

WHAT

The library will be reducing hours open to the public by 3 hours per week by **opening Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.** instead of 10:00 a.m.

WHEN

The change in hours begins on **Wednesday January 24, 2018.**

WHY

With the increased traffic, a new interlibrary loan service, and the popularity of new programs, staff struggle to keep up with the workload. Only a small amount of the work needed to run the library is seen by the public.

- Library use is growing faster than the staff can keep up.
- Increased number of visitors to the library (we have a 19.2% increase in visits to the library in 5 years - in 2017 alone we had 124,284 visits!
- Increased programming and services.
- Big increase in interlibrary loans.

WHO

Will the staff lose hours?

The reduction in hours open to the public will not mean a reduction in staff hours. Staff will be at the library keeping up with the backlog of library tasks such as selecting materials, interlibrary loans, maintaining the library website etc. Also, regular staff meetings will be scheduled during this time so that all staff may attend them - a practice we have been unable to do until now.

WHERE

Where can I find out more information?

In 2017, the Sechelt Library created a report "***Five Year Funding Agreement Analysis Between Local Government Funders and the Sechelt Library***" that compares local government funding for the library compared to other public libraries on the Sunshine Coast and across British Columbia. It also looks at the amount that each funding area contributes. The report has been distributed to the District of Sechelt, the Sunshine Coast Regional District, the Sechelt Indian Government District and the provincial Libraries Branch of the Ministry of Education – it is available in the library and on the library's website: <https://sechelt.bc.libraries.coop/>

The provincial library statistics are available at: ***Ministry of Education British Columbia Public Libraries Statistics*** at <https://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset/bc-public-libraries-statistics-2002-2016>

**What will staff
be doing during
these closed hours?**

- planning and creating programs and services for 2018
- selecting materials for 2018
- creating brochures in print/online
- interlibrary loans
- maintaining the library website
- creating special collections
- bookkeeping
- professional development
- ordering books and materials
- services for the visually challenged
- staff meetings
- grant applications
- attending meetings in the community