



Annual Report 2016



MESSAGE FROM THE Chair, Board of Trustees and Chief Librarian



Ann Hopkins

Chair, Board of
Trustees
Sechelt Library



Margaret Hodgins

Chief Librarian
Sechelt Library

In 2016 we made significant progress on all four strategic priorities: programs and services, technology, governance and facilities. We launched our new logo with the signature line “space to think” as we marked the twentieth anniversary of the library in its current location. Built in the “pre-digital” era, the building now needs to provide better accessibility to collections, easy access to technology, and flexible spaces which will accommodate collections, people and programs.

With these demands in mind, the library moved forward with a renewal plan, designed by the architectural firm DIALOG, to repurpose the existing space. The redesign will allow for future expansion, but the first priority is to renew a dated and compromised space and bring the library up-to-code.

Surveys of over 1000 community members demonstrated that 76 per cent are in support of the library renewal. While the survey revealed great community interest in the library being technologically current and digitally relevant, the message was also clear that the library needs to keep books, literacy and learning as core services. The importance of providing an inviting and welcoming space for all people to connect with ideas, each other and library staff was evident in the



survey results. The role of the library is changing and in today's world the expectation is that the library is not only a resource centre for learning and recreation but is increasingly woven into the fabric of the community as a free public space.

We will need the continuing support of the community and local government as we move forward. We are applying to the District of Sechelt, our major funder, for support, and we are grateful to the District for funding the second stage of design development to take us to pre-construction. To further fund the renewal, in 2017 the Library will be launching a fundraising campaign themed "Inspire, Learn, Grow, GIVE."

In closing, we are grateful to those who make our library such a success: Our funders the District of Sechelt, the Sunshine Coast Regional District, The Sechelt Indian Government District and the Province of British Columbia; Canada 150: Community Infrastructure Grant; The Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Library, our dedicated volunteers and our exceptional staff. And we are grateful to our library members and visitors who provide feedback, visit often and make the library a true community hub.

2016 Accomplishments

Community & Renovation Surveys

In the spring 2016, the Sechelt Library conducted two surveys to gather the thoughts and opinions of library users and library non-users. Ads were placed in the Coast Reporter and Harbour Spiel, print copies were available at the Pender Harbour Reading Centre, in the library and a table staffed by volunteers was set up at the Trail Bay Mall for four days. Copies were also available via mail by request.

- a total of 1,129 surveys were completed
- 43% of respondents visit the library to get assistance from staff
- When asked what the Sechelt Public Library should be 75% responded "Technologically current and digital relevant"
- 85% of respondents indicated that the primary role of the library is as a "hub for learning"
- 70% of respondents agreed that the library needs "a renewal of various areas to enhance access, mobility and functionality"



One comment "Good survey questions. It's good to see our library is adapting to technology and community need changes."



Outreach to the shíshálh Nation Community

In 2016, the Sechelt Public Library continued to nurture our friendship with the shíshálh community. Chief Calvin Craigan attended a luncheon in his honour to discuss with staff the meaning of reconciliation efforts and programs. With Chief Craigan's support, the library created a new First Nations Collection which brings together in one place the social, political, cultural, historical and geographical issues of Canada's first nations but in particular the shíshálh nation.

The library also keeps in regular contact with the caregivers and children of the Mem7iman Child Development Centre. Sophie Gawn, our travelling children's librarian, makes regular storytime visits to the centre where they share stories and sing Sophie's good bye song in both English and she shashishalhem. We also welcome the centre staff and children to the library when they walk here to gather new books to read and share stories with library staff.

In December, the Elder Women Drop-in Group, led by library programmer SherryI Latimer, visited the Tems Swiya museum. Curator Raquel Joe welcomed the group warmly and spoke of her love of traditional weaving, the significance of traditional storytelling and shared her knowledge of the musuem's collection—a cross cultural, intergenerational exchange.

Visitors Comments and Photographs

"Thank you for creating a bright, cozy, safe and fun place for children and families! What a great way to promote a love of literacy!"



"The Sechelt Public Library is the gem of our community and region. We are so fortunate to have it including helpful, cheerful, knowledgeable staff and board plus the friends of the library. The library makes us hum with vitality. Thank you!"



"Our libraries provide the services of an urban library while still maintaining the small town friendliness that brings me to the Sun Coast. Thank you!!"

"I just finished a 6 week photography course through Gale Courses—it was excellent. Please keep it—it was great to be able to take a course like this requiring just a library card!"



"I think libraries are one of the most valuable community resources we have and support their growth and development. Thank you for all you do!"

2016 Fact & Figures



Staff responded to 45,220 Reference & General Questions



Public Computer Sessions 13,612



Volunteers worked
1600 hours

Over 1100 hours of
free online courses
watched from GALE
Courses

Visitors 120,665

Average 50 visitors
per hour

Attendance for all
children's programs
was 8,361



In 60 days, the Tech tutor
helped 308 people with their
technology questions



2314 searches on Ancestry
Library Edition



Books, magazines, DVDs
borrowed 172,061

e-books borrowed
18,576

1000 new library
memberships

2016 Financial Highlights

Operating Revenues

Local Government (District of Sechelt, SCRD, SIGD)	559,338
Provincial Grants	68,207
Federal Grants	8,308
Earned Income	17,895
Donations (SPL Friends and general)	9,358
TOTAL:	\$663,106

Capital

SPL Foundation donation	138,263
TOTAL:	\$138,263

Operating Expenses

Administration	509,790
Technical Services (Acquisitions and Processing)	105,013
Operations Support	33,960
Technology & Communications	9,961
Programming & Promotion	9,806
TOTAL:	\$668,530

Partners

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Community Resource Centre
Festival of the Written Arts
Gibsons & District Public Library
Halfmoon Bay Community Association
Pender Harbour Reading Centre
Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club
Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition
Sunshine Coast Credit Union
Therapeutic Paws of Canada –
 Roger Laycock and Tamu
SD 46
Mem7iman Child Development Centre
Welcoming Communities
White Cane Society

Volunteers

SPL Board
Friends of the Sechelt Public Library
Teen Advisory Group (TAG)
Volunteer Program



The Team

Library Board of Trustees

Ann Hopkins, *Chair*
Lois McCready, *Treasurer*
Bev Shimazaki
Gillian Smith
Sadira Rodrigues
Janice Raphael
James Mandick

Special Thanks

Friends of the Library
Jill Hightower
Robert Scott

Library staff and years of service

*Rose Toenders (25 years)
*Lolly Mackenzie (19 years)
Beth Dodds (18 years)
Donna Walsh-Wheeldon (15 years)
Lorinda Waite (12 years)
Janette Hellmuth (10 years)
Lynndie Dzuris (9 years)

Teresa Eckford (8 years)
*Margaret Hodgins (3 years)
Sophie Gawn (2 years)
Jeff Wadge (1 year)
Sherryl Latimer (1 month)

** full time employees*





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