



Director's Report

Sechelt Public Library

February 23, 2023 – March 29, 2023

By Leianne Emery

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1. Cover Photo

Lego is back! After a two-year hiatus due to COVID and the necessary cleaning of tiny little pieces, we have once again introduced lego as part of regular children's programming.

2. Highlights for February

- 2022 budget request process is still ongoing
- New CO2 Monitors have been put into library circulation
- Our current Adult Programmer, Gillian, has now had her unofficial last day
- Our spring Break Programming went very well with high attendance numbers and lots of excitement!
- Sechelt Library Director completes a professional credit course at the Justice Institute of BC
- BC government announces BC libraries, library federations and other library organizations to receive a one-time grant in 2022
- BC government announces they will NOT be increasing BC libraries \$14M annual operational funding
- We purchased a new AED (from grant funding) to replace broken one in lobby

3. Book Displays for March

We are always pulling unique displays together to highlight specific areas of intrigue, holidays, celebrations, seasonal activities, unique subjects from our collection, subjects that match our programming activities, unique world and local events or highlights. It's also a great way to focus on subjects that bring books out of our collection and showcase them in a different manner. We have Jeff to thank for these great displays with all staff working at keeping them stocked for our patrons. Here are some of the displays we focused on in late February and March:

Word of the Month "Apiology"

Gardening

Freedom to Read

Fairy Tales

Fun Facts Fast

Black History Month

4. Newly Announced One-Time BC Provincial Grants

In the BC Provincial budget announcement delivered February 28, 2023, the BC Government announced that, from their surplus, they would be giving out a one-time \$45M grant to all 71 public libraries in BC, including all library federations and public library partners. This one-time grant, dollar value unknown at this point, is to be spent from over one to three years. Although it is exciting to have funds, these are one-time funds and we have no guarantee if they will continue year after year. The wording in the government announcement and what libraries would be comfortable doing may differ. We have spent 10+ years lobbying additional ongoing operational funding – and not for one-time funding. I would add that, on the other hand, we have been able to purchase items for the library with BC government one-time grants that we would not have had otherwise.

“Public libraries are a core service to communities all over the province. This funding will support public libraries and service partners to address local priorities and support accessibility, inclusion, and reconciliation. The funding will assist public libraries to address the rising costs and growing demand for services. This includes opportunities for libraries to extend and improve access to books, digital collections, programs, spaces, literacy, technology and operating hours.”

Source: [Budget 2023: Budget and Fiscal Plan 2023/2024 – 2025/26, page 116](#)

Letters from the Province will be sent by email by March 31, 2023.

Fortunately, our municipalities will also be receiving one-time grants from the BC Government surplus with the DOS receiving \$3.7 M and the SCRCD receiving \$2.2 M.

5. BC Provincial Reporting

As part of our ongoing operational BC Government grant receipt each year, we have many official reporting requirements. They are very time consuming but must be done.

Due Mar 1 - Public Library Grant Report (completed)

Due May 15 - Statement of Financial Information (commenced)

Due May 15 - Annual Survey and Statistical Reporting (not started yet)

6. Budget Meetings

SCRD:

Further to Budget Round 1 presentation...

Budget Round 2 –March 2, 2023

- We were not asked to come back to Round 2 (requested 9.19% in Round 1)
- Gibsons Library were asked to come back with a revised version of their budget from 9.9% to a 6%. They presented a 7% budget and said that was their bottom line before additional deletions to services etc., beyond their already trimmed budget, would be made further. They were granted the 7% level of funding in the council vote afterwards.

Committee of the Whole meeting - March 9

- We presented a formal request to the SCRD to meet with other funding partners based on clauses in the Funding Agreement. We also cited necessary changes that potentially may have to be made by the library pending us not receiving the level of funding we requested. To date, as we write this, and despite inquiring, we have no knowledge of where this stands.

District of Sechelt:

- February 1 - Our request for opening the funding agreement was made to the District of Sechelt at the Committee of the Whole Meeting
- February 24 – we gave a copy of the March 9 SCRD meeting presentation to the DOS
- March 23 - the DOS portion of our extra funding request, already moved forward previously, was voted to move through into taxation pending a discussion and approval by other funders.

7. JIBC Course Completed

At the worst possible time during the year I chose to take a credit course at the Justice Institute of BC. Interlink, through a BC government grant, made it possible for a few Library Directors to take this course at no cost to us. It was a heavy workload for a month! The credit course was in Business Continuity and it covered Risk Management, Impact Analysis, Strategy Development, Plan Development, Plan testing, Plan Maintenance.

8. Program Guides - March (Spring Break) and April

Forgot to include our March Spring Break Programming in the last report, so our Spring Break brochure is below as well as the new April brochure.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Young Writer's Club

Thursday, Mar 9, 3:30-4:30 Teen Area or Outside
Are you an aspiring writer? Create and interact in this fun and informal monthly writing group! Meet with other young writers, share your work and develop your writing skills without being graded or judged. Paper and pencils provided. Participants are welcome to bring a laptop to write on. Snacks provided! **Ages 10+.**
Registration Required.

Youth Book Club

Wednesday, March 15, 3:30-4:30 Teen Area
Read *Borders* (Graphic Novel) by Thomas King, and discuss it with us. Snacks provided! **Ages 9-12.**
Registration Required.

Teen Anime Club

Friday, March 10, 3:00-4:50 Community Room
Join us to watch anime and discuss manga. Snacks provided. Ages 9-18. The content is rated Pg13 or TV14.
Registration Required

Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 Sechelt Library 
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. 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 info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca to join our Discord Server.



REGISTRATION

All programs are **FREE!**

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

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday:	10-5
Tuesday:	10-5
Wednesday:	10-6
Thursday:	10-5
Friday:	10-5
Saturday:	10-4
Sunday:	Closed

CONTACT

 (604) 885-3260

 info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

For more exciting information and photos, follow us on social media.

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-  @secheltlibrary
-  @secheltlibrary



SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

MARCH 2023



DROP IN PROGRAMS

Drop In Lego

Saturday March 11, 11:30 - 1:00 Children's Area
Swing by the Library for an open Lego session. It's fun and free. We'll provide the Lego and your task will be to let your imagination run wild. Play, create and experiment as you like! All ages. No registration required.

Sidewalk Chalk & Bubbles!

Saturday March 18, 10:00 - 3:00 Library
Join us for some Saturday art and play! We'll have a table available outside with bubbles and sidewalk chalk. Have some fun blowing bubbles on the lawn or create beautiful chalk art on the sidewalk! No registration required.

Drop In Board Games

Saturday March 25, 1 - 3:00 Community Room
Game On! Drop by and pull up a chair. We'll have an assortment of board games set up for you to play with family and friends. You are welcome to bring your own board games too. All ages welcome. No registration required.

StoryTime

Saturday, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 10:30 - 11:00

Children's Area or Outside

Recommended for families with children 5 and under. Join us on Saturday for a drop-in Family Storytime for books, songs, and play. No registration required.



StoryWalk®

*Tuesday March 14 - Tuesday March 28 Rockwood
5511 Shorncliffe Ave*

Read a book while enjoying nature on a family StoryWalk®. Visit anytime during the dates above. A StoryWalk® is an outdoor walk where a book's pages have been posted along the trail. Families can read the book together as they enjoy a walk in the fresh air! No registration required.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

The book, *My Day with Gong Gong* by Sennah Yee, has been provided by the Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition. (Sechelt Public Library is an active member of the Literacy Coalition).

ALL AGES CONTEST

Bookmark Colouring Contest

*Entry forms will be available and accepted
March 3 - March 28*

Help us create new Sechelt Library bookmarks! Choose what you'd like to draw or draw something that you love about libraries. We'll have one winner per age category: 3-7 year olds, 8-12 year olds, 13-18 year olds and an adult category 19+.
The winners will receive a prize and have their bookmark printed for other library patrons to use. We will have the bookmarks available in the library for the rest of the year.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Kids Card Making

Thursday March 16, 3:30 - 4:30 Community Room
Local card-making buff, Ruth Moore, will be leading this card-making and crafts class. Supplies provided. **Ages 4-8. Registration Required.**

Kids Mario Kart Tournament

Friday March 24, 2:00 - 4:00 Community Room
Play Mario Kart with us in a round robin tourney! There will be a prize for the winner! **Registration Required. Recommended for ages 6+.**

PAWS 4 Stories

*Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 4:30-5:30
Children's Area*
Practice your reading by signing up for a 20 minute appointment to read with a certified St. John Ambulance therapy dog. **Registration Required. Recommended for ages 6+.**

Messy Science:

Colour Changing Slime

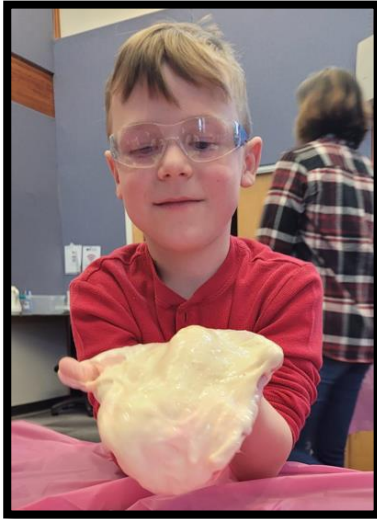
Thursday March 23, 3:30 - 4:30 Community Room
We'll be using thermochromic pigment to create colour changing slime! Wear something you can get messy in. **Ages 5-8. Registration Required. Space is limited.**

NEW PUPPET THEATRE in the Children's Area

Drop by by the library anytime and play with our new puppet theatre! We have a basket of adorable puppets to play with or bring your own from home!



Director's Report



SECHELT LIBRARY
Space to think

REGISTRATION

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

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 10-5 April 10 CLOSED
Tuesday: 10-5
Wednesday: 10-6
Thursday: 10-5
Friday: 10-5 April 7 CLOSED
Saturday: 10-4
Sunday: Closed

CONTACT

(604) 885-3260
info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA

For more exciting information and photos, follow us on social media.

@secheltlibrary

New at the Library

- *NEW* Brain Games:** These self-contained, purpose designed tablets will challenge and entertain new and old alike with puzzles, brain teasers, and games.
- *NEW* Ukulele:** These classic instruments with tuners and chord charts are now part of the Sechelt Library collection. Learn at home, or join one of our Beginners Ukulele lessons!
- *NEW* CO2 Monitors:** These Arnet4 devices are designed to monitor and report the amount of Carbon Dioxide present in the air. Now available to borrow.
- *NEW* World Food Database:** Interested in recipes and food culture around the world? Planning to take a trip abroad but unsure of what to eat? This database contains both recipes and dining etiquette from all over the world. Now free for Sechelt Patrons.
- *NEW* Bibliothèque Numérique:** This database of French language books and audiobooks contains thousands of titles, including a growing number of Geronimo Stilton books for young readers!

Consult the new arrivals section on our website for more books and items added each month!

ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

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

Tech Assistance FREE
30 minute one-on-one sessions with our local tech expert.
Appointment with Jason required.

Repair Café FREE
Saturday, April 8, 10:30-2:30
Free, while you wait, repair to domestic appliances and devices by volunteers from Gibsons Repair Café. Basic mending of clothes also offered.

Accessibility Services FREE
One-on-one assistance with Daisy audio players, accessibility programs, and resources for individuals with visual impairments or other print disabilities.
Appointment with Janette Required.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Book Faire
Fri, April 21 12:00 - 5:00 Community Room
Sat, April 22 10:00 - 4:00 Community Room
Sun, April 23 12:00 - 3:00 Community Room
Hosted by Friends of the Library.
Donations are limited to 1 box of great books on Friday and Saturday only, during Book Faire hours.

SECHELT LIBRARY
Space to think

April 2023 Program Guide

ADULTS

Card Making with Ruth

Thursday, April 13, 27 11:00-12:00

Community Room & Zoom

Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class! All supplies provided.

Limited Space Registration Required.

Astronomy Group Meeting

Friday, April 14, 7:00PM-9:00PM

Community Room & Zoom

Presentation by Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club.

Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 **Sechelt Library**

Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons. Join our group for exciting adventures in imagination every Tuesday. Call or email the library to register. **Registration Required.**

Stitchin'

Monday, April 3, 17, 24 10:30-11:30

Community Room or Foyer

Bring your knitting/crochet/stitching project and enjoy a friendly stitchin' session with other crafters.

Drop-Ins Welcome. No Session April 10

Chair Yoga

Monday, April 3, 17, 24 12:00-1:00

Zoom & In Person

Join Bobbie Seale-Cobiskey for this gentle form of yoga. **Registration Required.**

No Session April 10

Ukulele Jam

Thursday, April 6, 13, 20, 27 1:30-3:00

Community Room

Fun ukulele jam for all levels.

Drop In. Other Instruments Welcome.

Very Beginners Ukulele

Thursday, April 6, 13, 20, 27 12:00-1:00

Community Room

New to Ukulele? Join Jill Shatford, to learn a few basic chords and enjoy a fun group experience.

Registration Required.

Non-Fiction Book Club

Tuesday, April 4, 11:00 - 12:30 **Library & Zoom**

Read *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

General Fiction Book Club

Tuesday, April 11, 11:00-12:30 **Community Room**

Read *Lost in the Forest* by Sue Miller in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Mystery Book Club

Tuesday, April 18, 11:00-12:30 **Community Room & Zoom**

Read *Forty Days without Shadows* by Oliver Truc in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Men's Book Club

Tuesday, April 25, 1:00-2:30 **Rockwood**

Read *Atlantic* by Simon Winchester in preparation for the next book club on the 4th Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Writer's Studio Writing Consults

Saturday, April 8, May 13 12:00, 1:00, 2:00

Room of Requirement

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.**

Seed Saving Workshop

Saturday, April 29, 1:00 - 2:00 **Community Room**

Irene Bremer, from the Sechelt Seed Saving Library, will be leading this seed saving workshop on Saturday, April 29 from 1-2pm. **Registration recommended, drop-ins welcome.**

Seedling Swap, Seed packaging

Saturday, April 29, 11:30-1:00 **Community Room**

Before and after the Seed Saving Workshop there will be seedling swap, seed packaging, and Q&A. **Registration recommended, drop-ins welcome.**

Ancestor Hunters

Tuesday, April 25, 10:00-12:00 **Community Room**

Interested in your family history? Come join our group of dedicated ancestor hunters.

Registration Required.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesday, April 4, 11, 18, 25 5:30-8:30 **Sechelt Library**

Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons. Join our group for exciting adventures in imagination every Tuesday. Call or email the library to register. **Registration Required.**

Young Writers Club

Wednesday, April 5 3:30-4:30 **Teen Area**

Create and interact in this fun and informal monthly writing group! All supplies provided. **Registration Required, Snacks Provided! Ages 10-18.**

Spring Family StoryTime

Saturday, April 1, 15, 22, 29 10:30 - 11:00

Children's Area.

Recommended for families with children 5 and under. Join us on Saturdays for a drop-in Family Storytime for books, songs, and play. **Drop-Ins Welcome.**

PAWS 4 Stories

Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26

4:30-5:30 **Children's Area**

Practice your reading by signing up for a 20 minute appointment to read with a certified St. John Ambulance therapy dog. **Registration Required. Recommended for ages 6+.**

Teen Anime Club

Friday, April 14, 28, 3:00-4:50 **Community Room**

Join us to watch anime and discuss manga. Snacks provided. Ages 9-18. The content is rated PG13 or TV14A. **Registration Required.**

Youth Book Club

Wednesday, April 12, 3:30-4:30 **Teen Area**

Read *Catstronauts: Mission Moon* (Graphic Novel) by Drew Brockington and discuss it with us. Snacks provided! Ages 9-12. **Registration Required.**

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8 10:15 - 10:45 **Children's Area**

Bring your baskets and join us for an Easter Egg Hunt and storytime. Find the colourful eggs and trade them in for a prize. Ages 2-10. **Registration Required.**

Kids Card Making

Saturday, April 15 2:0 - 3:00 **Community Room**

Local card-making buff Ruth Moore, will be leading this card-making and crafts class. Supplies provided, call or email to register. **Registration Required.**

9. Patron Comments

Feb. 22	[REDACTED] was very impressed with the Freedom to Read display. She took out a book and made a point of saying how well done she thought it was.
FEB 23/23	Patron from Pender HARBOR ... My husband died 8 years ago AND THE LIBRARY HAS SAVED ME! BEING ABLE TO ACCESS BOOKS AND INTERACT WITH A ^{KIND} PEOPLE WHOM I COULD BARELY CONCENTRATE WAS A GOOSEBUMP.
Feb. 28	Couple of patrons remarked how lovely the seed exchange is. <i>A.</i>

March (mid). A patron, name withheld, is very grateful for our above and beyond services at the library. She came in wanting to print a large number of photos into a brochure for the sale of a family's property and was hoping we could help her. We helped her navigate everything; opening email to access photos, opening WORD (which she had never used), downloading photos, importing photos into word, resizing all to fit and printing brochure in color. This is not normally what our services include but she had nowhere else to go and most patrons are no able to afford a graphic artist. The Library goes above and beyond because we know we are the end of the line in terms of help for many.

10. Inventory

As you are aware, we closed the library in late December for three full on days of library inventory and general shelving cleanup. Since the library first moved into the building at 5797 Cowrie Street, an actual inventory had not been done (27 years). Results of our Dec 2022 Library inventory are as follows:

Inventory Considerations:

Start	Initial inventory
add	new items purchased over the years
add	items currently checked out (includes mending, in transit, overdue, lost, etc.)
<u>subtract</u>	items removed from collection due to natural weeding process, missing/replace and missing/remove
=	what we physically should have in our library collection

Results after inventory:

329	unscanned during inventory process and not located
<u>421</u>	already marked with missing status
750	missing and presumed stolen
<u>185</u>	claimed returned
935	total items missing

Calculations:

935 / 52,444 items in the library as at Dec 31, 2023 = **1.78%** inventory loss

Notes:

* does not take-into-account items removed from collection over the years due to already known missing

*of the “unscanned items” (were not there to scan during our inventory but we assumed they would be there), 65% were DVDs, 14% were large print books and 16% were new books

*of the “missing” status (we had already flagged them as missing), 33% were DVDs, 27% were picture books

* of the “claimed returned”, 16% were DVDs, 18% were non-fiction

* if average item count was \$30, the loss value **over 27 years is** $935 \times \$30 = \$28,050$

11. Libraries 101 - Intellectual Freedom

The subjects of “Intellectual Freedom”, “Challenged Books”, “Banned Books” and “Freedom to Read” are subjects discussed more than ever these days but what they actually mean and how they interrelate is potentially not fully understood by all. I’ve attempted, to the best of my knowledge and research, to simplify the basic components into a 101 version. Here are the subjects we will discuss:

1. Intellectual Freedom
2. Censorship
3. Challenged Books
4. Banned books
5. Freedom to Read

What is Intellectual Freedom:

Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.” This is supported by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Intellectual freedom is the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction. It provides for free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause or movement may be explored.

How does Intellectual Freedom Relate to a Library?

Intellectual freedom is a fundamental value for libraries. Both the Canadian Federation for Libraries Association (CFLA) and the BC Library Association (BCLA) have endorsed statements on Intellectual freedom.

CFLA:

The Canadian Federation for Libraries Association affirms that **libraries have a responsibility to support, defend, and promote intellectual freedom.** The CFLA’s Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries, last approved April 12, 2019 reads in part:

“Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and facilitate access to constitutionally protected expressions of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, including those which some individuals and groups consider unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable...”

Libraries provide, defend and promote equitable access to the widest possible variety of expressive content and resist calls for censorship and the adoption of systems that deny or restrict access to resources.”

The longer version of that statement can be found in Appendix 1:

BCLA:

The BC Library Association's Statement on Intellectual Freedom is as follows:

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

British Columbia Library Association Statement on Intellectual Freedom

1. *It is in the interest for libraries and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expression, including those which are unorthodox or unpopular with the majority.*
2. *It would conflict with the public interest for libraries to establish their own political, moral or aesthetic views as the sole standard for determining what books and other materials should be published or circulated.*
3. *It is contrary to the public interest for libraries or librarians to determine the acceptability of a book solely on the basis of the personal history or political affiliation of the author.*
4. *There is no place in British Columbia for extra-legal efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of the writers to achieve artistic expression.*
5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept any book with the prejudgment of a label characterizing the book or author as subversive or dangerous.*
6. *It is the responsibility of library administrators and librarians, as guardians of the peoples' freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large.*
7. *It is the responsibility of libraries and librarians to give full meaning to intellectual freedom by providing books and other materials that enrich the quality of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, librarians can demonstrate that the answer to a bad book is a good one, the answer to a bad idea is a good one.*
8. *Non-book materials should be judged by the same criteria as books.*

What Is Censorship?

As per the American Library Association, “Censorship is the suppression of ideas and information that certain persons—individuals, groups or government officials—find objectionable or dangerous. It is no more complicated than someone saying, “Don’t let anyone read this book, or buy that magazine, or view that film, because I object to it!” Censors try to use others power to impose their view of what is truthful and appropriate, or offensive and objectionable, on everyone else. Censors pressure public institutions, **like libraries**, to suppress and remove from public access information they judge inappropriate or dangerous, so that no one else has the chance to read or view the material and make up their own minds about it. The censor wants to prejudge materials for everyone.”

Challenged Books – informal and formal

When a person or group objects to an item in the library (and want the library to censor it), they typically start with a verbal complaint or strong opinion directed towards Library Staff. At this point, our staff would offer them a form to fill out called “Request for Reconsideration of Materials”. This form would require them to be more fully informed of the book as a whole and would require details on their exact objections.

In general, people do not formalize their verbal complaint by filling out the Request for Reconsideration of Materials form. It is generally just an informal verbal complaint (typically made in a very demonstrative way). If the staff member who received that verbal complaint was not personally familiar with the item, they would make a point of finding out something about it and letting other staff know. There are some situations in which a complaint, although still not formalized with the official “Request for Reconsideration of Materials” form, is received not verbally, but in writing. We will typically then respond in writing as a courtesy not an obligation.

If a formal “Request for Reconsideration of Materials” form is actually received, designated staff must undergo a formal complete holistic review of the item for content and appropriateness in our collection. We are required to then respond to the complainant with our decision and actions. If the complainant is still not satisfied, it may be referred to the Board.

Banned Books

It would be under the direction of the Chief Librarian / Director that any dissatisfied complainant’s challenged books were brought to the Board for further review. At that point, a Board decision would be made as to whether they will uphold the decision of the Chief Librarian/Director or ban the item. This would never be the end goal for any Library staff as they work hard to uphold the right to Intellectual Freedom and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

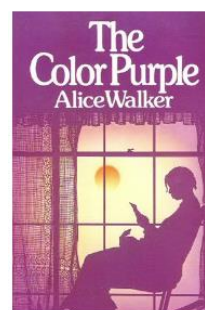
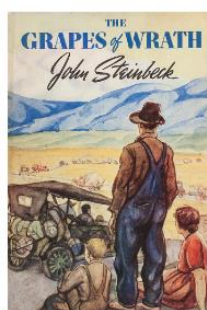
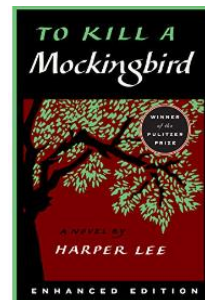
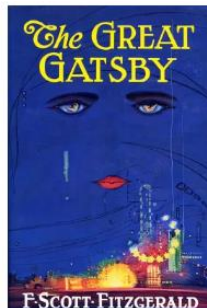
Who Keeps Track of all Challenged or Banned books?

There are no formal “list keepers” or even formal processes to be followed for advising a governing body of a challenged or banned book. This is true for both the US and Canada. Books may have been challenged, banned and removed from certain places and we may never know. The lists you can find online are compiled from various sources.

Examples of Some Challenged Books:

Here are some classic books that have been challenged or banned. I'll bet most are familiar to you.

The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Catcher in the Rye, by J.D. Salinger
The Grapes of Wrath, by John Steinbeck
To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee
The Color Purple, by Alice Walker
The Lord of the Flies, by William Golding
1984, by George Orwell
Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck
Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White
As I Lay Dying, by William Faulkner
A Farewell to Arms, by Ernest Hemingway
Winnie-the-Pooh, by A.A. Milne
Gone with the Wind, by Margaret Mitchell
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, by Ken Kesey
On the Road, by Jack Kerouac
The Old Man and the Sea, by Ernest Hemingway
The Call of the Wild, by Jack London
The World According to Garp, by John Irving
All the King's Men, by Robert Penn Warren
A Room with a View, by E.M. Forster
The Lord of the Rings, by J.R.R. Tolkien
Schindler's List, by Thomas Keneally
The Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton
Mrs. Dalloway, by Virginia Woolf
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, by L. Frank Baum
Lady Chatterley's Lover, by D.H. Lawrence
The Satanic Verses, by Salman Rushdie
Sophie's Choice, by William Styron
Bonfire of the Vanities, by Tom Wolfe
Cat's Cradle, by Kurt Vonnegut
Rebecca, by Daphne du Maurier
A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, by Douglas Adams
Brideshead Revisited, by Evelyn Waugh
Women in Love, by D.H. Lawrence
The Maltese Falcon, by Dashiell Hammett
Atlas Shrugged, by Ayn Rand
The French Lieutenant's Woman, by John Fowles
Kim, by Rudyard Kipling



Here are some additional books that have battled attempts at censorship in Canada. This information was provided by Freedom to Read Week and Periodical Council.

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

Released in 1985, *The Handmaid's Tale* was Atwood's breakthrough book on an international scale. The modern classic tells the story of a handmaid known as Offred who is trapped in a society where her only purpose is to conceive and bear the child of a powerful man.

The Handmaid's Tale won Atwood her second Governor General's Literary Award and scored her first nomination for the Booker Prize. It has since undergone several adaptations, for film, stage, ballet, opera and most recently TV as well as a graphic novel.

Reason for censorship: Violence and offensive language

Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson

Katherine Paterson is the author of the children's novel *Bridge to Terabithia*. (Katherine Paterson, Thomas Crowell)

Bridge to Terabithia is the story of two lonely children who become fast friends and spend their days after school creating their own magical kingdom in the forest.

Reason for censorship: Offensive language

Paterson is an award-winning children's writer. She has received the Newbery Medal, the Hans Christian Andersen Award for Writing and the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

The Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling

J.K. Rowling is the creator of the Harry Potter series, a collection of fantasy novels for children, which was adapted into a film series. (Mary McCartney, Bloomsbury)

The Harry Potter series is an iconic, bestselling YA series about a boy wizard who is admitted to a magic boarding school and his battle against the dark forces that linger in this world. The stories were later adapted into a popular film series. There are seven books in the series.

Reason for censorship: Satanism and witchcraft

British author J.K. Rowling was a single mother who relied on welfare before coming up with the idea of Harry Potter on a delayed train trip. Under the pen name Robert Galbraith, she has since authored *The Casual Vacancy*, a novel for adults, and a series of mystery novels.

The Holy Bible

The Bible is considered to be the bestselling book of all time.

The Bible is collection of sacred texts regarded by Christians as a true record of the relationship between humans and God. It contains the New and the Old Testaments.

Reason for censorship: Offensive language

[The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain](#)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a literary classic by Mark Twain. (Legend Times Group)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a literary classic that tells the story of 13-year-old Huckleberry Finn, who in an attempt to escape from his abusive father, fakes his own death. He meets a runaway slave and they travel down the Mississippi River together on a raft. This book is still considered one of the great American novels of all-time and compulsory for fiction readers. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was first published in 1884 and has inspired several film and TV adaptations.

Reason for censorship: Offensive language

[The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger](#)

J.D. Salinger was an American writer best known for his novel, *The Catcher in the Rye*. (Hulton Archive/Little, Brown And Company)

In *The Catcher in the Rye*, dejected 16-year-old Holden Caulfield leaves his preparatory school in Pennsylvania and travels to New York for three days, where he has encounters with colourful characters and experiences that get him into trouble. *The Catcher in the Rye* was originally published as a serial and was released as a book in 1951. It was named by Time as one of the 100 best English-language novels written since 1923.

Reason for censorship: Offensive language

J.D. Salinger was a reclusive American author. He published several notable works, including *Nine Stories*, *Franny and Zooey* and *The Catcher in the Rye*, but didn't publish anything after 1965. He died in 2010.

[Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck](#)

John Steinbeck was the author of novella and literary classic *Of Mice and Men*, first published in 1937. (Penguin Random House Canada)

Of Mice and Men is a novella that tells the story of two migrant ranch workers, George Milton and Lennie Small, who travel through California during the Great Depression in search of new job opportunities. *Of Mice and Men* was published in 1937.

Reason for censorship: Offensive language and religious issues

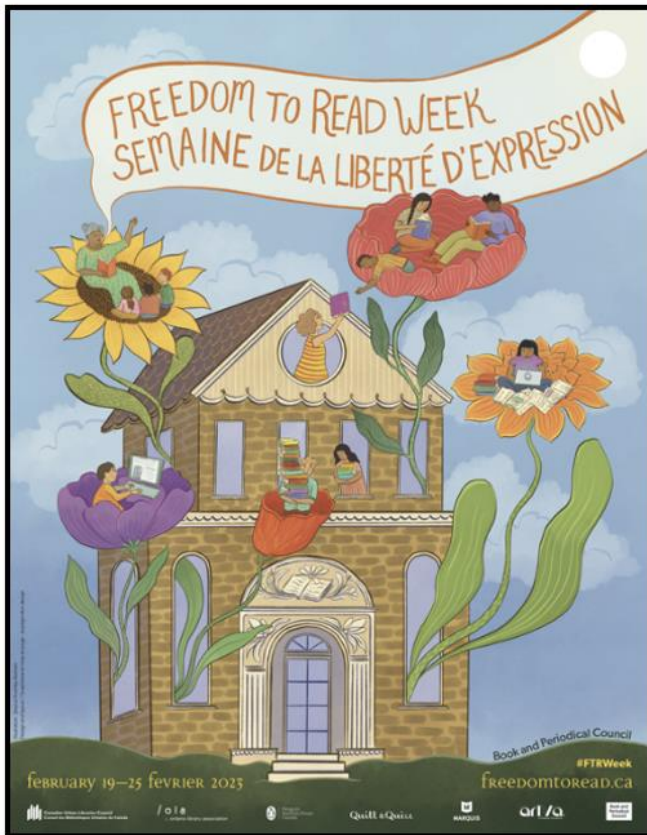
[Writer Brad Smith on why he re-reads Steinbeck every year](#)

John Steinbeck was an American author. His other notable books include *East of Eden* and *Grapes of Wrath*, which won the Pulitzer Prize. In 1962, he won the Nobel Prize for literature. He died in 1968.

Freedom to Read

Freedom to Read Week is an annual week-long Canadian event that celebrates freedom to read and encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom. This week is important to libraries, is well publicized and much celebrated.

This was the signage for the 4 book displays we had up in the library during Freedom to Read week (and extended into additional weeks) this year. We also had 4 displays separated into 4 categories of reasons why they were challenged (language, political, sex, violence)



Freedom to Read Week

Freedom to Read Week is an annual event that encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom, which is guaranteed them under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Intellectual Freedom is the right to read, view, hear, express, and discuss any idea on any subject.

12. Appendix 1

Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries

Approval History: ~ CLA: June 27, 1974. Amended November 17, 1983; November 18, 1985; September 27, 2015. CFLA-FCAB: Adopted August 26, 2016; Reviewed April 12, 2019.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations recognizes and values the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as the guarantor of the fundamental freedoms in Canada of conscience and religion; of thought, belief, opinion, and expression; of peaceful assembly; and of association.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations supports and promotes the universal principles of intellectual freedom as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which include the interlocking freedoms to hold opinions and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

In accordance with these principles, the Canadian Federation of Library Associations affirms that all persons in Canada have a fundamental right, subject only to the Constitution and the law, to have access to the full range of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, and to express their thoughts publicly. Only the courts may abridge free expression rights in Canada.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations affirms further that libraries have a core responsibility to support, defend and promote the universal principles of intellectual freedom and privacy.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations holds that libraries are a key institution in Canada for rendering expressive content accessible and affordable to all. Libraries are essential gateways for all persons living in Canada to advance themselves through literacy, lifelong learning, social engagement, and cultural enrichment.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and facilitate access to constitutionally protected expressions of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, including those which some individuals and groups consider unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable. To this end, in accordance with their mandates and professional values and standards, libraries provide, defend and promote equitable access to the widest possible variety of expressive content and resist calls for censorship and the adoption of systems that deny or restrict access to resources.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and foster free expression and the right to safe and welcoming places and conditions. To this end, libraries make available their public spaces and services to individuals and groups without discrimination.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and defend privacy in the individual's pursuit of expressive content. To this end, libraries protect the identities and activities of library users except when required by the courts to cede them.

Furthermore, in accordance with established library policies, procedures and due process, libraries resist efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups.

Library employees, volunteers and employers as well as library governing entities have a core responsibility to uphold the principles of intellectual freedom in the performance of their respective library roles.