

Thank you!

- **Friends of the SPL** - In 2015, the Friends donated funds to purchase a new children's craft cart, button maker, a market tent, more European DVDs, support for the Elder Women Drop-in Group and a celebration of the publication anniversary of L.R. Wright's *The Suspect*. Without our Friends, we would not be able to afford the little extras for the community!
- **Library Volunteers** - A loyal group of volunteers shelve thousands of books each year, clean DVDs and assist in the processing of new materials. Without our volunteers, books would not get back to the shelves for you to find and those DVDs would keep skipping!

A few Sechelt Library services ...

- movies ● streaming indie films ● best sellers ●
- business plans ● e-books ● e-talking books ●
- online international newspapers ● magazines ●
- automotive repair database ● consumer reports ●
- 70+ languages to learn online ● preschool kits with toys and books ● large print books ● talking books ●
- one-on-one help with e-readers ● online courses for fun or education ● public computers ● ancestry database ● after school club ●

Sechelt Public Library

2015 Annual Report



Our library is a vital part of the community and a welcoming gateway to ideas, knowledge and information for life-long learning and enjoyment.

Sechelt Public Library Mandate 2015



Message from the Library Board Chair Ann Hopkins

2015 was a year of farewells and new beginnings. Long time board members Dan Fivehouse, former Chair, and Pat Harvey, former Vice Chair and Treasurer, are saying their "goodbyes." We thank them for their dedication, commitment, community service and contribution to the success of the library.

We adopted a new strategic plan in September 2015 and the library is focusing on four key areas: technology, programs, facilities and governance. A plan to renew and reconfigure the library was initiated late in the year.

We think of ourselves as the living room of the community and continue to be one of the busiest libraries of our size in the province. Thanks to staff innovation we were open an additional 300 hours a year at no extra cost.

We are grateful to those who ensure, year after year, that our library is the best it can be and would like to thank our funders the District of Sechelt, the Sunshine Coast Regional District, The Sechelt Indian Government District, the provincial Ministry of Education; Councillors Darnelda Siegers and Mike Shanks who sit on the board as does Sunshine Coast Regional District Chair, Garry Nohr; the Friends of the Library, the Board of Trustees, our wonderful volunteers who donated over 1,900 hours to the library and, of course, our exceptional staff.

Partnerships



Extending more services to the **Pender Harbour Reading Centre** and the **Halfmoon Bay Community School** means more people are able to access services closer to home.

As members of the **Public Library InterLINK** federation, our library enjoys quick delivery of items loaned from the mainland and quick access to 18 library collections.

The library is a member of the Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition which is made up of **Capilano University, Community Resource Centre, School District 46, Gibsons & District Public Library, Sunshine Coast Credit Union and Sunshine Coast Welcoming Communities**. The organization promotes the benefits and importance of increased literacy for all residents of the Sunshine Coast.

Vancouver Coastal Health public health nurses deliver Books for Babies bags, filled with a board book, play scarf and rhymes, and literacy information to new moms on the Sunshine Coast.



Partnerships

The Sechelt Public Library enjoys a close relationship with the **Gibsons & District Public Library**. We share expertise, collections and now some expenses. All citizens from both communities - and visitors! - are always welcome at our libraries!

For 20 years, the **Sechelt Community Archives** has operated out of space in the Sechelt Public Library. Archivist Ann Watson and her team of amazing volunteers work hard to keep our history alive and accessible.



A new partnership with the **Sechelt Aquatic Centre** benefits both organizations by sharing space and resources. Our adjoining locations make it a perfect connection!



School children and libraries are a natural pairing and we would like to thank the teachers and **School District 46** for their support involving the public library in students' lives. Look for more joint programs in 2016!

Message from the Chief Librarian



Few would argue that public libraries have changed dramatically over the past decade, but library staff and trustees work hard to make sure that the needs of our community remains a priority.

Rather than diminish library use, technology has expanded the library's services and purpose. We are here to assist the community in navigating the digital world whether it is by teaching you how to use an e-reader or access free international newspapers, navigate health information on the Internet or find a government form.

At the Sechelt Public Library, we see our role in the community as one that contributes to your quality of life. You will still find book club sets and staff are happy to offer suggestions for next good read but if you haven't visited us lately, drop by or visit our website...we may surprise you!

What do we do?

In 2015, library staff physically **checked out 172,842 items** and **checked in 172,842 items** when they were returned. Each month they handle over **3000 questions** on the phone and in person. In addition, they **order and catalogue** new books, DVDs and magazines, provide **computer assistance**, **manage** our online resources, order and receive over **16,000 interlibrary loan items** and **lend another 25,000 items** to other libraries.

2015 Financial Highlights

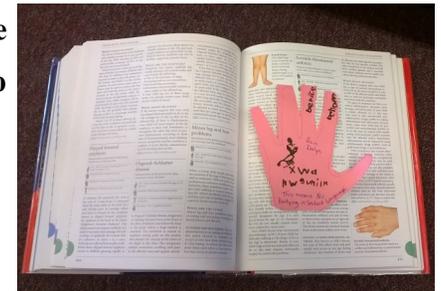
Revenues	2015	2014
Local Government	528,138	497,809
Provincial Grants	68,209	75,512
Federal Grants	4,641	3,445
Library Revenues	19,963	19,402
Other grants and income	2,181	17,552
Total Revenues	623,132	613,720
Expenses		
Salaries and Benefits	463,241	432,215
Collections	87,674	64,181
Operations	86,370	83,017
Total Expenses	637,285	579,413

The Sechelt Public Library would like to thank Regional District Areas A, B, D, the District of Sechelt and the Sechelt Indian Government District for their five-year funding agreement to support library services in our community.

- The community borrowed **172,842** books, DVDs, and magazines
- **29,075 e-books** were borrowed—an increase of **65%**
- **Walk in visits** are up 9% from 2013
- **Our busiest months** are July and August - 56 visitors per hour!
- Library staff gave **165 one-on-one technology lessons**
- The **library website** was visited 41,237 times
- Members viewed over **500 hours** of free online courses

Your Thoughts

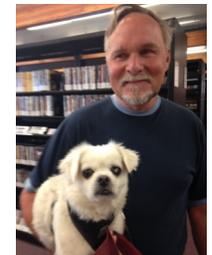
“I love the new look for the shelves and it is our luck to have such a great library in our town.”



“Thank you for your help throughout the year. I always look forward to going to the library and you all make it a happy place.”



“Your new opening hours are great for people who work!”



“Thank you for another great year of service. Special thanks for the elders’ tea times—great addition!”