

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

"Libraries [are] full of ideas – perhaps the most dangerous and powerful of all weapons."

*-Sarah J. Maas*



Space to think

message from the

## **BOARD CHAIR, SUSAN EGERMAN**

An historic and successful year at the Sechelt Library has come to an end. After years of financial struggle, which forced the elimination of programs for children and then adults, we were able to restore both, and we are now in a sustainable position. In 2019 we saw an increase in programs available to our children, youth, and adult patrons. We welcomed over 114,000 visits, which showcased an increasing demand for library services.

Of all the things it does, the library continues to be a place to bring our community together, whether it be through program offerings or simply a safe place to gather, discover and connect. During the summer, the Sechelt Library Board conducted a survey of more than 500 people to guide our collections and strategic planning process. Our new strategic plan was drafted late in the year and focused on four key areas: Programs, Facilities, Organizational Health, and Community Partnerships. The library staff and Board are looking forward to seeing the objectives in the plan implemented.





A few key objectives include the enhancement of existing partnerships, such as Better at Home, and the creation of new ones; an exploration of facilities options to revitalize and increase the children's learning space; and the creation of targeted programming that affects older adults. Every day the library strives to connect people to the world and to each other through its physical and digital collections, programs, and one-on-one assistance.

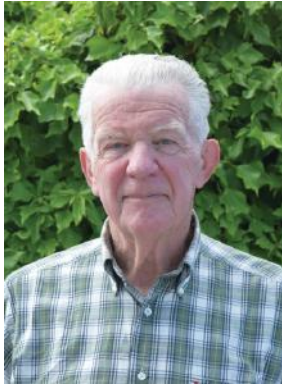


The Board is extremely grateful for our hard-working and committed volunteers, from the Friends of the Library to the individual volunteers who help every day in the Library. The Friends of the Library continue to enhance the library's profile in the community with their ever popular book fairs. Funding from their activities has been used to purchase much needed library items such as the spring-loaded book return. Our library is a treasure for our community. It is a welcoming, all-inclusive space that reaches a cross section of the population.



The Board thanks our funders and the politicians on our Board: the District of Sechelt, Sunshine Coast Regional District, Sechelt Indian Government District, Province of British Columbia, Councillor Alton Toth for the District of Sechelt, and Director Lori Pratt for the Regional District for their recognition and support of the services the library provides to the community. Without it, the library would not be here for the Coast.

Also, we want to acknowledge Mike Shanks, a trustee whose sudden death this year left us all with a great sense of loss. His gentle demeanor and genuine concern for the library will stay alive in the memory of those of us who knew him.



In closing, we are proud of the accomplishments of 2019 and excited for what 2020 will bring. A special thank you goes to the library staff, as it is primarily through their efforts that the library holds its place as the Heart of our Community.



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message from the

## CHIEF LIBRARIAN, ELLE ARCHIBALD

### My first full year

My first full year as Chief Librarian at Sechelt Library has been incredibly fulfilling and informative. I have continued to be inspired by the passion and dedication that is demonstrated by our staff every day. As we continue to look for ways to meet the wants and needs of our patrons, excellent customer service remains our chief goal.

### Community hub

Sechelt Library is a community hub with something for everyone who walks through our door. Libraries play an important role in our democracy by providing access to information and life long learning, enhancing social inclusion and equity, and fostering civic engagement.





## Where We Shone Brightest

Where we shone brightest this year was in our strengthened ties to our community through our partnerships. Whether we were in Pender Harbour through our link to Community Schools or developing a new service with help from Sunshine Coast Community Foundation, Lions Club, Friends of the Library, Community Resource Centre or the Seniors Planning Table, we showed that we build a stronger and better community by working together.



## A Year of Change

2019 was truly a year of change, and with milestones ahead such as a renovation plan for the library and launching our Dementia Care Kits, the future looks even brighter.

# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Drop in Lego with Stephanie and Lego Christiine

This program ran every Wednesday afternoon in the Children's area. Our Master Builders joined us in the library to play with our Lego collection and build creative designs.

## Family History Course with Teresa

This six week course, held in September and October, covered the basics of family history research. Our enthusiastic students learned how to approach their ancestor quest in a logical and organized manner, record their findings, and share their discoveries with others.

## Spooky Story Walk for Halloween with Stephanie

This adventurous story walk encouraged participants to use their imagination. Participants took a path around the library and enjoyed a classic story. This event was oriented towards all ages, and helped to kick off Halloween.







## Summer Reading Club Story Walk with Stephanie

This story walk was held at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden. Pages of a picture book were posted along a path so participants could enjoy nature while reading a story. Participants won prizes and enjoyed delicious treats.

## Computer Organization Club with Sam

The computer organization club covered various topics including photo, email, and file organization. This club welcomed all, but was tailored to beginners in computer organization techniques.



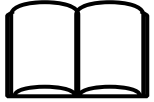
## Card Making with Ruth Moore

Local card making guru, Ruth Moore, led a card making course and a holiday card making workshop. Participants were thrilled to learn a variety of crafting techniques and left with wonderful card creations.

## Dungeons & Dragons with Stephanie, Gillian, and Ryan

Local D&D masters and participants met weekly to enjoy this fantasy tabletop role playing game. Ages 12+ were welcome to join the adventure led by volunteer Dungeon Master Ryan.

# 2019 FACTS & FIGURES



**41,501**  
print volumes held



**19,400**  
wifi users



**1849**  
volunteer hours



**39,573**  
reference and general questions



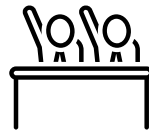
**114,300**  
library visitors



**11,472**  
public computer sessions



**791**  
new library memberships



**3648**  
participants in programs

# 2019 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## Operating Revenue

Local Government	\$837,415.00
Provincial Grants	\$77,183.00
Federal Grants	\$4,986.00
Donations and Other Grants	\$11,645.00
Library Revenue	\$15,566.00
Interest Income	\$345.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$947,140.00</b>

## Capital Revenue

Capital Reserve Fund	\$32,303.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$32,303.00</b>

**TOTAL REVENUE** **\$979,443.00**

## \*Excess allocated funds as follows

Contingency Reserve Fund	\$56,590
Encumbered Funds	\$43,672

## Operating Expense

### Administration

Salaries and Benefits	\$588,439
Building Maintenance	\$29,202
Office and Communications	\$54,879

### Operations

Acquisition and Processing	\$128,198
Programming and Promotion	\$28,511
Computer and IT Services	\$20,362
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$849,591</b>

## Capital Expense

Depreciation Expense	\$27,654
Capital Asset Expense	\$1,936
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,590</b>

**TOTAL Expense** **\$879,181**

# THE TEAM

## Library Staff

**Rose Toenders**, 29 years

**Beth Dodds**, 21 years

**Lorinda Waite**, 15 years

**Janette Hellmuth**, 13 years

**Teresa Eckford**, 11 years

**Jeff Wadge**, 4 years

**Claire DeVries**, 3 years

**Sam Iversen**, 3 years

**Elle Archibald**, 2 years

**Mercy Campbell**, 2 years

**Stephanie Anderson**, 2 years

**Sarah Donner**, 2 years

**Cheryl Pedersen**, 2 years

**Mariam VanWesenbeeck**, 2 years

**Gillian Smith**, 1 year

## Board of Trustees

**Susan Egerman**, Board Chair

**Jack Young**, Board Vice Chair

**Beverly Shimazaki**, Treasurer

**Ruth Moore**, Board Member

**Diana Mumford**, Board Member

**Garry Nohr**, Board Member

**Janet Falk**, Board Member

**Mike Shanks**, Board Member

**Spencer Keys**, Board Member

**Ann Hopkins**, Past Chair & Advisor

**Alton Toth**, District of Sechelt Representative

**Lori Pratt**, SCR D Representative

## Contact

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