



Director's Report
Sechelt Public Library
March 30, 2023 – April 26, 2023
By Leianne Emery

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1. Cover Photo

The cover photo is of a DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System) Audio Player (with cover on), made by Humanware. This particular one is very special, but I'll get to that later...

DAISY Audio Players are designed specifically for people with little or no vision, people who have manual dexterity issues or other cognitive challenges. They feature large, tactile, high-contrast keys, easy navigation buttons (especially with compatible DAISY CDs), pre-programmed sleep time options and has bookmarking abilities. These players also play regular MP3 CDs and music CDs. They have built-in text-to-speech capability so you can even "play" text documents which have been saved on external media (e.g. flash drives and SD cards). It's also very portable, holds a charge for up to 10 hours, has excellent sound and is very durable.

Janette works directly with patrons to determine if this is the right thing for themselves or their loved one in relation to their accessibility challenges. She conducts very personalized one-on-one appointments with patrons and explains the services available and technical aspects of the players. She also works with the Center for Equitable Library Access (CELA) to assist patrons with obtaining DAISY formatted audio CDs which can be downloaded and pre-programmed into the DAISY reader. This has the added benefit of allowing patrons who do not have internet access to still use the service and player. Patrons can also use physical CDs which Janette selects for them and obtains from CELA on their behalf. Among the unique features of these DAISY formatted CDs, one book is contained on one disk (much easier for patrons to handle) and they allow for a more personalized navigation experience by phrase or chapter.

We have been able to grow the number of DAISY readers we can offer to our patrons over the last couple of years due to grants available. Sechelt Library now has 6 in our collection (about \$650 each).

So back to the photo... This one is special. Malcolm Ingram, a patron at Sechelt Library for many years, just passed way but specifically wanted his well-loved DAISY player to be donated to the Sechelt Library. Many years ago, we initially worked with Malcolm on navigating the technology and service and helped him to gain independence in his reading choices and reading ability. A DAISY player can be a lifeline, as Malcolm described it, for someone whose accessibility needs require something other than physical books or regular audio CDs. As we keep hearing stories from our patrons and their families, we realize the immense impact that libraries, their services and their staff have on patrons that use them. We just had the label printed and put on the DAISY cover, so that Malcolm's generosity will always be recognized.

2. Highlights for April

- 2022 budget request process is still ongoing
- BC government grants, one-time and regular operational, have now been received
- Easter Egg Hunt (for kids) tremendous success
- Much discussion on children's area floor raising
- Cognitive care kits back in library for next steps in processing / cataloguing (and other)

- We put up display to honor recent Sechelt Indian Government District announcements
- Our efforts through Volunteer Appreciation Week were met with many smiles
- A new plan has been developed for the magazine / computer area
- Marijuana dumped all over our library carpet
- One more week left for CVITP tax program

3. shishálh Nation announcement

We wish to acknowledge our shishálh Nation neighbors' recent discovery and announcement with regards to the unmarked graves found on the former Sechelt residential school land. Many of our staff are wearing their orange t-shirts and we put up a simple and honorable display in the library of the orange, t-shirt, a children's chair and article from the papers.

Our First Nations collection (non-fiction) currently holds 33 physical books on the subject matter of residential schools and that count climbs to 85 throughout the library with physical books, DVDs and audio. E-books and e-audio adds another almost 50. There has been an increased interest in the First Nations section in general over the last year with many sensitive questions asked of our reference staff.

From the website of the shishálh Nation:

<https://shishalh.com/2023/04/20/results-of-the-shishalh-ground-penetration-radar/>

We write to you today to inform you of the results of the Ground Penetrating Radar Investigation of the former Indian Residential School site that was on the lands of the shishálh Nation.

This is a very challenging time for all the Survivors who attended the institution, families of students, and communities, and for the shishálh Nation. Our focus throughout the upcoming community meetings will be on supporting Survivors, community members and staff through sacred ceremony and cultural practices.

It should be made clear that the results of the St. Augustine's field investigations should in no way be seen to validate or invalidate the experiences of Survivors, or the knowledge held by families of those who attended. Whether or not unmarked graves are found, there is enough documented oral and archival evidence to say that these burials do or did exist.

The news of unmarked graves at Residential Schools across Canada have been deeply painful and incredibly challenging for shishalh people and for all Indigenous peoples across Canada. The truth is being heard by many settler Canadians in new ways, information Indigenous peoples have been telling Canadians for generations. There are many more truths that will be heard in the coming months. It is a horrifying and devastating history that must be grappled with.

This is an important time of reckoning for Canada, a time where history must be examined, current inequities scrutinized, and a fundamentally new path chartered. We must find a path

towards truth, justice, and unity. This new path will require great change for all of us. It requires individuals and collectives to re-examine their place in Canadian society and how they are contributing to or hindering a more equitable future. This change will be hard, growth often is. The honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould recently reminded us of Chief Joe Mathias's words, "Behold the turtle, he moves forward when he sticks his head out." It is time for bold actions, actions that shifts our reality, actions that push us to grow, actions that shift our hearts. Shishalh has continued to show Canadians how when our hearts and minds are in the right place change can happen quickly.

On behalf of hiwus and Council
xwash Steven Feschuk

4. Book Displays for April

Our unique displays highlighting 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 are as follows for the month of April (thanks Jeff!):

Gardening

Poetry (someone even stopped a staff member in the grocery store to tell us how much he loved this one)

Author Jodi Picoult (Freedom to Read and censorship issues)

Earth Day

Swedish mystery authors

Shishálh Nation unmarked graves discovered

5. Newly Announced One-Time BC Provincial Grants

We responded to some questions the Sechelt Council had for us on the BC Provincial \$45M one-time funding announcement for libraries. Here is a summary...

Not to Replace Local Government Funding

First and foremost, the BC Province has made it clear that the **one-time enhancement grant funding** given to libraries in 2023 is not to replace any local government funding given to libraries each year for operations. The Libraries Branch of the BC Provincial government will be sending out letters to that effect to ensure no local government (ie. DOS, SCRCD, SIGD) is confused by this.

\$45M BC Government Enhancement Grant breakdown:

Please note that the \$45M awarded to libraries as per the BC Province recent announcement, is actually made up of several components and given to various organizations. Only 28% of that \$45M was given directly to libraries in an enhancement grant. Here is how it is actually made up:

\$12.4M - for regular ongoing operational funding normally given to all libraries each year (already included in our operating budget)

\$12.5M - for one-time enhancement funding for 71 public libraries - proportionately distributed. Please note that this represents **only 28% of the \$45M.**

\$ 4.1M - for library federations

\$16.0M - for library service partners

\$45.0M - total

Where did the BC Government get the funds?

The BC Government had a surplus for their fiscal 2022/2023 year-end. They HAD to allocate surplus and have distributed by the end of March 2023 to get off 2022/2023 books. This surplus is also where the DOS grant of \$3.7M and the SCR D grant of \$2.2M came from.

What is the enhancement grant portion allocated directly to Sechelt Library?

Out of the \$12.5 M one-time enhancement grant funds allocated, the Sechelt Library was allocated \$130,565.19 in a one-time enhancement grant which is to be spent over three years.

What will the Funds be Used for? :

Whenever we receive grants - of any kind - we use them for items not covered in our regular operating budget. Our regular operating budget is very limited in scope. If we need any items such as shelving, computers, desks, keyboards, paint on destroyed walls, a new book cart, STEAM kits, ukuleles, phones, COVID glass removed, first aid training, ongoing chair yoga, IPADs for programming, masks for staff and public, daisy readers for accessibility patrons, etc... - we have to either apply and receive a grant or ask our funders for one-time funding.

When the province gives us a grant, typically they will service the needs or goals of the provinces - not the library. I say that because all BC libraries, federations and library service partners have been fiercely advocating to the BC Government for ongoing operational funding (to reduce the onus on local governments) - not one-time grants. But what do we get? One-time grants. That being said, we will use this 2023 one time grant to enhance what is not already included in our regular operating budget - but that will also serve the strategic goals of the province (Improving access for British Columbians, Building capacity, Advancing citizen engagement, Enhancing governance)

What that will likely, but not definitively, translate to for SPL is:

Eg. adding extra hours for our part-time adult programmer (as I could not afford to include in our original budget request to the funding partners)

Eg. paying for physical changes we will have to make to accommodate accessibility regulations and issues already identified (also not paid for in operational budget)

Eg. paying for renovation changes we will need to make in the library when Phase 1 of DOS/Library building renovation is done (additional electrical, floor level changes, moving and temporarily storing books etc.(not included in operation budget)

6. 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 (ready to submit)

Due May 15 - Annual Survey and Statistical Reporting (ready to submit)

7. Budget Requests and Funding and Service Agreement

As to next steps in this process, we recently sent out an email to all funders as per the following

April 21, 2023

Funders of the Sechelt Public Library,

Our special request for additional funds this year, made necessary due to unanticipated staffing costs, made it much more challenging for all parties involved. Thank-you for all your efforts and considerations throughout the 2023 budget season as we value and appreciate the financial contributions each of you make, every year, to the ongoing operational costs of the Sechelt Public Library. We are proud that our library continues to be a great community asset that benefits so many people in the communities you serve on the Sunshine Coast.

Here is what Sechelt Library considers next steps in regards to amending the current Funding and Service Agreement:

1. We have created a draft Amendment to the current Funding and Service Agreement which will address the following:
 - a. changes made to the 2023 baseline funding levels through council approvals
 - b. increases of 3% for 2024 and 3% for 2025 (as per original agreement)
 - c. updates to the population census from 2016 population to 2021 population for years 2024 and 2025 (as per the original Agreement)

2. Once we have a definitive vote from SIGD council, we can distribute the Amendment to all parties for review and signature

Renegotiation for Future Agreements beyond 2025

As per clause 4.3 of the original Funding and Service Agreement, 6 months prior (June 2024) to the expiration of the current Funding and Service Agreement, all parties will meet to discuss renewal of a future funding agreement.

Sincerely,

Leianne Emery

Director, Sechelt Public Library

8. Program Guides - May

Note two of our new programs:

1. May 4th, Capilano University Speaker Series with Dr. Christina Neigel, Librarians through the Lens of Popular Media.
2. Laser Tag !

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 May 22 CLOSED
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

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

@secheltlibrary
@secheltlibrary
@secheltlibrary

New Event Highlight

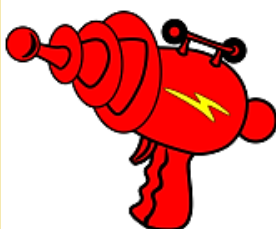
Laser Tag at the Library!
Tuesday, May 30 5:30 - 8:30 PM

Grab your friends and join us for an evening of laser tag! The Library is your arena and all equipment will be provided.

8 people can play at a time.

Time slots will be 20 minutes and there are 4 different age categories: 7-12 year old's, 13-18 year old's, family groups, and adults only.

Space is limited. Registration Required.
Registration opens May 5.



Call or visit the library to register

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, May 13, 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, May 19 12:00 - 5:00 Community Room
Sat, May 20 10:00 - 4:00 Community Room
Sun, May 21 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.



May 2023 Program Guide



ADULTS

Card Making with Ruth
Thursday, May 25, 11:00-12:00
Community Room & Zoom
Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class! All supplies provided. **No Class May 11.**
Limited Space - Registration Required.

Astronomy Group Meeting
Friday, May 12, 7:00PM-9:00PM
Community Room & Zoom
Presentation by Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club.

Dungeons & Dragons
Tuesday, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 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. No Session May 30

Stitchin'
Monday, May 1, 8, 15, 29 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 May 22

Chair Yoga
Monday, May 1, 8, 15, 29 12:00-1:00
Zoom & In Person
Join Bobbie Seale-Cobiskey for this gentle form of yoga. **Registration Required.**
No Session May 22

Ukulele Jam
Thursday, May 4, 11, 18, 25 1:30-3:00
Community Room
Fun ukulele jam for all levels.
Drop In. Other Instruments Welcome.

Very Beginners Ukulele: 8 Week Course

Thursday, May 11, 18, 25, 12:00-1:00
Thursday June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 12:00-1:00
Community Room
New to Ukulele? Join Jill Shatford for a 8 week course for new beginners. Each week will build on the previous week, please only join if you can commit to the majority of classes.
Registration Required. Space Limited.

Non-Fiction Book Club
Tuesday, May 2, 11:00 - 12:30 **Community Room**
Read *Finding the Mather Tree* by Suzanne Simard in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

General Fiction Book Club
Tuesday, May 9, 11:00-12:30 **Community Room**
Read *Astra* by Cedar Bowers in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Mystery Book Club
Tuesday, May 16, 11:00-12:30 **Community Room**
Read *Cose Histories* by Kate Atkinson in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Men's Book Club
Tuesday, May 23, 1:00-2:30 **Rockwood**
Read *Cougar Lady* by Rosella M. Leslie in preparation for the next book club on the 4th Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Writer's Studio Writing Consults
Saturday, May 13, June 10, 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.**

Capilano Universe: Speakers Series

Thursday, May 4, 6:00 - 7:45
Community Room & Zoom
In Association with Capilano University, Sechelt Library presents *Deviants & Loveless Frumps: Librarians through the Lens of Popular Media*, a talk by Dr. Christina Neigel.
Registration Required. Space Limited.

Laser Tag!
Tuesday, May 30 5:30-8:30 **Library**
Grab your friends and join us for an evening of Laser Tag! Ages 7-adult.
Registration opens May 5.
Registration Required. Space is Limited.

Ancestor Hunters
Tuesday, May 30, 10:00-12:00 **Community Room**
Interested in your family history? Come join our group of dedicated ancestor hunters.
Registration Required.

Fun with Functional Foods - Fungi
Friday, May 26, 10:30-12:30 **Community Room**
Mushroom enthusiast, Anita Maki, will be presenting a talk about healing mushrooms as functional foods. **Registration Required.**

CHILDREN & TEENS

Dungeons & Dragons
Tuesday, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 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.**
No Session May 30.

Young Writers Club
Wednesday, May 3 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, May 6, 20, 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.
No Storytime May 13 or May 27

PAWS 4 Stories
Wednesdays, May 10, 24, 31
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+.**
No Session May 3 or May 17.

Teen Anime Club
Friday, May 26, 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, May 10, 3:30-4:30 **Teen Area**
Read *This Was Our Pact* (Graphic Novel) by Ryan Andrews and discuss it with us. Snacks provided! Ages 9-12. **Registration Required.**

Laser Tag!
Tuesday, May 30 5:30-8:30 **Library**
Grab your friends and join us for an evening of Laser Tag! Ages 7-adult.
Registration opens May 5.
Registration Required. Space Limited.

Kids Card Making
Thursday, May 18 3:30 - 4:30 **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. Ages 4-8

9. Magazine / Computer Area

The main public computer area along with the magazine displays will be undergoing a physical layout change in 2-3 months. The two big issues that make change a necessity are:

1. The computer section has so much light pouring in from the large windows making it quite difficult for patrons to see computer screens effectively at almost all computer stations. We get complaints often.
2. The magazine section needs to have shelving that allows proper display and marketing of these almost 125 magazines but yet remains flexible for future use if a building expansion takes place. The current shelves are clearly not designed for magazines and really should not have been used.

We have spent much time analyzing what the actual problems are and how best to address them. The staff all had input and are on board with the plan. Downtime, money and future flexibility were also considerations. Friends of the Library will hopefully be financially assisting us with the purchase of three new double-sided rolling shelving units for the magazines (\$18,197). Space is not a friend of the Sechelt Library so we will do our best to maximize this square footage and make it as enjoyable as possible for all patrons.

10. Patron Comments

March 27	Patron staying at Elster came here first time to get printing assistance. Considers Library workers front line workers. He salutes us!
April 1	Really appreciate having storytime Saturday mornings. Gets us out of the house.
	Seating for laptop users in magazine area is really well designed. Lots of new space created. Sitting at the bar tables facing stacks great - no glare from the sun.

April 11	Longtime library user has noticed the many changes inside library the last few years. Sigrage looks great, the arrangement of everything, all the little touches make this space so welcoming.
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A Patron commented that we have a better selection of audiobooks and we get new books faster.

T
Saturday Apr 22, 2023

Monday April 17/23

To Seebelt Library Board,

I have just come from a session with your IT instructor, Jason Gregory. I would like to tell you what a knowledgeable instructor and good teacher he is.

Hi Lesane,

A patron asked us to pass this note to the Library Board.
Praise for Jason
😊 T

Yours truly,

[Redacted Signature]

([Redacted Contact Info])

11. Libraries 101

Library 101 will be forthcoming in next month's Report.