



Director's Report
Sechelt Public Library

July 27, 2023 – August 30, 2023

By Leianne Emery

Table of Contents

1. Cover Photo	3
2. Highlights for August	3
3. Library Quote	3
4. The Things Librarians Do	3
5. Funding and Service Agreement	4
6. Provincial Enhancement Grants	4
7. Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services	4
8. Friends of the Library	5
9. Book Displays for August	6
10. Program Highlights – photos for August	7
11. The Room of Requirement	9
12. Program Guides – September	10
13. Pet Policy	12
14. Festival of the Written Arts	13
15. Update on Libraries and Forest Fire Implications	14
16. Police/ Ambulance Situation	15
17. Patron Comments	15
18. Projects we are Working On	19

1. Cover Photo

Charlotte and Sam at the 2023 Summer Reading Club Wrap Up with Pico Puppet Palace and Award Ceremony on Wednesday August 16th. Sam returned to her position as Children's Program Coordinator on August 11th, which Charlotte had been covering for a year.

2. Highlights for August

- Official Accessibility Plan for Sechelt Library being finalized (as per BC provincial regulations)
- Magazine area / public computer area layout changes still underway
- A very successful Summer Reading Club wraps up
- Sam, our children program coordinator, returns from a year away
- Changes made and more to come in First Nations Collection area
- Advertisement for Public Services Assistant goes out with large number of applicants responding
- Massive cleanup of programming materials and layout changes in Room of Requirement underway for future look towards utilizing space for small attendee programs
- 2023 Festival of the Written Arts, a SPL supported event, very successful
- Partnership with the Sunshine Coast Camera Club being worked on
- Books for Babies 2023 getting ready for distribution

3. Library Quote

“Sure, I go to the library for books, but also sometimes I go just to exist in a space that’s welcoming, organized, comfortable, judgement-free, and run by knowledgeable, helpful, passionate people, because that energy is straight up medicinal. “

Author, Jonathan Edward Durham

4. The Things Librarians Do

When people need assistance with anything – they almost always default to the library. This week we even helped someone find their lost black FOB on the black carpet of their car. Because of course librarians carry a magnet on their own key ring...just in case a patron needs it...

5. Funding and Service Agreement

A meeting has been scheduled for September 13, 2023 for the funding partners to gather and discuss the funding and service agreement.

6. Provincial Enhancement Grants

When the \$45 million March Enhancement Grant funding package was distributed to libraries and library organizations in March 2023, the annual library grants from the Province) were also included in that \$45M. For Sechelt Library the annual library grant that had been \$77K per year for over 10 years was now, due to formula adjustments by the province, increased to \$82K. Our March Enhancement Grant (excluding the \$82K) was to focus on items outside of our normal operating budgets as funded by our local governments and other organizations with a view to “enhancing” our library and its specific needs.

In June 2023, the Public Libraries Branch decided to allocate the regularly scheduled \$14 million in annual library grants directly to libraries via a second installment of the Enhancement Grant. This money, now called the June Enhancement grant, was received by libraries and library organizations in July 2023. The Province states, “This grant recognizes the diverse challenges facing each library system and complements the Enhancement Funding distributed in March.”

Enhancement Funding is to be spent over three years. I had a one on one discussion this week with Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch, Ministry of Municipal Affairs for the BC as I had questions surrounding the options of a long-term investment option for these Enhancement Funds for purposes of our DOS/Library future expansion. No firm decisions have been made. More can be discussed at the Board Meeting if necessary.

7. Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services

The BC Public Library Partners (made up of representatives from ABCPLD, BCLTA, BCLA and BC Libraries Coop) presented to the BC Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services on June 12, asking the province to permanently increase annual funding for public libraries to \$30 million in 2024, and commit to inflationary adjustments every year.

The [Select Standing Committee’s Report on the 2024 Budget Consultation](#) includes the following recommendation on page 23: “Increase permanent funding for public libraries to \$30 million annually with ongoing inflationary increases, and support services to rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.”

From the Conclusion on page 22 of the Arts, Libraries, and Sport section of the report: “While discussing public libraries, Committee Members recognized the importance of libraries as community hubs which reduce isolation and increase access to resources, programs, and services. Further, they highlighted the

fact that libraries do far more than provide books; they act as cooling and heating centres and are taking on a more vital role within communities with the advent of climate emergencies. Members agreed that libraries are crucial for those living in rural, remote, and First Nations communities as they may be the only place to access the internet and stay connected. They acknowledge the increased costs and responsibilities of libraries and the need for funding to better reflect the expanded roles as well as increased inflation.”

This recommendation does not guarantee the increase will be provided, as the Select Standing Committee does not set the budget and has made similar recommendations in past years, but it is a good sign that an increase is supported, and that the need for ongoing increases linked to inflation is recognized.

The Partners remain committed to achieving the sustained increased provincial funding required for public libraries to meet the needs of their communities.

8. Friends of the Library

Book Faires

The amazing volunteers at “Friends of the Library” (FOL) work tirelessly to put on Book Faires throughout the year and raise funds for “extras” for the Library. They put on two Book Faires in the month of August.



Dixie, Paula and Ruth working at the book faire along with many other volunteers of course!

9. Book Displays for August

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 July.



- Festival of the Written Arts
- Biographies of Musicians
- Books and Movies (read the book, watch the movie)
- National Dog Day
- Hot Books
- Firesmart Preparedness (thanks Lorinda for gathering materials)



10. Program Highlights – photos for August



Kids getting their Summer Reading Club weekly stickers



Charlotte and Jason teaming up to oversee a Summer Reading Club favorite activity - ice-cream making!



Teen Scratch and Win is still underway with teens coming in to take out books and get a scratch ticket! We have some great prizes!



Dinosaur egg cracking!



11. The Room of Requirement

Our “Room of Requirement”, once referred to and used as the office of Ann Watson’s Sechelt Archives, is, by necessity, a very multi-purpose room. It is also an awkward shape – long and narrow. As we have no other places in the library that are suitable, we currently do the following in this room:



- Genealogy appointments
- Accessibility appointments
- One on one technology appointments three day per week
- Exam invigilation
- Special projects for programming
- Zoom meetings
- Small staff meetings
- Summer Reading Club material prep area
- Storage

Three years ago, we took all the Programming materials that were littered all throughout the tiny staff area (on and under everyone desks) and put them into 4 huge black cabinets purposely bought, put together by us and housed in the Room of Requirement. It did relieve space issues in the staff area.

What we found over the last three years is that we still needed more space for storage of technology items and we were once again overflowing with programming materials. So...

- We used three banks of the old magazine cabinets and had our carpenter secure them on the wall of the Room of requirement. This gave us a LOT of new space for programming storage.
- We bought a lot of new plastic containers... (see photo)
- Charlotte, Sam and Jason did a HUGE cleanup of materials in the programming cabinets (see photo)
- We re-dedicated one black cabinet to Technology Items and three to programming

The other huge issue in this library, unfortunately, is that we have no other space other than the shared DOS/Library Community Room to do programming or events. This is a very different situation to many libraries, including Gibsons Library, as they have their own dedicated programming and event space to utilize whenever they wish. We do not. Our access to the shared Community Room is actually very limited. Thus – we are attempting to organize this Room of requirement space for the additional purpose

of putting on smaller programs of 6-8 people or less people (if possible) – in addition to all the other uses we require it for. No small feat.



12. Program Guides – September

Director's Report

July 27, 2023 – August 30, 2023 Page | 10



REGISTRATION

All programs are **FREE!**

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

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 10-5 Sept 4 CLOSED
 Tuesday: 10-5
 Wednesday: 10-6
 Thursday: 10-5
 Friday: 10-5
 Saturday: 10-4 Sept 30 CLOSED
 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

CREPES AND DATABASES

Do you want to make Baguettes?
 Follow the link to A-Z World Food on our website homepage and search for Crepes!



Do you want to order Baguettes in French?

Our Mango Language Database will teach you! Find the link on our homepage.



Do you want to listen to a French novel while eating your Baguettes?

Our Bibliothèque Numérique database has a huge collection of French audio books! Find the link on our homepage.



ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

Genealogy Tutoring FREE
 Curious about your family 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, September 9, 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.**

BOOK FAIRE

Organized and run by volunteers of "Friends of the Library"
 Fri, September 15 12:00 - 5:00
 Sat, September 16 10:00 - 4:00
 Sun, September 17 12:00 - 3:00

Community Room at the Sechelt Library

Donations are welcome but limited to 1 box of books on Friday or Saturday only, during Book Faire hours.

Please do not put donations in the Library's book returns!



September 2023 Program Guide



ADULTS

Card Making with Ruth
 Thursday, September 14, 28 11:00-12:00
Community Room

Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class! All supplies provided. **Limited Space - Registration Required.**

Dungeons & Dragons
 Tuesday, Sept 5, 12, 19, 26, 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, Sept 11, 18, 25, 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 Monday September 4th.**

Chair Yoga
 Monday, September 11, 18, 25 12:00 - 1:00
Zoom & In Person
 Join Bobbie Seale-Cobiskey for this gentle form of yoga. Zoom link on our website. **No class September 4.**

Welcoming Communities
 Fridays 3:00-5:00 **Sechelt Library Teen Area**
 Are you new to Canada? For help in getting settled, accessing services, learning skills, making connections in the community or learning English, Sunshine Coast Welcoming Communities can help! For more information, call Lea Bautista at (604) 212 2716 (LeaBautista@caplanou.ca)
Drop-Ins Welcome

Astronomy Group Meeting

Friday, September 8, 7:00PM-9:00PM
Community Room & Zoom
 Presentation by Sunshine Coast Astronomy Club. **Registration is Required.**

Ukulele Jam
 Thursday, Sept 7, 14, 21, 28, 1:30-3:00
Outside on the Library lawn, weather permitting.
 Fun ukulele jam for all levels. **Drop In. Other Instruments Welcome.**

Very Beginners' Ukulele: 8 Week Course
 Thursday, September 21, 28, 12:00 - 1:00
 Thursday, October 5, 19, 26, 12:00 - 1:00
 Thursday, November 2, 9, 16 12:00 - 1:00
Community Room
 Brand new to ukulele? Join Jill Shatford for an 8 week course in ukulele basics. Each week's lessons builds on the last so please only join if you can commit to the majority of the classes. **Space is limited. Registration Required. No meeting October 12.**

Ancestor Hunters
 Tuesday, September 26, 10:00-12:00
Community Room
 Interested in your family history? Come join our group of dedicated ancestor hunters. **Registration Required.**

Writer's Studio Writing Consults
 Saturday, September 9, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00
Room of Requirement
 Free 45 min consultation with Jocelyne Gregory MFA, on seven pages of your writing. Please provide the sample of your work 1-2 weeks prior to your appointment. **Registration Required. Please email writing sample to: programs@secheltlibrary.ca**

Non-Fiction Book Club

Tuesday, September 19, 11:00 - 12:00
Community Room
 Read *Birding with Yeats* by Lynn Thomson in preparation for the next book club meeting. **Registration Required.**

General Fiction Book Club
 Tuesday, September 12, 11:00-12:30
Community Room
 Read *The Suspect* by L.R. Wright in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required. New members welcome.**

Men's Book Club
 Tuesday, September 26, 1:00-3:00
Rockwood Center
 Read *The Bomber Mafia* by Malcolm Gladwell in preparation for the next book club meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month. **Registration Required.**

Service Canada & CRA Super Clinic at Sechelt Library
 Friday, October 27
Community Room
 One-on-one appointments with Service Canada and CRA agents for CPP/OAS, CPP disability, passport services, support for apprentices, benefits and credits availability, how and when to apply for benefit payments, SIN, CRA issues, and more. More details coming in October brochure.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Dungeons & Dragons
 Tuesday, Sept 5, 12, 19, 26, 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.**

Fall Family StoryTime

Saturday, September 16, 23 10:30 - 11:00
Children's Area or outside, weather permitting
 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. Please note time change. No Storytime September 2, 9, & 30**

Teen Anime Club
 Friday, Sept, 8, 22, 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.**

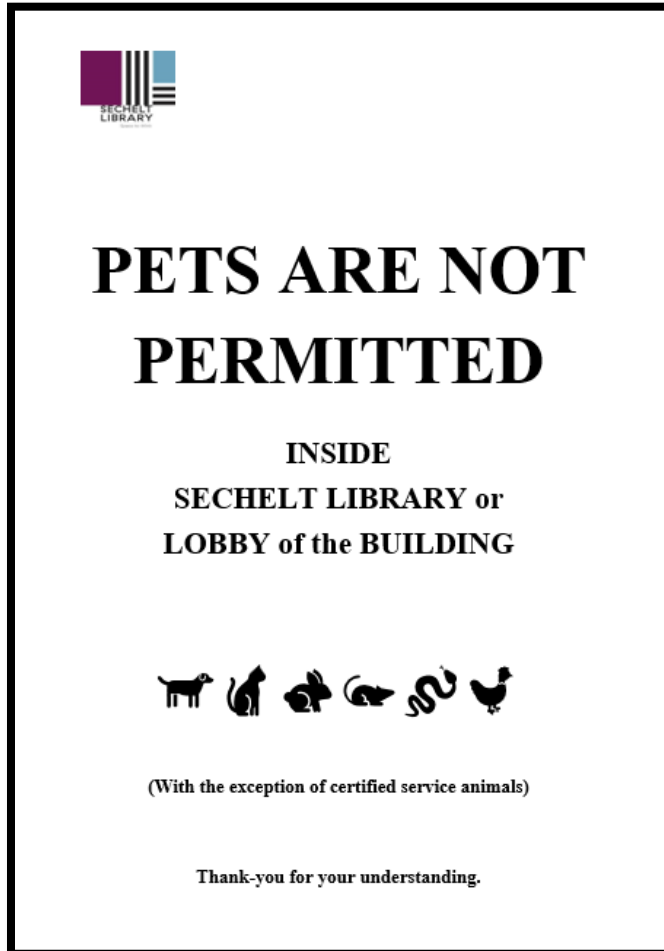
Youth Book Club
 Wednesday, Sept 13, 3:30-4:30
Teen Area
 Read *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker and discuss it with us. Snacks provided! Ages 9-12. **Registration Required.**

Kids Card Making
 Saturday, Sept 23, 2:30 - 3:30
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.**

Storytime with Starr
 Saturday, September 23 10:30 - 11:00
Outside on the library lawn, weather permitting
 Starr the Great Dane will be joining us for a special storytime this September. Starr is a certified St. John Ambulance therapy dog and is part of the PAWS 4 Stories Program. Ages 2-8.

13. Pet Policy

We will be changing our signage from our month-long warning to this as of Friday September 1, 2023:



We have advised the DOS of our upcoming enforcement of this policy. The DOS itself does not have a policy of their own. Citizens are currently allowed to take a pet into the front desk area of the DOS upstairs. Some crossover may happen – depending on well a person can argue about their intended destination!

14. Festival of the Written Arts

Sechelt Library is a proud supporter of the annual Festival of the Written Arts. This year two of our staff were asked by Festival Chair, Marisa, to do the official author introductions. Teresa did the official introduction for author Janie Chang and Leianne introduced brothers and cowriters, Ian and Will Ferguson. As well, Teresa volunteered for the duration of the event as Front of the House Manager. Many of our staff and Board Members took part in the audience for some or all performances.



Leianne with brothers and co-authors Ian and Will Ferguson



Teresa, who has volunteered for many years, taking ticket money from audience members (photo taken last year)

15. Update on ORL Libraries and Forest Fire Implications

Hello ABCPLD friends,

I'm writing to thank those of you who reached out with words of support over this past week and a half. As many of you are obviously already aware, significant forest fires are sweeping through the Okanagan Regional Library service area. The situation rose to a head last weekend. Major fires erupted in both the cities of Kelowna and West Kelowna last week. Dozens of ORL staff members were evacuated from their homes, and several of our branches were forced to close. An even larger fire is still active in the Shuswaps. Our North Shuswap branch, located in the small community of Scotch Creek, burned to the ground last weekend.

While some of our staff members have lost their homes, no one has been physically injured. I believe we're coming out the other end of this crisis. Thank you again for your support!

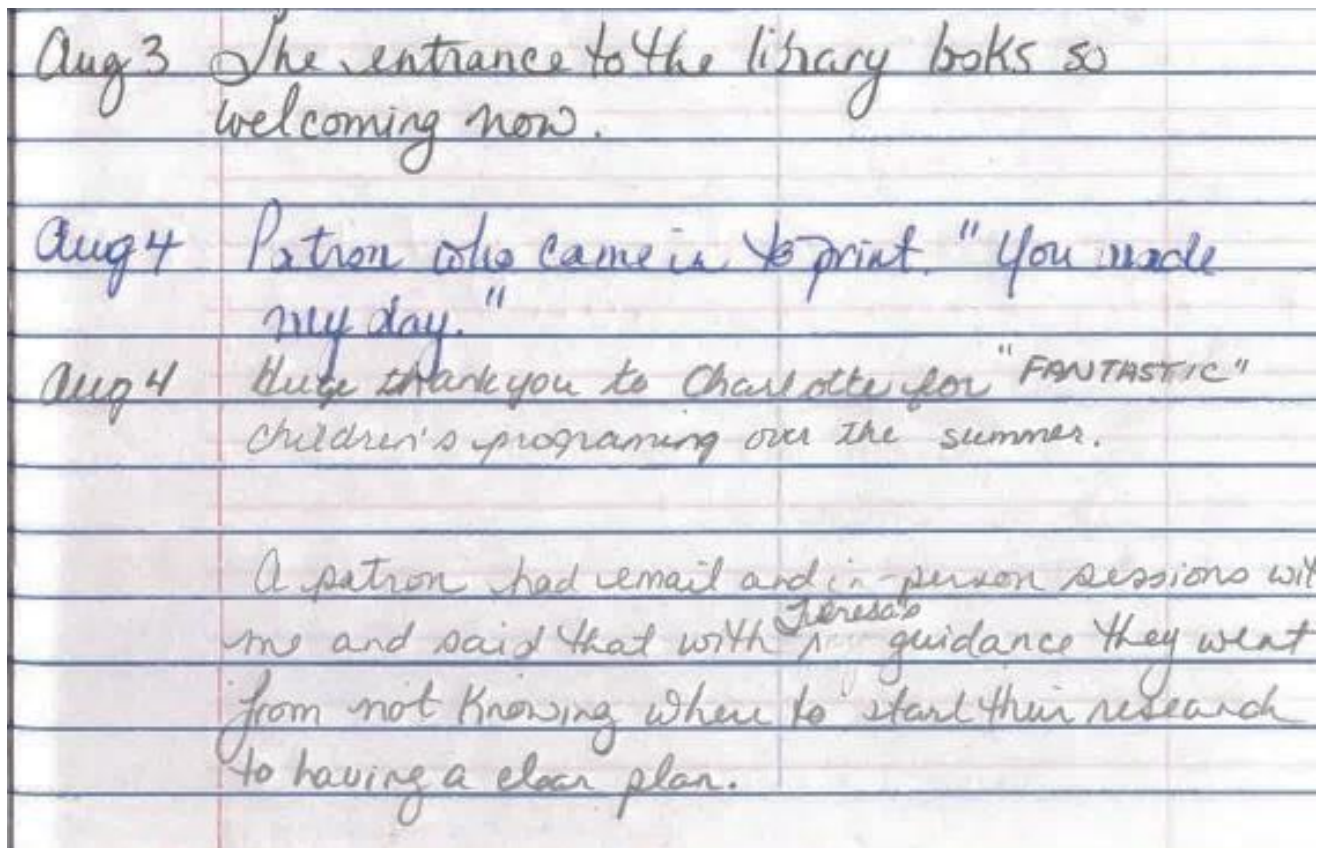
All the best,

Danielle Hubbard, *Chief Executive Officer*,
Okanagan Regional Library | Administrative Centre

16. Police/ Ambulance Situation

Early afternoon on August 29, 2023, staff found a barely responsive male in a washroom stall. A second staff member called 911. At that exact moment, Dylan, from the DOS, happened to be in my office dropping off something and he was able to quickly move the situation at hand with our other staff members. As a volunteer firefighter Dylan is also trained in first aid. The ambulance team eventually got the male out of the washroom stall although it brinked on the verge of also having to call the police. It was a situation involving drugs.

17. Patron Comments





From the Coast Reporter,
Friday August 18, 2023

An ocean full of kisses to the Rotary Club for the online auction last fall. I bid on a boat tour and my friend and I enjoyed touring recently. Greg Grant was the consummate tour guide!

Kisses to the patient librarian who helped me over the phone to access one of the library's databases – a real, local person, not a chatbot or remote call centre.

Many kisses to the wonderful staff in Sechelt library. They bring us free programs for us all to enjoy. We love our stitching class.



Many Thanks to The amazing
Staff at The Seckels Library
& also to those at The Owen
Sound North Grey Union
Public Library.

Imagine a fiction book
travelling across Canada
for me to enjoy here on
The Coast!

What Special Service!



Sorothy G.

Aug 3 2023
Note found
tucked into a
book

Saturday August 12, 2023

A librarian visiting from Ireland stopped by the desk to say "What a lovely library you have."

Andrea loves new Magarini area

Saturday Aug 19, 2023

A mother and daughter from Yellow Knife visiting family in Sechart, now unable to return home due to evacuation.

Looking for French school curriculum resources for daughters in case they need to stay on into Sept. . . .

Mother was very appreciative of putting them in touch with French school here + getting her daughter signed up w/ library card.

18. Projects we are Working On

- Accessibility Plan for Sechelt Public Library to comply with BC Accessibility Act legislation. Although now on page 42 and almost finished, more on this to come in the September 2023 Library Director's Report. This will be followed by Accessibility projects that we already are aware of and need addressing – such as the OPACS.
- Working with the Sunshine Coast Camera Club to put club photographs on two of our library walls. A change of plans was made by us is the original concept.
- Working with CRA and Service Canada to put on a “Super Clinic” at the Sechelt Library – now confirmed for October 27th
- Working with Peoples Law School to put on online webinars for legal subject matters under the banner of Wills and Estates
- Additional end caps and book stands for display
- First Nations area