

## **Director's Report**

### **Sechelt Public Library**

**December 4, 2021 – January 29, 2022**

**By Leianne Emery**

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## 1. Cover Photo

A very unique patron contemplates checking out *Pete the Cat* while visiting the library in December.

## 2. Excuses for Damaged Items this Month

My bird ate the magazine.

The dog chewed the CD cover because it accidentally got pizza on it.

## 3. AGM Preparation

The Annual general Meeting of the Sechelt Public Library will be held on Saturday March 26, 2021 via zoom.

### **Nominations**

As per the Policy Manual, a Nomination Package has been created and will be available for pick up in the library. Copies were included in Meeting Agenda Package and include:

Nomination Package Introduction - 2022

Nomination Form - 2022

Nomination Fact Sheet - 2022

### **Nominating Committee**

This ad hoc committee consists of Pat Harvey, Board Chair and one or more interested Board Members.

### **Ads:**

Ad is being created and will be placed in the Coast Reporter on February 25 (at least 21 days in advance).

### **Zoom Link for AGM:**

Jack Young will set up an AGM zoom meeting link so we can have it on the website with the Agenda

**Trustees:**

As we currently understand, trustees continuing in the 2022-2023 two-year term:

Garry Nohr  
Jack Young

As we currently understand, nominees for Trustees for the two-year term 2022-2023, who are willing to be re-appointed to the Board are:

Ann Hopkins  
Ruth Moore  
Pat Harvey  
Rhian Piprell

The following Board member will have completed an 8-year term and are required to take at least 1 year off:

Beverly Shimazaki

As we currently understand, we will have openings for up to three (3) new Board Members

## 4. Grants

**Canada Healthy Communities Grant**

We have finally received the grant from Canada Healthy Communities Initiative for \$7541 which we applied for in 2021 towards purchasing 20 Playaway units for adults. We will work towards purchasing, cataloguing and packaging these in Q1 2022.

**CVITP (Community Volunteer Income Tax Program) Grant**

We also applied for this grant in 2021 and were advised we would be receiving. If we can navigate through the **ridiculously over-complicated government CVITP grant** portals, funding agreement contract, Canada Post Epost Connect electronic service, confidential messages and bank grade encryption documents. See what I mean...

We are hoping to have up to \$500 in costs covered towards providing free tax service to the community.

**Sunshine Coast Healthcare Auxiliary Grant**

We are going to put forth a grant application for this upcoming grant which is due by February 28, 2022

## 5. Funding Payments

The Funding Agreement indicates the following dates for payment to the Sechelt Library:

	Beginning of Q1	Beginning of Q2	Beginning of Q3	Beginning of Q4
DOS	30%	30%	20%	20%
SCRD	25%	25%	25%	25%
SIGD	50% January 5	50% May 31	0%	0%

Funding received to date:

	Q1 pmt	Q2 pmt	Q3 pmt	Q4 pmt
DOS	Received			
SCRD	Received			
SIGD				

The SIGD have been emailed regarding payment.

## 6. Budget 2022 - 2026

### **2022 – 2026 Budget:**

The budget submission and response to questions asked by the SCRDC was submitted to the SCRDC on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The report as submitted is included at the end of this Director's Report.

### **SCRDC Special Corporate and Administrative Services Committee**

Although we currently have a 5-year funding Agreement in place with our three main funders (SCRDC, DOS and the SIGD), we still presented a 5-year budget to the SCRDC with a slightly different format to last year.

Pre-budget      November 1 and 2 (we do not submit or present at this meeting)

Submission:    November 15, 2021 (The budget submission and response to questions asked by the SCRDC was submitted to the SCRDC on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The report as submitted was included in the November Director's Report.

Round 1        December 13-15 (we presented via ZOOM live at the Dec 13, 2021 meeting)

Round 2        January 24-26, 2022 (we did not have to present).

Final Adoption Plan    February 24, 2022 (will not apply to us)

### **District of Sechelt:**

Did not request a formal budget presentation as the funding agreement already in place.

## 7. Provincial Restrictions

December 22, 2021 marked yet another change by the BC Province with regards to COVID 19 restrictions. We were all scrambling to understand these new restrictions and changes. It was very bad timing as it was right before Christmas and time was of the essence in putting together last-minute changes to January programming already in place – as well as program guides and marketing. All library Directors were so confused by the new and difficult to comprehend wording in the December 22 Gatherings and Events Order that we all decided to forgo all in person programming for the month of January 2022. Meetings with the Provincial Libraries Branch did not clarify anything as they were also confused. The Gatherings and Events Order dated December 22, 2021 was then repealed and replaced with a new Gatherings and Events Order dated January 17, 2022 which did not clarify anything any better. Previous to these two new Gathering and Events Orders (Dec 22 and Jan 17), the Province, at our insistence, made rules for libraries, programming and activities on library property clear. It is now ridiculously unclear. Almost all BC libraries are not doing in person programming for the month of February as well.

If you are interested in reading any of the Orders, they can be found at this link:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus#guidance>

### **Covid-19 Re-Opening and Safety Plan**

In the midst of this, the Province also required us to reactivate our official Safety Plans – and thus Phase 5 of our Covid-19 Re-Opening and Safety Plan is now in place.

**Phase 5 of our Covid -19 Re-Opening and Safety Plan is derived from information contained in the following PHO Orders and Guidance:**

#### **December 3, 2021**

PHO issues another Order for Face Coverings (COVID-19) dated December 3, 2021. 21 pages.

#### **December 22, 2021**

PHO issued new directives in the Gatherings and Events Order dated December 22, 2021. 28 pages.

#### **January 11, 2022**

On January 7, 2022, the provincial health officer announced an order requiring employers to re-activate their COVID-19 Safety Plans. A change to COVID-19 Safety plans replaces the previous requirement for employers to have communicable disease prevention plans in their workplaces (which was not actually required in written form). While communicable disease prevention plans and COVID-19 Safety Plans share some of the same fundamental principles, COVID-19 Safety Plans are formal, written plans with more rigorous controls and are more appropriate for periods of elevated risk.

**January 17, 2022**

The Gatherings and Events Order dated December 22, 2021 was repealed and replaced with a new Gatherings and Events order dated January 17, 2022. It has no expiry date. 27 pages.

**January 18, 2022**

BC Center for Disease Control (BC CDC) – guidance for Employers and Businesses

**January 20, 2022**

A new PHO Order on Workplace Safety dated January 20, 2022. It has no expiry date. 11 pages.

**Note: It is also a requirement to have the Re-Opening and Safety Plan posted on the website and you can locate the latest version of ours on our website homepage.**

## 8. Sea to Sky Library Champions Project (New to BC)

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, libraries from Sechelt, Gibsons, Bowen Island, Lillooet, Pemberton, Squamish and Whistler met with the team from New to BC to discuss the first of the Library Champions Project to be done with Sea to Sky and Sunshine Coast libraries. The project is having difficulty meeting a quota of newcomers who qualify and they may be opening this project up to Vancouver as well.

**What is the Library Champions Project? (excerpt from the New to BC website)**

The Library Champions Project (LCP) is a three-month volunteer program for new immigrants.

During the project, Library Champions are trained to conduct outreach to other new immigrants. The LCP's four training sessions focus on building communication, presentation, and outreach skills and on gaining an understanding of the range of programs, services, and resources that are provided by libraries and immigrant and community service agencies.

After the training, Library Champions develop an outreach plan that is doable for them and fits their schedule. These plans include sharing information with friends, family, colleagues, and other community members, giving group presentations, speaking with community agencies, and using social media. LCP facilitators support the Library Champions with their outreach by helping them identify additional contacts and overcoming any challenges.

On average, each Library Champion shares information with more than 50 other new immigrants. As of September 2021, more than 1,750 new immigrants have been trained as Library Champions and these individuals have reached out to more than 96,700 other new immigrants!

Libraries across the province are a part of the Library Champions Project. The project is also supported by numerous [immigrant-serving organizations and community agencies](#) which assist with project promotion and referrals.

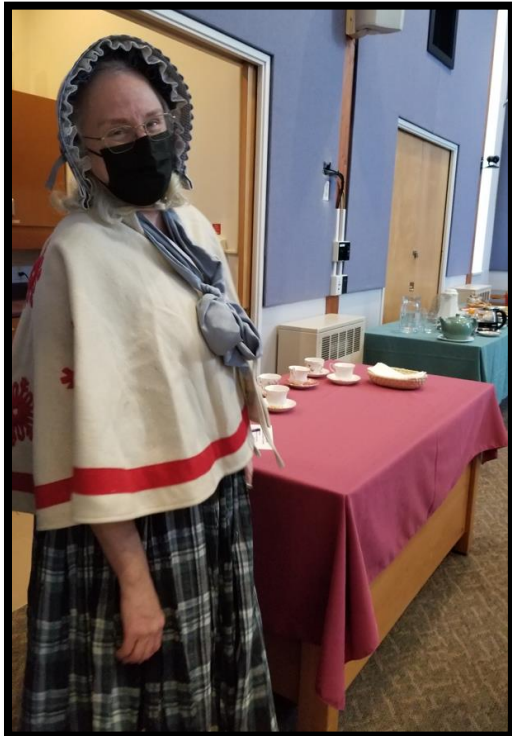


## 9. Program Guides – December 2021 Highlights

**Ukulele Jam – Christmas Carol Concert** on December 13<sup>th</sup>. It was beautiful to hear throughout the library that day and even the lobby was full of happy listeners.



**A Dickens Christmas** (two day event) , much loved by so many and so professionally done.

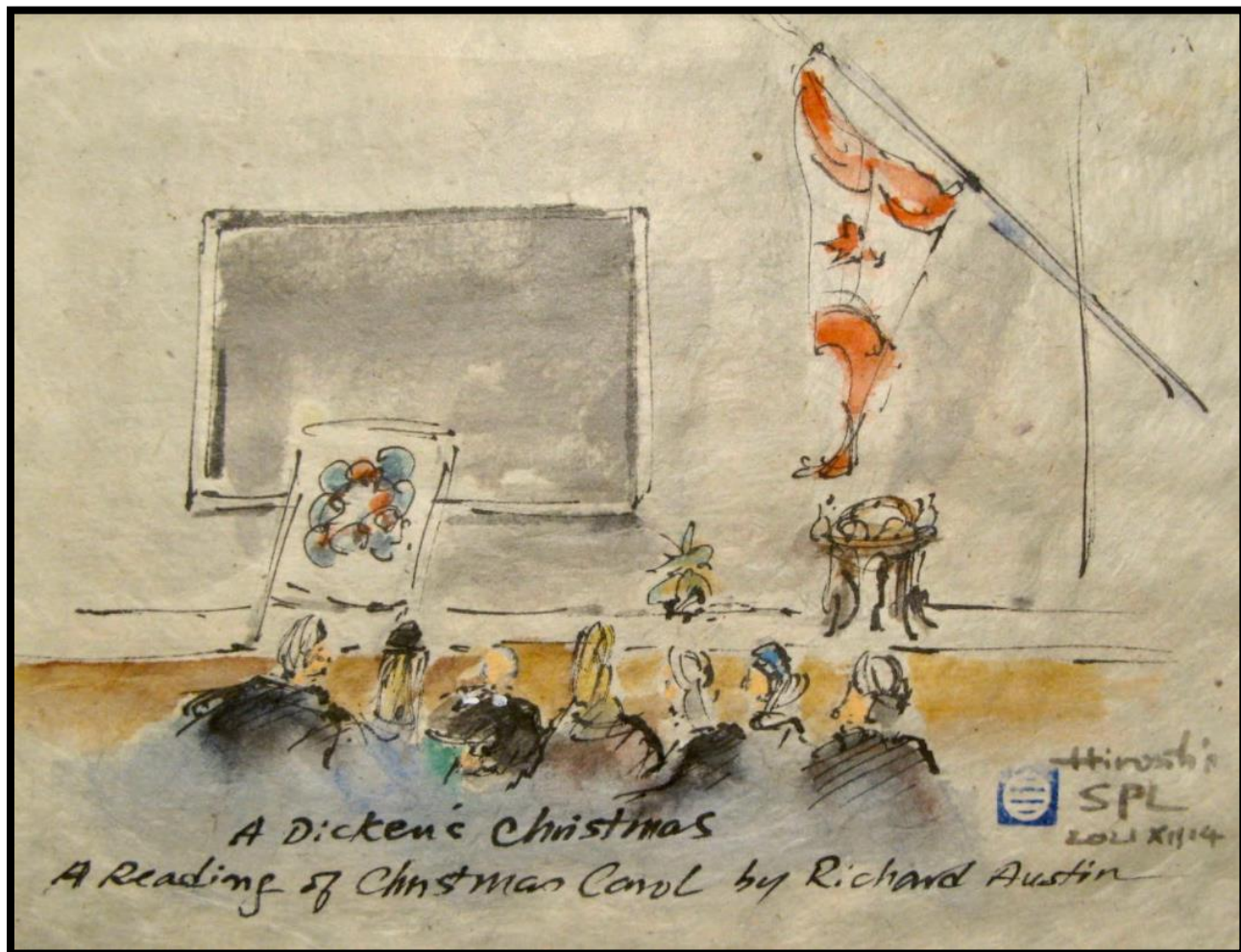


*Gillian - the perfect event host*





*Richard Austin and his assistant getting ready for the reading of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens*



Included with permission from artist Hiroshi Shimazaki.






*Included with permission from the artist Hiroshi Shimazaki*

Another December hit was the **Ukulele Jam – Christmas Carol Concert** on December 13<sup>th</sup>. It was beautiful to hear throughout the library that day and even the lobby was full of happy listeners.



Director's Report

## 10. Program Guides - January and February 2022



**REGISTRATION**

All programs are **FREE!**  
Call (604) 885-3260 or drop by the library to register.  
**\*Masks required inside the library\***

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday:	10-5
Tuesday:	10-5
Wednesday:	10-6
Thursday:	10-5
Friday:	10-5
Saturday:	10-3
Sunday:	Closed

**CONTACT**

☎ (604) 885-3260  
✉ [info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca](mailto:info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca)

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🐦 @secheltlibrary

**FAMILY LITERACY WEEK**

January 23 - 30, 2022

A Book  
by  
Emily Elizabeth  
Dickinson

There is no frigate like a book  
To take us lands away,  
Nor any coursers like a page  
Of prancing poetry.  
This traverse may the poorest take  
Without oppress of toll;  
How frugal is the chariot  
That bears a human soul!



This work is in the public domain.

**ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT**


**Accessibility Services** **FREE**  
One-on-one assistance with Daisy audio players, and other accessibility programs and resources for individuals with visual impairments. **Appointment required.**


**Genealogy Tutoring** **FREE**  
Curious about your history? Want to discover your family tree? **Appointment required.**

**Tech Education** **FREE**  
*Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10:00-12:00*  
30 minute one-on-one sessions with our local tech expert. **Appointment required.**


**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

**Watch this space for new Book Faire dates in 2022**





**January 2022 Program Guide**



## SAFETY

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Patrons,  
As you know, over the last two years, we have undergone many changes to library safety protocols, cleaning regimes, service deliveries and program and event deliveries. For the safety of our staff, our patrons and our community, Sechelt Public Library has, and will continue to follow the Recommendations, Guidance, Restrictions and Orders from:

1. Provincial Health Officer (under the Provincial Health Act and the Emergency Program Act)
2. BC Center for Disease Control
3. WorkSafe BC
4. Libraries Branch of the Provincial Government
5. Vancouver Coastal Health
6. Public Health Officer

As of December 23, 2021, and at least until the end of January 2022 (also subject to further change), we will be following these guidelines for our library:

1. Masks (age 5+) must be worn at all times inside the library (must cover nose and mouth). We can provide if necessary.
2. Vaccine passports are not required for entrance to library
3. Library Programs and Events will be via ZOOM only unless outdoors.
4. One-on-One appointments will continue (technology, genealogy and accessibility)

Thank-you,  
*Leanne Emery*  
Director, Sechelt Public Library  
December 23, 2021

## ADULTS

### Spanish Café

Thursday Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 Beginner 1:00-2:00 & Intermediate 2:00-3:00 **Via Zoom**  
Practice your Spanish in a friendly environment with Marcy Solis De Ovando.  
**Registration Required**

### General Fiction Book Club

Tuesday Jan 11, 1:00-2:30 **Zoom**  
Read *Medicine Walk* by Richard Wagamese in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 2nd Tuesday in January.

### Introduction to Quick Books

Wednesday Jan 12, 19, 1:00 **Via Zoom**  
Free two-session zoom class for entrepreneurs covering the basics of Quick Books Online  
**Registration Required**

### Chair Yoga

Monday, Jan 10, 17, 24, 31, 10:30-11:30 **Zoom**  
Join Julie Morgan for this gentle form of yoga.

### Adult Card Making

Thursday, Jan 13, 27, 11:00-12:00 **Zoom**  
Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class! All supplies provided. **Registration Required**

### Astronomy Group Meeting

Friday Jan 14, 7:00PM-10:00PM **Via Zoom**  
Presentation by Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club

### Mystery Book Club

Tuesday Jan 18, 1:00-2:30 **Zoom**  
Read *Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 3rd Tuesday in January.

### New Book Clubs

Interested in a specific type of book club?  
Let's talk. Email: [info@sechelt.bcllibrary.ca](mailto:info@sechelt.bcllibrary.ca)

### The Redundant Group for Redundancy

Canceled  
The Redundant Group for Redundancy has been marked redundant and therefore canceled.

## CHILDREN & TEENS

### Teen Advisory Group & Teen Book Reviews

Have a say in what Teen programs we offer, review books, and earn volunteer hours. Ages 13-19. Email [sam.iversen@secheltlibrary.ca](mailto:sam.iversen@secheltlibrary.ca) to join our Discord Server.

### Teen Book Club

Thursday, Jan 13, 3:30-4:30 **Zoom**  
Read *Slay* by Brittney Morris, and discuss it with us. Ages 13-19.

### Literacy Week StoryWalk®

Wednesday Jan 26-Tuesday Feb 1 **Rockwood**  
Read a book while enjoying nature with a family StoryWalk®. Visit anytime during the week. All Ages Welcome.

### Kids Card Making

Saturday, Feb 5, 1:00-2:00 **Zoom**  
Local card-making buff, Ruth Moore, will be leading this workshop on card-making and design. Supplies provided. Call or email the library to register. Masks required as per current health regulations. For Ages 4 to 8

## New in February

### Writer's Studio Writing Consults

Saturday, Feb 12, Mar 12, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00 **Room of Requirement**  
Need an opinion on your writing? Free 45 min one-on-one consultations with Jocelyne Gregory MFA, on seven pages of your poetry or prose in the Room of Requirement. Please provide the sample of your work 1-2 weeks prior to your appointment. **Registration Required.**

## ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

### Accessibility Services **FREE**

One-on-one assistance with Daisy audio players, and other accessibility programs and resources for individuals with visual impairments. **Appointment required.**

### Genealogy Tutoring **FREE**

Curious about your history? Want to discover your family tree?

**Appointment required.**

### Tech Education **FREE**

*Monday, Tuesday, 10:00 - 12:00*

*Wednesday 1:00-3:00*

30 minute one-on-one sessions with our local tech expert. **Appointment required.**

### Repair Café **FREE**

*Saturday, Feb 12th, 10:30-2:30*

Free, while you wait, repair to domestic appliances and devices by volunteers from Gibsons Repair Café.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

**Watch this  
space for  
new Book Faire  
dates in 2022**



## REGISTRATION

**All programs are FREE!**

**\*Masks are required inside the library\*  
(Age 5+)**

**Call (604) 885-3260 or drop by the library to register.**

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday:	10-5	Closed Feb 21
Tuesday:	10-5	
Wednesday:	10-6	
Thursday:	10-5	
Friday:	10-5	
Saturday:	10-3	
Sunday:	Closed	

## CONTACT

☎ (604) 885-3260

✉ [info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca](mailto:info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca)

P.O. Box 2104 Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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📷 @secheltlibrary

📺 @secheltlibrary



# February

# 2022

# Program Guide





## ADULTS

### Writer's Studio Writing Consults

Saturdays Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 9, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00

#### Room of Requirement

Need an opinion on your writing? Free 45 min consultation with Jocelyne Gregory MFA, on seven pages of your poetry or prose. Please provide the sample of your work 1-2 weeks prior to your appointment. **Registration Required.**

### Introduction to Quick Books

Wednesday Feb 2, 9, 1:00 Via Zoom

Free two-session zoom class for entrepreneurs covering the basics of Quick Books Online. **Registration Required.**

### Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 Zoom



Adventure begins at the library! Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons and take part in creative story gaming. Join the party for exciting adventures in imagination every Tuesday online. Registration required. Call or email the library to join the waitlist for when a new table is set up. **Registration Required.**

### Astronomy Group Meeting

Friday Feb 11, 7:00PM-10:00PM Via Zoom

Presentation by Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club.

### Chair Yoga

Monday, Feb 7, 14, 28 10:30-11:30 Zoom

Join Julie Morgan for this gentle form of yoga.

### Adult Card Making



Thursday, Feb 3, 17, 11:00-12:00 Zoom

Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class!

All supplies provided. **Registration Required.**

### General Fiction Book Club



Tuesday Feb 8, 1:00-2:30 Zoom

Read *The Illegal* by Lawrence Hill in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 2nd Tuesday in February.

### Mystery Book Club

Tuesday Feb 15, 1:00-2:30 Zoom

Read *Her Royal Spyness* by Rhys Bowen in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 3rd Tuesday in February.

### New Book Clubs

Interested in a specific type of book club? Let's talk. Email: [info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca](mailto:info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca)

### Procrastinator Support Meeting

TBD

The procrastinator support meeting has been postponed, and will take place at a later date.

## COMING IN MARCH

### Free Income Tax Clinic

Tuesdays Starting Mar 1, 10:00 - 4:00 Library Lobby

Individuals earning \$35,000 or less or families earning \$45,000 or less for two plus \$2,500 per dependent are eligible for free income tax preparation.

Couples must provide complete tax information for both spouses. The program does not serve clients with employment expenses, self-employment income, rental property income, or capital gains. Interest income must be less than \$1,000.

**Appointment Required**

## CHILDREN & TEENS

### Teen Book Club



Thursday, Feb 10, 3:30-4:30 Zoom

Read *The Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard, and discuss it with us. Ages 13-19.

### Kids Card Making

Saturday, Feb 5, 1:00-2:00 Zoom

Local card making buff, Ruth Moore, will be leading this workshop on card making and design. Supplies provided. Call or email the library to register. The Zoom link will be emailed to you before the program starts. You will be contacted when the supply kits are ready for pickup. For Ages 4 to 8. **Registration Required.**

### Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 Zoom



Adventure begins at the library! Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons and take part in creative story gaming. Join the party for exciting adventures in imagination every Tuesday online. Registration required. Call or email the library to join the waitlist for when a new table is set up. **Registration Required.**

### Teen Advisory Group & Teen Book Reviews



Have a say in what Teen programs we offer, review books, and earn volunteer hours. Ages 13-19. Email [sam.iversen@secheltlibrary.ca](mailto:sam.iversen@secheltlibrary.ca) to join our Discord Server.

## 11. Ukulele Purchases

We have now obtained 8 ukuleles (and cases) to add to our library assets. Our current ukulele music program is very popular and we think it would be beneficial, for a number of reasons, to have ukulele is available for patrons to borrow through our library collection. We will commence cataloguing soon and will initially have them available for ukulele beginner program participants. They will eventually transition into the collection for all patrons.



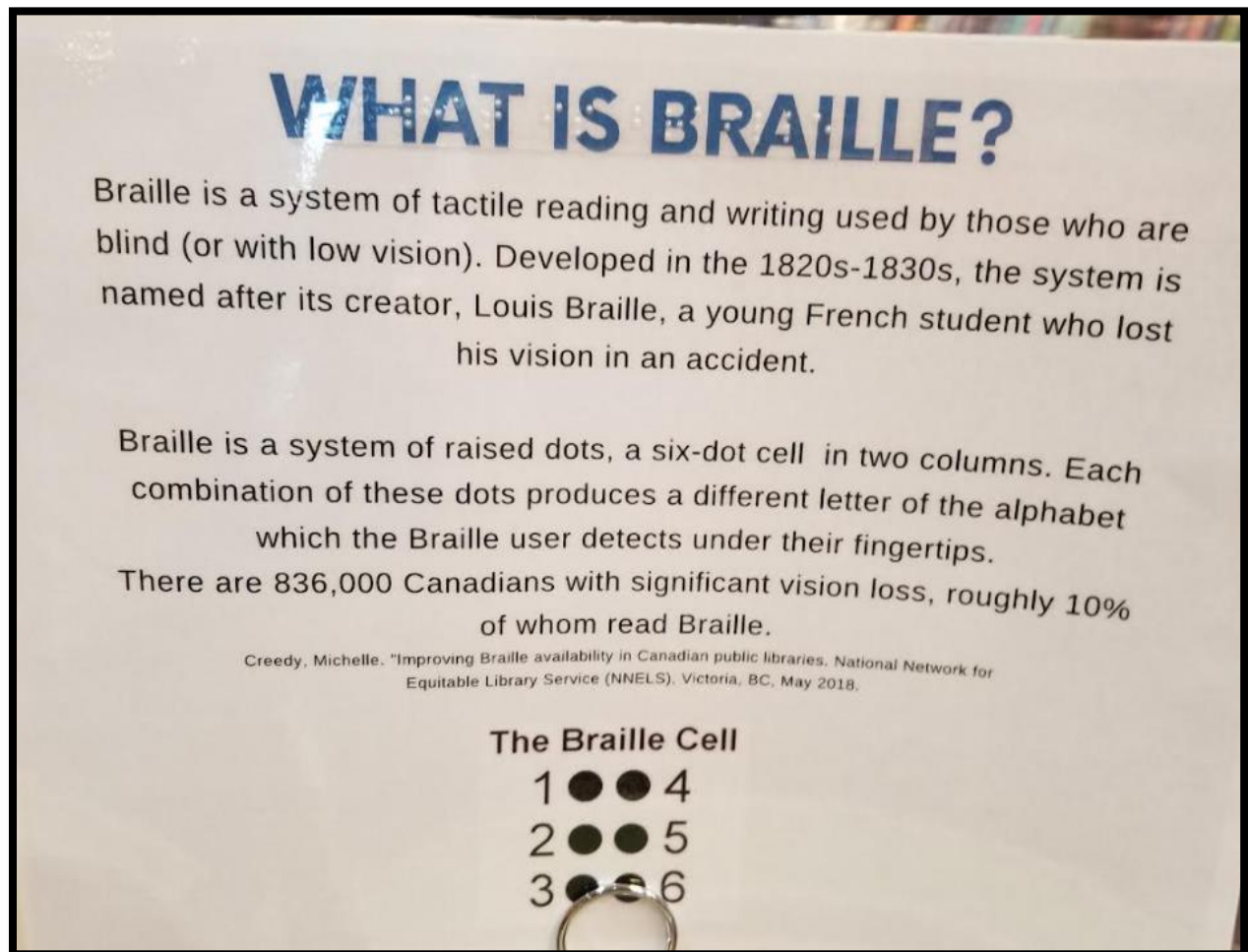


## 12. Print Braille Display

Sechelt Library does have Braille books in their collection but we also had a donation of 4 very visually beautiful (DK) Dorling Kindersley Print Braille books from a library patron. Her husband had been an avid library user of audiobooks and also wanted to learn Braille.

“Print Braille” is different to “Braille” as Print Braille integrates “regular print” along with the Braille.

Janette, who looks after our Accessibility Services, put together the signage for our newest library display. We thought patrons may be interested to feel and see. Within 5 minutes of putting up the display, two of the books had already gone out!

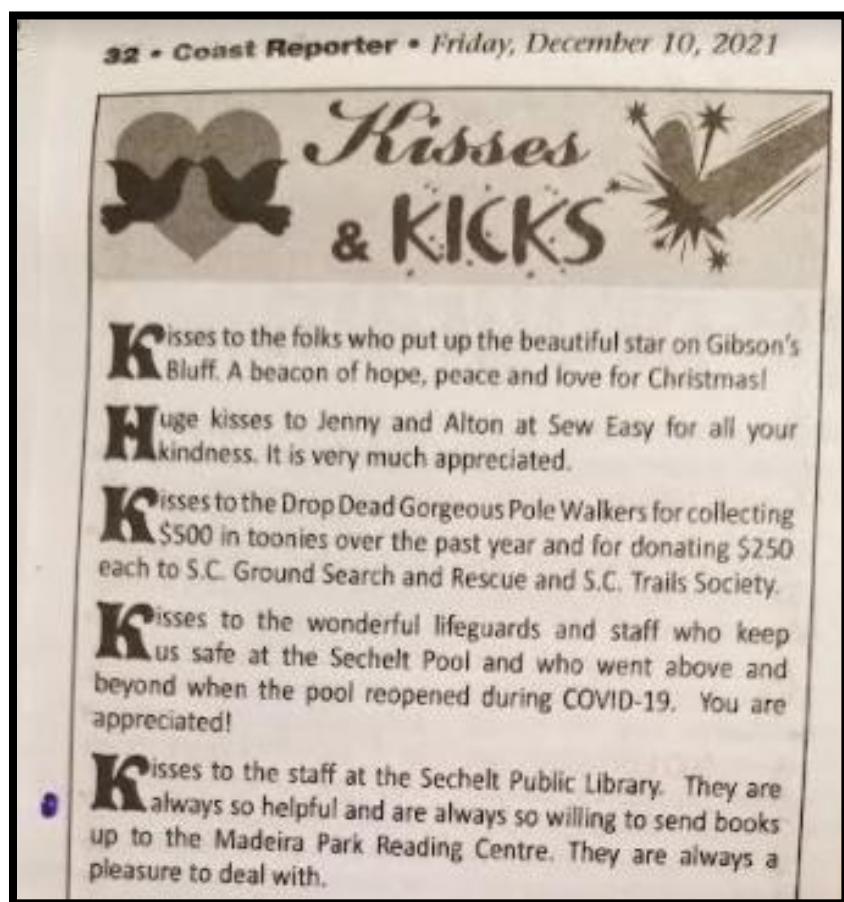




### 13. CUPE 391 Union Job Reclassification

In December, myself, Sam (staff union rep) and Claire (required Union alternate) concluded 100's of hours of work in creating official personalized 5 Factor Rating criteria for the Sechelt Library staff job positions. It is much more complicated than you could imagine and this was no small feat. At least the three of us are working well together and are unified in our approach and use of logic. We also analyzed all job descriptions within this 5-factor rating system concept (with subfactors) to ensure we created a usable and meaning full way to rate jobs. From these results, appropriate levels of pay, including some likely increases will be determined (again very complicated). On February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, the three of us will meet with two additional CUPE 391 Union heads and go through the process in front of them (also required). The fact that this process is so onerous and time consuming – and not completed – is not helpful in finalizing our internal 2022 budget. We will get there soon I hope...

### 14. Kisses



## 15. A Christmas Poem

We loved this contribution from Ann!

Another Christmas with Covid  
All's quiet in the house  
The cats are asleep digesting the mouse  
Variants now are ruling the roost  
Though NORAD says Santa will give us a boost  
But the reindeers are feral as Covid's still here  
They're short of fuel and devoid of good cheer  
Team Rudolph is vaxxed and Santa is too  
Omicron, Doomicon this really won't do  
Make sure your mask is up to the task  
And watch out for snow, it's in the forecast  
Presents are late, but all is not lost Santa is wired to arrive with the frost  
Here's Asus for you, an iPad or two  
Android and Apple will make up the Zoo  
So be of good cheer as Zoom is now here,  
Turn on, tune in and bring peace everywhere.  
(AH)

Ann Hopkins

## 16. Fine Free Conversation

Since the library renovation in 2017/2018, the Sechelt Public Library has not charged fines to our patrons on overdue Sechelt Public Library items (some exceptions). This was initially a 6-month temporary practice to say thankyou for putting up with the 2017/2018 library renovation with the expectation that it would become a permanent policy. The Sechelt Library has not officially had Board Approval to make this permanent.

I would like to start the conversation with the Board for official approval of a permanent practice of not charging fines for overdue Sechelt Library items (with exceptions). Most libraries in BC are going this way including Gibsons Library in 2021.

To be clear, our current rules are as written below. What is in yellow is what is currently fine free.

Collection	Description	Borrowing period	Fines
<b>Adult Materials</b>	Books, Paperbacks, Book Club, CDs, Audiobooks	3 weeks (2 renewals)	<b>No fines</b> (except ILL / ILC items)
<b>New Adult Materials</b>	Books, Paperbacks, Book Club	2 weeks (1 renewal)	<b>No fines</b>
<b>Electronic resources</b>	E-readers (Kobos) Tech Kits (Samsung tablets)	3 weeks (1 renewal – limit one at a time), must pick up and return at Sechelt Library Circulation Desk	<b>\$5.00/day to max of \$15.00</b>
<b>Children's/Teen Materials</b>	Books, DVDs, CDs, Read-alongs, Audiobooks	3 weeks (2 renewals)	<b>No fines</b>
<b>Children's/Teen Materials</b>	STEAM Kits	3 weeks (1 renewal – limit one at a time), must pick up and return at Sechelt Library Circulation Desk	<b>\$5.00/day to max of \$15.00</b>
<b>DVDs/Video games</b>	Patrons are limited to <b>2 New</b> DVDs/video games /// Video games <b>must be</b> returned to the Sechelt Library Circulation Desk	<b>New</b> DVDs – 7 days (0 renewals) /// <b>Regular</b> DVDs – 14 days (1 renewal) /// <b>Video games</b> – 14 days (0 renewals)	<b>No fines</b>
<b>Magazines</b>	There are magazine collections for children, teens, and adults.	<b>All issues:</b> 2 weeks (1 renewal)	<b>No fines</b>
<b>Other</b>	Light therapy kits, Radon detection kits	<b>Light therapy kits:</b> 3 weeks /// <b>Radon detection kits:</b> 4 weeks	<b>No fines</b>
<b>Newspapers</b>	Vancouver Sun, National Post, Globe & Mail, New York Times Sunday Edition, International Express, Coast Reporter	<b>In-Library Use Only</b>	–

<b>Interlibrary Loans (ILL)</b>	Interlibrary loans (ILL) available via Illume (BC) and Voilà (Canada)	Loan period and renewal policy set by loaning library	\$0.50 per day with no maximum
<b>Interlibrary Connect (ILC)</b>	Interlibrary Connect (ILC) available through Sitka (BC ILC)	Loan period and renewal policy set by loaning library	Fines applied according to the policy of the Lending Library
<b>Lost Items</b>	Status becomes LOST when item is 6 weeks overdue		Replacement cost of item plus a \$5.00 non-refundable processing fee is charged to patron's account.
<b>Damaged Items</b>	Items damaged beyond repair or unsuitable for re-shelving.		Replacement cost of item plus a \$5.00 non-refundable processing fee is charged to patron's account.
<b>Borrowing Privilege Suspension</b>			If a patron owes \$5.00 or more on their account, borrowing privileges are suspended until paid.

Some input from other libraries on the subject of not charging fines:

## Article:

### Late fines ending at all Fraser Valley library locations

The Fraser Valley Regional Library is removing a big barrier in order to increase access to sites.

They are ending all late fines permanently beginning on Jan. 1.

"We know how helpful and potentially life-changing removing late fines can be," says Gayle Martin, FVRL Board Chair.

"This was a well-thought-out decision that has a big impact on supporting people, creating harmony, and building stronger communities."

Throughout the pandemic, no late fines have incurred. The FVRL board voted on Dec. 8, to continue this initiative indefinitely.



For members who have existing fines, there will be a chance early in 2022 to have them removed through an upcoming “forgiveness campaign.”

The ending of late fines is part of FVRL’s approach to continue to help remove barriers for customers and encourage increased use and access to the collection.

“We recognize that many people are struggling right now and finances are tight. We care and we want to help,” says Scott Hargrove, FVRL Chief Executive Officer. “There can be a lot of fear or stress surrounding late fines. Most of the time we see customers accrue late fines unintentionally – missed bus, sick kid, working late. This minor mishap can seriously hurt household budgets, use of the library, and stress levels. We want to welcome people into the library and help alleviate some pressure.”

This change does not include fees incurred for lost or damaged materials. The same fee structure will still apply.

To learn more about FVRL’s services, collection, hours of operation, FVRL Express, eCard sign up, virtual programs and digital content, visit [www.fvrl.ca](http://www.fvrl.ca) or call your local library.

## **Opinion: Going fine free is overdue**

*Opinion: At the time of writing this, about 50,000 cardholders are blocked due to fines in Vancouver and may remain hesitant to return to the Library, or cannot borrow materials, because of this outstanding debt*

Author of the article:

**Kyla Epstein, Mary Lynn Baum, Catherine Evans, John Schaub**

Nov 29, 2021 • November 29, 2021 • 3 minute read • [Join the conversation](#)

While some may see fines as a way to teach “personal responsibility” or a “scare tactic,” it is not a public library’s job to teach punitive lessons.

In a time of multiple crises, the City of Vancouver’s 2022 [budget is inviting us to shape our city around priorities](#) that include affordability, equity, and addressing critical social issues.

Here’s the great news: There already exists an affordable way to advance each of these priorities and to benefit individuals, families, newcomers, people without housing, seniors and others by using existing city infrastructure.

For only \$475,000, a tiny fraction of the city’s \$1.6-billion annual budget, Vancouver can join the movement for eliminating library late fines.

The “fine free movement” has been [identified](#) as an investment in affordability, equity, and improved service outcomes for library users. The other great news is that Vancouver would be

Director’s Report



joining numerous library systems in Canada (and North America) that have moved to “fine free” systems, increasing both access to, and circulation of, library materials. In fact, Vancouver is surrounded by public library systems that have eliminated overdue fines (Burnaby, City of North Vancouver, North Vancouver District, Richmond, Squamish, Whistler) and Delta may be next.

Last year, the Vancouver Public Library (VPL)’s board brought to city council the rationale for going fully fine free (children’s materials at VPL are already fine free). This proposal to council was also supported by the union (CUPE 391) that represents library workers at VPL. A year later, the reasons for going fine-free have not changed, but the evidence to support this initiative are even stronger. The enhanced access to materials, irrespective of a person’s circumstances, creates a reduction in barriers to fully utilizing library services. Research has shown that library fines disproportionately impact Indigenous peoples, families with young children, and people of colour. Many library systems have gone fine free for all materials and have seen increased circulation as well as stronger relationships with patrons.

End



## **OVERDUE FINES**

### **North Vancouver City Library Board**

**June 20, 2019**

**RECOMMENDED MOTION: THAT the North Vancouver City Library Board approve the recommendation and proposed strategy and timeline to eliminate overdue fines.**

### **Summary**

There is a growing international trend among progressive libraries to eliminate overdue fines in response to studies showing that fines are a barrier to usage and disproportionately impact children and other vulnerable populations.

Although the intent of overdue fines is to encourage customers to return materials, evidence suggests they are not effective, and libraries that have eliminated overdue fines have experienced no discernible change in overdue rates. Instead, a combination of reminders and billing for items or blocking access to additional borrowing after a period of time (current practices at NVCL) appear to be effective in ensuring materials are returned to the library.

## **Burnaby Public Library is Fine Free!**

Jul 13, 2020

Your library membership is freedom to explore, learn and connect. Late fines shouldn't get in your way.

On July 13, we stopped charging for overdue items and eliminated existing late fines. Through our conversations with you, we learned that late fines keep you from using the library. Burnaby is a stronger community when everyone can freely access resources and information, at every stage of life. Let's say goodbye to late fines, and say hello to stories, ideas, curiosity. Hello library!

Have other libraries eliminated late fines?

Burnaby Public Library is one of the first libraries in Metro Vancouver to eliminate fines for overdue materials. North Vancouver City Library eliminated late fines in May 2020, and other cities in Western Canada that have done so include Creston, Smithers, Whistler, Calgary and Edmonton.

How will eliminating fines impact the library?

In our research of over 25 libraries that eliminated late fines, we learned that:

- People who stopped using the library because of late fines returned,
- There was no significant changes in the return rate of borrowed material,
- There was an increase in library users.



## CRESTON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 7, 2020

### **Creston Valley Public Library no longer charging overdue fines**

To coincide with our Centennial Celebrations in 2020, Creston Valley Public Library is announcing the elimination of overdue fines at the library. The aim of this initiative is to remove all financial barriers for library use by residents of the Central Kootenay Regional District.

Library borrowers will no longer be charged a fee per day that items are overdue. Instead, an item replacement fee will go into effect once the item has been missing or "lost" at 6 months overdue. The replacement fee, however, will be cleared once the item is returned. Current fines on all borrower cards have been cleared for the 2020 new year.

A growing number of libraries locally and internationally have taken the bold step of eliminating overdue fines as a way of positioning the library as a welcoming rather than a punitive institution. The experience of these libraries is that the elimination of overdue fines has led to no discernible change in the return rate of borrowed material.

In addition to the barriers faced by patrons, overdue fines represent a considerable workload and challenge for library staff. Staff also report that interactions with patrons about overdue fines are often negative. Patrons who experience fines as punitive can react strongly, expressing anger, frustration and shame.

It is the hope of the Creston Valley Public Library, that 2020 will be a year where we will welcome back long-lost patrons and celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> year of service together.

Please contact the Chief Librarian, Saara Itkonen, at [saara@crestonlibrary.com](mailto:saara@crestonlibrary.com) or call the library directly at 250-428-4141 for more information.

## 17. Comments Received by Patrons



Patron comment on the tech kits

Leianne Emery <leianne.emery@secheltlibrary.ca>

### Patron comment on the tech kits

1 message

Samantha Iversen <sam.iversen@secheltlibrary.ca>  
To: Leianne Emery <leianne.emery@secheltlibrary.ca>

Sat, Jan 8, 2022 at 9:57

Hi Leianne,

This is just the email for the record about the patron with low mobility who really appreciated our tech kits.

The patron called on January 8th, 2021 because of the snow and her inability to return the tech kit on time. She said she has low mobility and was so appreciative that we had tablets she could borrow. The tablet made aspects of her disability easier to manage (she wasn't specific here) and being able to test it out showed her that it would be worth budgeting to purchase her own. She said it was great that we had these kits available.

October 21, 2021

Thank-you for everything the library has done during Covid and for being open so much.

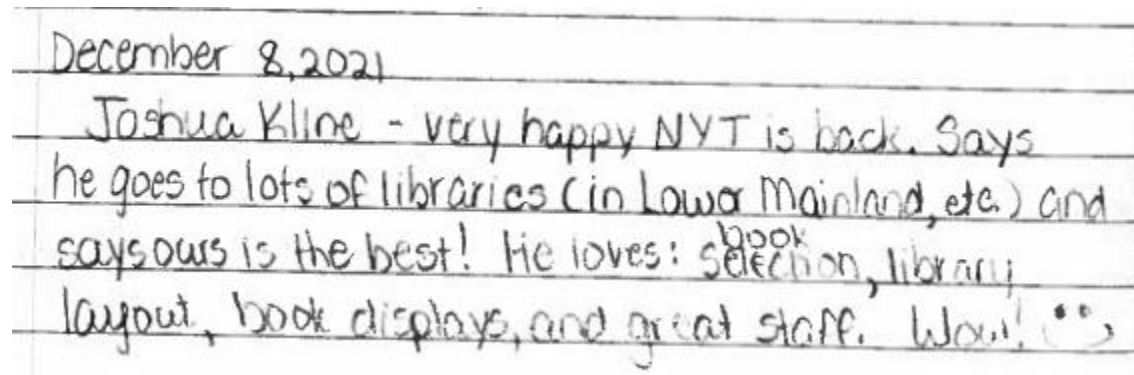
October 29, 2021

Whoever is in for the library should be commended. I have never had a staff member speak to me in anything but pleasant tones. You are all so wonderful.

To faint to photocopy so I will re-write...

Nov 27, 2021 Saturday

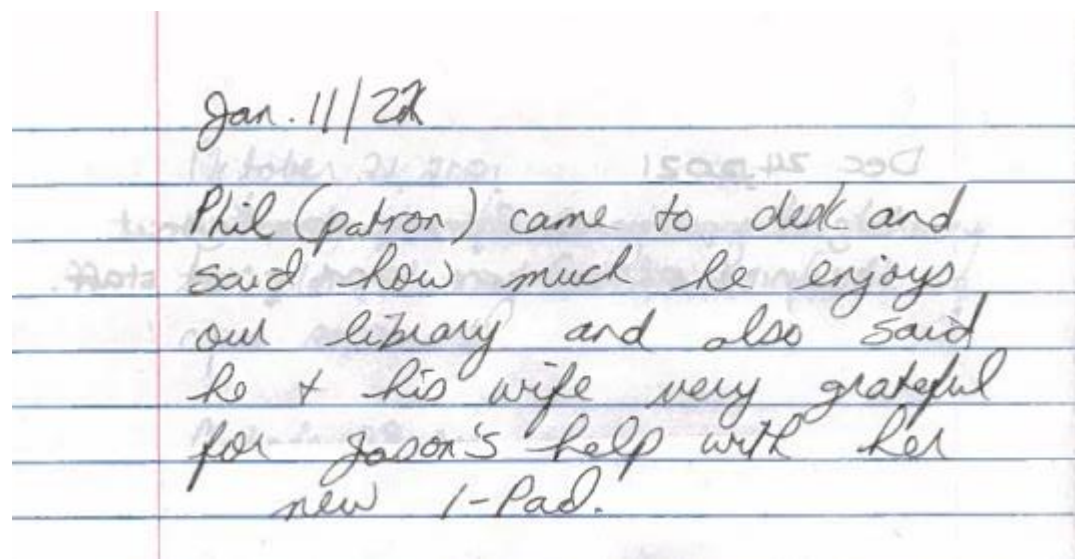
Always so impressed with the help I receive at the library. Have had some real problems solved o my computer and can't thank you enough!



December 8, 2021  
Joshua Kline - very happy NYT is back. Says he goes to lots of libraries (in Lower Mainland, etc.) and says ours is the best! He loves: <sup>book</sup>selection, library layout, book displays, and great staff. Wow! 😊

December 24, 2021

Big compliments from patron about the nice atmosphere and great staff.






Jan. 11/22  
Phil (patron) came to desk and said how much he enjoys our library and also said he + his wife very grateful for Jason's help with her new 1-Pad.

Jan 21 Patron appreciates our online databises  
Jan 21 Get more praise for Jason from  
"tech help" users

**Special Note:**

The following "Remembering Barbara" was brought in by patron Janet Ziebart, and given to staff. We have had this beautiful tribute up in the staff area for all to see, as we do with all obituaries and stories from family and friends. Barbara Whistler was a previous volunteer at the Sechelt library and her late husband, Art, was also a Library Board Member.



**Barbara Kristin Whistler  
(née CORKER)  
March 18, 1929 -  
January 10, 2022**

Born March 18, 1929, Vancouver, died January 10, 2022, Vancouver.

Granddaughter of pioneers in British Columbia, the Corkers in Alert Bay and the Frasers in Revelstoke. Predeceased by parents Drina and Donovan Corker, who were admirable role models.

Arthur Whistler, her husband of 68 years, passed away in December 2019.

Barbara earned her BA age 20 at UBC. She enjoyed reading, walking, cooking, a lively discussion and coached by the offspring, the wonders of the computer and desktop publishing.

Survived by sons David and Patrick and his twin sons Kyle and Shane in Sechelt, daughter Diana and son Jonathan in Vancouver, sons Leonard and Donovan and his daughter Allegra in Coquitlam and son Michael in Greenwood.

"...the fever of life is over and our work done.  
Lord in thy mercy grant a holy rest and peace  
at the last."  
Ashes to be scattered on Trail Bay, Sechelt.

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I first met Barbara in 2012 when she invited me to join her Book Club. By forming this club she brought much pleasure and entertainment to many of us in Sechelt. So thank you, Barbara and Sechelt Library for sharing the love of books.

Trust