

fiction

Nelson Public Library Annual Report 2023

*A connected community inspired by
innovation and imagination.*

imagine

Nelson Public
LIBRARY

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Snixt, Ktunaxa and the Sylix peoples and is home to the Metis and many diverse Indigenous persons. We honour their connection to the land and rivers and respect the importance of the environment to our strength as a community.

Library Stats

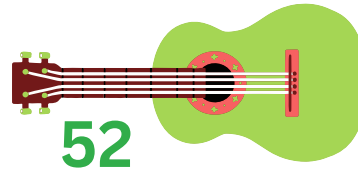
104,668

in-person
visits



1,314

New patron
registrations



52

New Library of Things added

\$0

Fines
collected



57,608

ebook/digital audio book
downloads



24,856

Reference
questions
asked



2,929

Free
movies
streamed

Programs in
2023:

Adult 299

Teen 87

Childrens 183

142%

increase in
children's
programming
participants

416

Puzzles
checked
out



"The teen newspaper has helped me to practice valuable writing skills, and given me the opportunity to have my voice heard in our community!" - Teen patron

197

Items
added to
the
Indigenous
Collection



28,433
Wi-Fi
sessions

1

Owl
installed



400

Volunteer
hours -
thank
you,
volunteers!



A Message from the Board Chair & Library Director

If you were to create a picture of a day in the library, it would be a collage of vignettes. You'd draw someone leaning into the screen searching a job board, and another smiling while reading the latest email from a far-away friend. You'd colour the youth lounging on a beanbag chair in the teen area, visiting and listening to music, while wrapping up a school report due the next day.

You'd gently draw someone reading in a warm corner on a comfy chair sheltering from the cold. Others are sketched seated at tables, using the library as their remote office, or in line to use the printer to collect the document they sent from home. Look into the Digitization room and you'd capture a cluster of folks learning how to digitize photos to create those perfect family or travel memories. Downstairs you'd find the right medium to portray the excitement of a toddler pulling a book off the shelf. You'll find the right colours for the creative energy of the after school Crafternoon.

All this paints a vivid picture of the critical support your library is addressing in our community. The stats in this report also draw a clear picture of how we are using the library – in person and virtually. From a resource for isolated seniors to an after school safe haven for unaccompanied youth; from a language learning center to free digital skill training for all; the library is a space to form community.

These amazing services would not be sustainable without our community financial support. We appreciate all donors and thank the Friends of the Library for their fundraising efforts. We are grateful for the ongoing support from City of Nelson, RDCK Area F & H, the Province and other community grants. We are looking forward to starting another year of library activities, painting another picture, with you our patrons and supporters.



Tracey Therrien
Chief Librarian



Anni Holtby
Board Chair

2023 Statement of Operations

Total Revenue and Grants	*\$315,119
City of Nelson funding	\$694,787
RDCK Area F funding	\$101,665
RDCK Area H funding	\$72,327
Total Expenditures	\$1,039,445

*Excludes donations and fundraising from the Friends of the Library who raised \$9,385!



“NPL gives us access to so much knowledge, wisdom and wonder. The librarians have helped me pick out gifts for my bibliophile nieces and they were a hit! Thank you for curating a place to discover, accessible to all.”
-Library Member



Gratitude

Thank you to the people and organizations who have financially contributed or have partnered with the Nelson Public Library in the last year.

Partnerships

Kootenay Library Federation
Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
School District 8
Bigby Place
West Kootenay Climate Hub
RDCK - Area H Recreation
Nelson Museum, Archives & Gallery
COINS
Freedom Quest
Seniors First BC
UBC Okanagan
Youth Climate Corps
Association des francophones des Kootenays Ouest

Sustaining Support

City of Nelson
RDCK Areas F & H
Province of British Columbia
Friends of the Nelson Public Library

Grants

Courthouse Libraries BC - Law Matters
Province of BC
Osprey Foundation
Columbia Basin Trust – ReDi Grant
Nelson & District Credit Union
Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance
RDCK Area E
Government of Canada



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***“Thanks again for making a space to think about the big questions - it made a huge difference for me when I came back to the Kootenays.”
-Library patron***

2023 Board of Trustees

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2023 Library Staff

Heather Goldik
Helen Blum
Shawna Pickard
Lyndsay Forsythe
Melodie Rae Storey
Erin Maconachie
Heather Dahlgrin
Jackie Barber
Laura Harris
Catherine Brochhagen
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