 years. In 2018 they donated \$18,856 through book sales, grants and donations. The Friends are great Library champions, spreading the word of the importance of reading and promoting the Library as a welcoming space in the community. Thank you to the time dedicated by the generous members of The Friends, and volunteers. A special thanks to Co-Chairs Margie Perks and Miriam Williams.



Miriam Williams and Heather Lyon sort books for another great sale.

2018 Donors & Grant Funders

Thank you to all the generous individual and local business donors who helped us improve and expand access to essential programs, collections and services. In 2018 the Library received grant funding from Columbia Basin Trust, Friends of the Nelson Elders, Telus, Osprey Foundation, BC Employees Fund, Nelson & District Credit Union, BC Courthouse Libraries, BC Francophone Affairs Program, the Kootenay Library Federation and Government of Canada totaling close to \$36,000.

Highlights

Adult Services

Author presentations included graphic novels, fiction, poetry, nonfiction popular events that informed, educated, and inspired. 250 people came out for our local author book launches alone.

We broke down barriers with our Human Library Folks came and checked out real people with a story to tell about how they live in the world. Life-changing conversations took place. The Human Library went to LV Rogers High School, where students learned about disability, addiction, and more.

“ It is so impactful to be given the opportunity to place yourself in someone’s shoes. ”

~ Human Library “borrower”

Digital Literacy

In 2018 we helped members get online, use social media, and download ebooks & audiobooks. We introduced teens to website design, DJing, and digital imaging. We offered one-on-one sessions to help with all kinds of technology questions. Thanks to the volunteers and local experts who helped staff deliver these services. We couldn’t have done it without you!

Children’s Services

This year’s Summer Reading Club was once again led by Kyoko and Claire. They visited schools to talk to kids, gave out over 200 reading records, and organized daily drop-in activities for school-aged children. Attendance at their programs was over 750.

Our annual Reading Link Challenge (a quiz-type competition for Grade 4/5 students) was very successful. We had twice many students participating as last year (nearly 100!) and the teachers were very happy with the results.

“ Thank you for this fantastic opportunity. My class really enjoyed the whole process. ”

~ Grade 4/5 teacher

Teen and Literacy Services

Columbia Basin Trust and Telus sponsored our Teen Tech workshops, which offered short courses on video and photo editing, DJing, HTML and more. The Mother Daughter Book Club was a popular program in 2018 as a means to foster a love for reading in young girls and modeling a way to bond through books.

Our New to Nelson potluck made adjustment to life in Nelson that much friendlier. Granny Goose at Lakeview Village offered a family-friendly intergenerational program that was met with enthusiasm from all ages. One senior was heard to exclaim excitedly to another, “It’s baby day today!”





Staff

Tracey Therrien Chief Librarian

Anne DeGrace Adult Services

Avi Silberstein Children's Services

Melodie Rae Storey Teen and Literacy Services

Heather Dahlgrin Admin/Technical

Shirley Reimer Admin/Technical

Heather Goldik Circulation/Reference

Shawna Cummings Circulation Services

Helen Blum Circulation Services

Catherine Brochhagen Circulation Services

Cara Blake/Christine Wallace Shelver II

Auxiliary: Eva Walters, Erin Maconachie

Shelvers: Veronica Hartwell, Harlan Hofmann.

Board of Trustees

Christine Deynaka Chair

Anni Holtby Vice Chair/Area F rep.

Ester Zdebiak Area H South rep.

Robin Cherbo City Council rep. Jan - Oct

Keith Page City Council rep. Oct - Dec

Tessa Bending

Laurie Langille

Tamara Martin

Karen Shoniker

“The staff are brilliant and accommodating.”

~ Library member

