



**Director's Report**  
**Sechelt Public Library**

**November 28, 2024 – January 29, 2025**

**By Leianne Emery**

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## 1. Cover Photo

Ongoing construction work on the south side of the library – effecting teens, kids, magazine, public computers, newspaper reading areas and public seating. Photo of drywaller at work taken Jan 23, 2025

## 2. Highlights for November 28 – January 29, 2024

- Construction Ongoing for south side Phase 1 building restoration
- Upcoming RFP with the DOS
- Beth Dodds retirement on Thursday November 28, 2024
- Dave Cox starts
- Ceiling fans and outstanding issues with the flood restoration
- Glass door repairs
- Maintenance budget
- New furniture in place
- Ceiling floods (2)
- Outreach in Pender Harbour Library
- 2025 budget submission to all funders

## 3. Friends of the Library Book Faires

**Book Faire hosted in the Sechelt Library Community Room:**  
January 17-19, 2025 raised \$1,946.

**Upcoming 2025 Book Faires will be:**

Feb 21-23	Jul 25-27
Mar 21-23	Aug 15-17
Apr 25-27	Aug 29-31
May 23-25	Sep 19-21
Jun 20-22	Oct 17-19
Jul 4-6	Nov 21-23

Photos from the December 5, 2024 **Friends of the Library Volunteer Appreciation Party!**



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#### 4. Annual General Meeting

The Sechelt Library Annual General Meeting is currently scheduled to be held on Wednesday March 26, 2025 (followed by the regular Library Board Meeting)

#### 5. Canada Post Strike

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) which began a national strike on Friday November 15, 2024 officially ended December 17, 2025. As with any strike, indirect impacts to everyone are felt including libraries. Movement of library items between BC libraries - and throughout Canada via the Canada Post Service were affected. Those items that could still move via courier between Sechelt and Gibsons Library as well as libraries within in the Interlink Library Federation (mostly lower mainland) were still shipped of course. All our cheques to vendors, where possible, were hand delivered by Jessica.

## 6. New Furniture – thank you Friends of the Library

We just had two pieces of black library shelving furniture, purchased 3 months ago, delivered and installed in the teen section. \$5K total for both – and a **big thank you to the Friends of the Library** for funding this purchase. They also funded another piece of custom furniture for us in 2024 which is still set aside near self-checks due to flood and ongoing construction.



## 7. BC Libraries Branch new Home

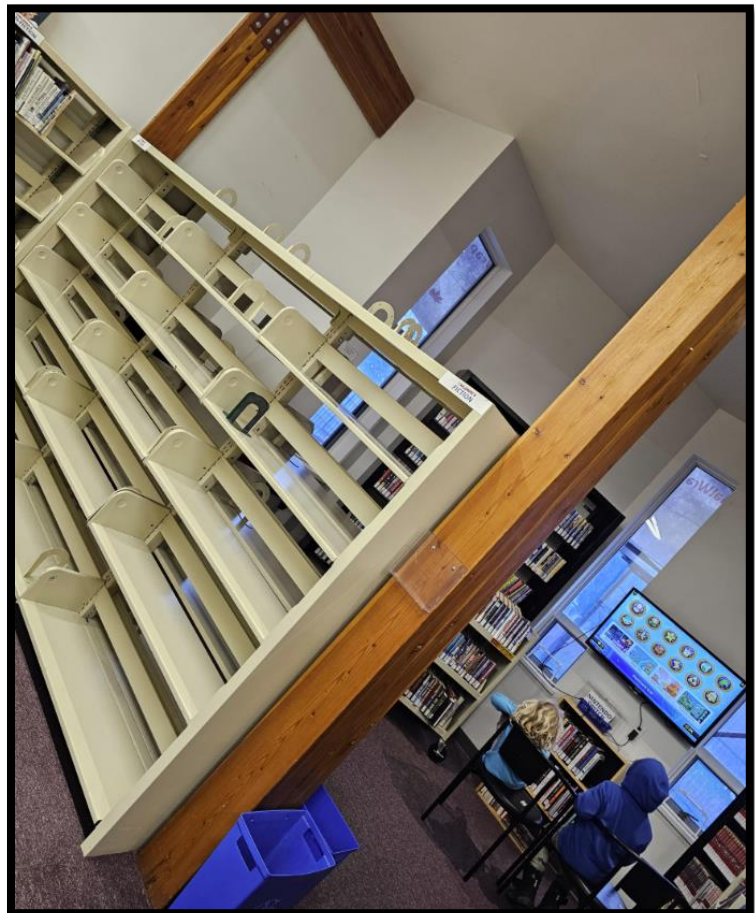
From Mari Martin, Director BC Public Libraries Branch:

“As you know our new cabinet was announced on November 18<sup>th</sup>. This resulted in a change in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Responsibility for public libraries (and the community literacy portfolio) has been assigned to the **Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs** under [Honourable Minister Ravi Kahlon \(MLA for Delta North\)](#).

The Public Libraries Branch team continues under the Local Government Division and Assistant Deputy Minister Tara Faganello.”

## 8. Ceiling Flood – November 30, 2024

Early morning on Saturday Nov 30, a patron noticed water pouring down the post in the teen section and water bubbling on the ceiling. Library staff removed all the books (and computer) from the area as the cause and fix was not yet know. Dylan and I discussed with Signia but Dylan was the one who climbed up the scaffolding and figured out what was wrong. A downspout has been removed from the wall and it had been left uncovered to the elements. Water found its way into the walls, through our ceiling (not DOS ceiling), down the posts and onto the floor. A temporary cover has been put on and Signia will repair all the damage at a later date.



## 9. Ceiling Flood – December 14, 2024

### Saturday Dec 14, 2024 - another ceiling Flood in the Teen Area

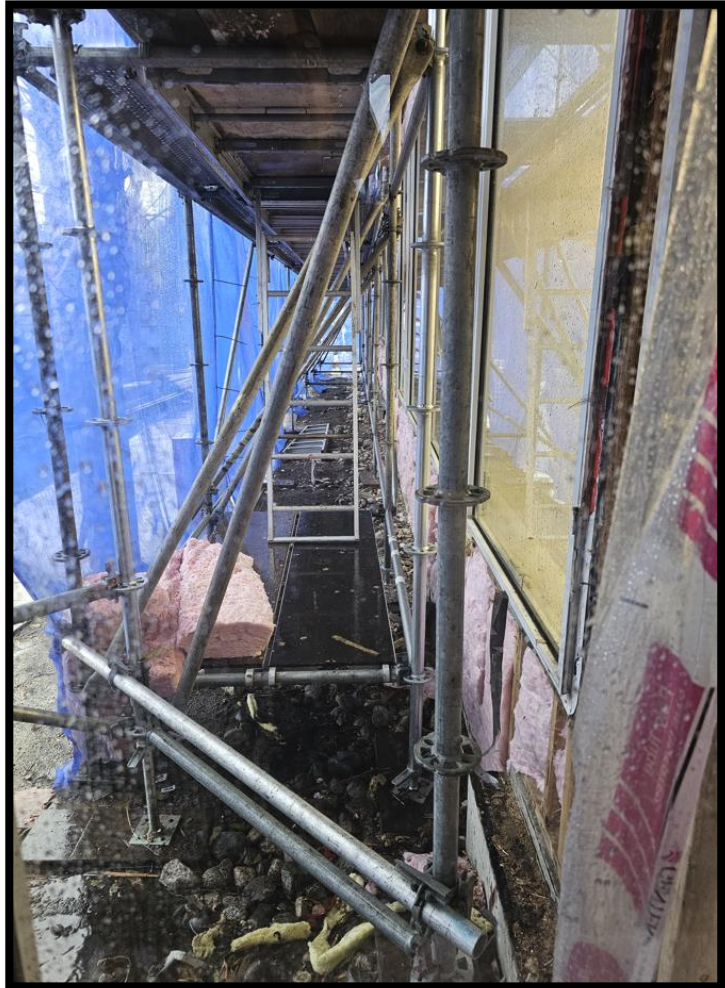
Two weeks later, we had another ceiling flood in the teen area caused by construction issues. The first flood (Saturday November 30) was caused by a removed downspout and water entry into the ceiling from outside. The flood on Dec 14 was caused by a leak in the temporary plastic downspout where water again poured into the building via our ceiling - and it was much worse.

Saturday Dec 14 am:

Janette did a 9:00am check along the whole south interior side of the library. We have so much renovation going on - with barely covered walls - that we check this entire side carefully every morning. Everything was fine. Ten minutes later, Gail hears water pouring in. I was called and also I called Dylan - we both arrived at about 9:30. Janette and the Saturday team acted quickly and removed all the books away from the leaking sections (3 major sections) and had 6 buckets on the floor collecting water pouring in. We were able to unscrew the new custom wooden shelving units from the wall and move them out - just in time - to prevent water damage. We also had to put plastic under other furniture, just replaced from the 6-month flood, in order to prevent additional water soaking up.

If it were not for the quick actions of Dylan (DOS), who climbed the scaffolding and figured out the problem - as well as the library staff moving so quickly to remove everything - we would have had catastrophic damage (once again).

Everything is under control now but the teen section was in disarray and had to be closed off to the public for quite a few days. Damage in the ceiling, through the light switches, sprinkler head and wifi boosters were assessed for permanent moisture damage.





If this flood had occurred on Saturday night or Sunday – or any other time we weren't working - can you imagine...



## 10. Electrical and Lighting

During the flood restoration, we determined that it was the perfect time to “fix” some massive electrical shortcomings that our library, built 26 years ago, could not address in its current state. We are very restricted with layout and function by the lack of electrical and data outlets. We had 5 new electrical outlets installed by the electricians in the front half of the library. \$200 x 5 (at our cost).

During the flood restoration, some but not all of the lighting fixtures were replaced in the front half. It left us with a very visible across the library strip of unsightly looking lighting. Different types of lighting and different lighting hues. We choose to have 6 additional “new” lights installed (\$6 x 200) (again at our cost).

## 11. Building Remediation – Exterior of DOS / Library Building

South side (Phase 1) restoration and construction includes:

### South side restoration will include:

1. Wall rot assessed and repaired (inside and out)
2. New windows installed
3. Siding removed and replaced with new fiber-cement siding (ie. hardie-board)
4. New aluminum awnings on both levels
5. New building trim
6. Refresh of all exterior beams and posts
7. Landscape improvements and beautification of lawn, benches and sitting areas
8. Trim or remove all wisteria
9. Removal of large tree and removal and relocation of rose bushes away from the building

### Activities since last Library Director’s Report:

#### Exterior Wall Assessment:

Ongoing for quite some time and very loud. More exterior damage on exterior of our “biography” section was still being found as late as week of January 6 (after new windows were already in)



Beam replacement:

November 28 front door post replacement. 6 posts in total were replaced.



It was also determined that a beam needed replacement. Unfortunately, this exterior beam also came into the interior of the library - in the magazine and public computer section. Major disruption for public and staff entry into this section. Photo taken on Jan 13



**Interior Wall Repair:**

Repairing the interior of the south side has greatly affected the library - programs, collection accessibility, and space available to the public. Although Signia initially anticipated to do one section at a time, the reality has not been that. It has been lengthy and ongoing and disruptive for both staff and patrons in all sections at all times. **ONGOING**





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### Window Replacement:

All south side windows have now been removed, replaced with the old, removed again and then replaced with new. Commenced at end of November and there is one more still to complete. Some of these giant windows had to be brought in and installed through existing scaffolding – so amazing none broke. Photo taken Jan 9



## 12. Temporary Children's Area

As access to the children's area (and many other areas) has been blocked due to construction for at least two months, we planned that, after Christmas, we would set up an area for children and incorporate some public seating in this new zone as well. It is now "built" and families have been enjoying every day. It is also still highly used for newspaper reading and other purposes.



## 13. Program Guides for January and February





## REGISTRATION

All programs are **FREE!**

Call (604) 885-3260, drop by the library, or email us at [info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca](mailto:info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca) to register. **Online registration available for select programs.**

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 10-5  
Tuesday: 10-5  
Wednesday: 10-6 **JAN 1 CLOSED**  
Thursday: 10-5  
Friday: 10-5  
Saturday: 10-4  
Sunday: Closed

## CONTACT

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

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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

[@secheltlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/secheltlibrary)  
[@secheltlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/secheltlibrary)

## National Geographic Photographer + Arctic Explorer

**Thursday, February 6, 6:00-7:30pm  
Community Room**  
Veteran Arctic explorer and National Geographic published photographer, John Dunn, is coming to Sechelt to share images and video of his team's pioneering 60 day, 900km skiing expedition on remote Axel Heiberg Island in Canada's High Arctic.

John and colleague, Graeme Magor, completed the first end-to-end ski traverse of Ellesmere Island's lesser known and rarely travelled neighbour.

Space is limited, registration required. **Online registration available.**

## Staff Visit to Pender Harbour Reading Centre

**Wednesday, January 22, 11:00-2:00  
Pender Harbour Reading Centre**  
Sign up for a library card and get professional assistance with accessing online library resources. Enjoy the privileges of a FREE library card!  
Join Sechelt Library staff at the Pender Harbour Reading Centre Wednesday January 22, 2025 from 11:00-2:00. Remember to bring ID!

## 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, January 11, 10:30-2:30**  
Free repair of domestic appliances and devices by volunteers from Gibsons Repair Café. **Drop-in, no appointment necessary.**

**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

**2025 Book Faires**  
Hosted by the Friends of the Library  
**Sechelt Library Community Room**

Fri, Jan. 17, 12:00-5:00  
Sat, Jan. 18, 10:00-4:00  
Sun, Jan. 19, 12:00-3:00

Donations are limited to 1 box of great books on Friday and Saturday only, during Book Faire hours.



# January 2025 Program Guide



## ADULTS

### Stitchin'

**Monday, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30-11:30  
Community Room**  
Enjoy a friendly stitchin' session with other crafters. **Drop-ins welcome.**

### Card Making with Ruth

**Thursday, Jan. 23, 10:30-11:30  
Community Room**  
Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class! **Limited space - registration required.**

### Chair Yoga

**Monday, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 12:00-1:00  
Zoom & In Person**  
Join Bobbie Seale-Cobiskey for this gentle form of yoga. **Drop-ins welcome.**  
**Zoom link available on website.**

### Ancestor Hunters

**Tuesday, Jan. 28, 10:00-12:00  
Community Room**  
Interested in your family history? Come join our group of dedicated ancestor hunters. **Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

### Journaling Club

**Wednesday, Jan. 8, 3:30-4:30  
Room of Requirement**  
We'll have journal prompts to inspire creativity and self-reflection. **Registration required.**

### Colouring Club for Adults

**Wednesday, Jan. 15, 3:30-4:30  
Room of Requirement**  
Join us for a fun and relaxing session of detailed colouring. Supplies provided. **Drop-ins welcome!**

### SPL Book Club

**Tuesday, Jan. 21, 11:00-12:00  
Community Room**  
Read *Indian Horse* by Richard Wagamese in preparation for the next book club. **Registration required.**

### Men's Book Club

**Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1:00-2:30  
Rockwood Centre**  
Two books this month: *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard and *The Power of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben in preparation for the next book club meeting. **Registration required.**

### Writer's Studio Writing Consults

**Saturday, Jan. 11, 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. You will be asked to provide a sample of your work 1-2 weeks prior to your appointment. **Registration required.**

### Astronomy Group

**Friday, Jan. 10, 7:00-9:00pm  
Community Room**  
The Sunshine Coast Astronomy Society presents this month's topic: What's wrong with the universe? with Douglas Scott. **Drop-ins welcome.**

### Sechelt Seed Library: Seed Packaging & Movie

**Thursday, Jan. 16, 1:00-4:00  
Community Room**  
1-2:15pm- Group meeting  
2:30-4pm- Seed Packaging and watch *Open Sesame: The Story of Seeds* Anyone welcome!  
**Registration required. Online registration available.**

### Rough Draft Writing Group

**Saturday, Jan. 11, 10:15-11:30  
Room of Requirement**  
Local author Jocelyne Gregory will be leading this writing group. **Registration required.**  
**Distaff Day: SCSWG Spin-In & Spinning Demo.**  
**Saturday, Jan. 4, 10:30-2:30  
Community Room**

The SC Spinners and Weavers Guild will celebrate Distaff Day with demonstrations on how to spin fibre by hand. **Drop-ins welcome.**

### Take Control of Your Indoor Climate

**Thursday, Jan. 23, 3:30-4:30  
Community Room**  
This public talk with energy advisor, Ross Gordon, will review the value of home energy upgrades and how to access government incentives to fund them. **Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

### Capilano University Speakers Series: What are the Superhermanities?

**Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7:00-8:45pm  
Online Only**  
Speaker, Andrea Actis, draws inspiration from Dr. Leonard George's book *Alternative Realities* which inspired scholars to treat anomalous phenomena (e.g. UFOs, precognition, poltergeists) as worthy of serious study.  
**Link available on our website.**

### Puzzle Club

**Thursday, Jan. 2, 16, 30, 10:30-11:30  
Community Room**  
Join us to work on a jigsaw puzzle as a group. **Drop-ins welcome.**

### Welcoming Communities

**Fridays 3:00-4:00  
Sechelt Library Teen Area**  
Are you new to Canada? Need 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@capilano.ca](mailto:LeaBautista@capilano.ca))  
**Drop-ins welcome**  
**National Geographic Photographer + Arctic Explorer Talk**  
**Thursday, Feb. 6, 6:00-7:30pm  
Community Room**  
**Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**  
**See back for more details!**

## ALL AGES

### Dungeons & Dragons

**Tuesday, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 5:30-8:30  
Sechelt Library**  
Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons. Call or email the library to join the waitlist. **Registration required.**

### Staff Visit to Pender Harbour Reading Centre

**Wednesday, Jan. 22, 11:00-2:00  
See back for more details!**

### Family Literacy Day Event

**Friday, Jan. 24, 11:00 & 4:00  
Roberts Creek Hall**  
The Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition is hosting two concerts with "The Myrtle Sisters." **Free admission.**  
**Registration link on our website.**

## CHILDREN & TEENS

### Holiday Escape Room: Elf in a Box!

**Thursday, Jan. 16, 3:30-4:30  
Rescheduled from December  
Room of Requirement, Ages 11-15**  
Solve the puzzles to break into the box and save the elf! You'll have to work as a team to beat the clock! **Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

### Youth Book Club

**Date TBA Ages 9-12**  
Due to the postal strike, we are unable to bring in enough copies of books for our club to read. Youth book club will resume in February.

### Teen Anime Club

**Friday, Jan. 10, 24, 3:00-4:50  
Community Room  
Ages 9-18**  
Join us to watch anime and discuss manga. **Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

### Winter Family Storytime

**Saturday, Jan. 25, 10:30-11:00  
Community Room  
Ages 0-5**  
Recommended for families with children 5 and under. Join us for stories, songs, and crafts. **Drop-ins welcome.**

### Kids VR Experience

**Thursday, Jan. 30, 3:30-4:30  
Community Room  
Ages 12-18**  
Come join us for our first Virtual Reality event! We will be playing VR games and walking through virtual Egyptian tombs! **Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

**SECHELT LIBRARY**

**REGISTRATION**

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Monday:	10-5	<b>FEB 17 CLOSED</b>
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Thursday:	10-5	
Friday:	10-5	
Saturday:	10-4	
Sunday:	Closed	

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**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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

[f @secheltlibrary](#)  
[@secheltlibrary](#)

**National Geographic Photographer + Arctic Explorer**

*Thursday, February 6, 6:00-7:30pm*  
**Community Room**  
 Veteran Arctic explorer and National Geographic published photographer, John Dunn, is coming to Sechelt to share images and video of his team's pioneering 60 day, 900km skiing expedition on remote Axel Heiberg Island in Canada's High Arctic.

John and colleague, Graeme Magor, completed the first end-to-end ski traverse of Ellesmere Island's lesser known and rarely travelled neighbour.

Space is limited, registration required.  
**Online registration available.**

**Valentines Laser Tag!**

*Thursday, February, 13, 5:30-8:30*  
**Sechelt Library**  
 Looking for a fun activity to celebrate the day of love? Grab your nearest Valentine (or dearest friend) and join us for an evening of laser tag! All equipment provided.  
 Registration opens: *Feb. 4, 1:30*  
**Space Limited. Registration Required. This program fills up fast!**

**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, February 8, 10:30-2:30*  
 Free repair of domestic appliances and devices by volunteers from Gibsons Repair Café.  
**Drop-in, no appointment necessary.**

**Accessibility Services FREE**  
 One-on-one assistance with Daisy audio players, accessibility programs, and resources for individuals with visual impairments or other print disabilities.  
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**2025 Book Faires**  
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 Sun, Feb. 23, 12:00-3:00

Donations are limited to 1 box of great books on Friday and Saturday only, during Book Fair hours.

**SECHELT LIBRARY**

**February 2025 Program Guide**



**ADULTS**

**Stitchin'**  
*Monday, Feb. 3, 10, 27, 10:30-11:30*  
**Community Room**  
 Enjoy a friendly stitchin' session with other crafters.  
**Drop-ins welcome.**  
**No class on February 17th.**

**Card Making with Ruth**  
*Thursday, Feb. 6, 2:00-3:00*  
*Thursday, Feb. 27, 10:30-11:30*  
**Community Room**  
 Join Ruth Moore for a free card-making class!  
**Limited space - registration required.**

**Chair Yoga**  
*Monday, Feb. 3, 10, 27, 12:00-1:00*  
**Zoom & In Person**  
 Join Bobbie Seale-Cobiskay for this gentle form of yoga.  
**Drop-ins welcome.**  
**Zoom link available on website.**  
**No class on February 17th.**

**Ancestor Hunters**  
*Tuesday, Feb. 25, 10:00-12:00*  
**Community Room**  
 Interested in your family history? Come join our group of dedicated ancestor hunters.  
**Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

**Colouring Club for Adults**  
*Wednesday, Feb. 19, 26, 3:30-4:30*  
**Room of Requirement**  
 Join us for a fun and relaxing session of detailed colouring. Supplies provided.  
**Drop-ins welcome!**

**SPL Book Club**  
*Tuesday, Feb. 18, 11:00-12:00*  
**Community Room**  
 Read *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett in preparation for the next book club.  
**Registration required.**

**Men's Book Club**  
*Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1:00-2:30*  
**Rockwood Centre**  
 Read *Blue Dreams* by Lauren Slater in preparation for the next book club meeting.  
**Registration required.**

**Writer's Studio Writing Consults**  
*Saturday, Feb. 8, 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. You will be asked to provide a sample of your work 1-2 weeks prior to your appointment.  
**Registration required.**

**Astronomy Group**  
*Friday, Feb. 14, 7:00-9:00pm*  
**Community Room**  
 The Sunshine Coast Astronomy Society presents this month's topic: *Indigenous people's sky stories uncovered* by Dr. Shandin Pete  
**Drop-ins welcome.**

**Rough Draft Writing Group**  
*Saturday, Feb. 8, 10:15-11:30*  
**Room of Requirement**  
 Local author Jocelyne Gregory will be leading this writing group.  
**Registration required.**

**Very Beginner Ukulele Lessons: 8 Week Course**  
*Thursday, Feb. 13, 20, 27, 1:30-2:30*  
*Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1:30-2:30*  
*April 3, 1:30-2:30*  
**Community Room**  
 Join Jill Shatford for an 8 week course where you can learn the basics of Ukulele playing. Each week builds on the previous so only join if you can commit to the full 8 weeks.  
**Space Limited. Registration Required.**

**Puzzle Club**  
*Thursday, Feb. 20, 10:30-11:30*  
**Community Room**  
 Join us to work on a jigsaw puzzle as a group.  
**Drop-ins welcome.**

**Letter Writing Social**  
*Friday, Feb. 28, 10:30-12:00*  
**Community Room**  
 Enjoy tea and company while connecting with others through the art of hand-written letter. All supplies provided.  
**Registration Required.**

**Service Canada and CRA "Super Clinic" at Sechelt Library**  
*Friday, March. 28, 10:00-3:00*  
**Community Room**  
 Representatives from Service Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will be offering services at Sechelt Library on Friday, March 28 from 10:00am -3:00pm. First come first served. This will include one-on-one assistance for our patrons with a wide range of Service Canada and CRA issues.

**ALL AGES**

**Help us create a 'blind date' with a book display**  
*Tuesday, Feb. 4, 11 10:30-12:00*  
**Community Room**  
*Wednesday, Feb 5, 12, 3:15-4:30*  
**Room of Requirement**  
 Pick your favorite library books, wrap them up and write short descriptions to entice others to take these books on a blind date! During the first two sessions we will teach you how to carve your own heart shaped stamps!  
**Drop-ins Welcome.**

**Dungeons & Dragons**  
*Tuesday, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 5:30-8:30*  
**Sechelt Library**  
 Come and delve into the fantastic stories of Dungeons and Dragons. Call or email the library to join the waitlist.  
**Registration required.**  
**No Kids table February 18.**

**Valentines Laser Tag**  
*Thursday, Feb. 13, 5:30-8:30*  
**Sechelt Library**  
 See back for more details

**CHILDREN & TEENS**

**Winter Family Storytime**  
*Saturday, Feb. 1, 10:30-11:00*  
**Community Room**  
**Ages 0-5**  
 Recommended for families with children 5 and under. Join us for stories, songs, and crafts.  
**Drop-ins welcome.**

**Teen Anime Club**  
*Friday, Feb. 7, 28, 3:00-4:50*  
**Community Room**  
**Ages 9-18**  
 Join us to watch anime and discuss manga.  
**Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

**Wagging Tales: Therapy Dog Reading Sessions**  
*Thursday, Feb. 13, 27 4:00-5:00*  
**Children's Area**  
**Ages 6+**  
 Practise your reading skills by signing up for an appointment to read with a certified St. John Ambulance therapy dog!  
**Registration Required.**

**Youth Book Club**  
*Wednesday, Feb. 12, 3:30-4:30*  
**Teen Area**  
**Ages 9-12**  
 Join us at the library to discuss books! Call or email to register and borrow a copy of *The Aquanaut* by Dan Santat. Snacks provided!  
**Registration Required.**

**Kids VR Experience**  
*Friday, February. 7, 1:00-2:00*  
**Community Room**  
**Ages 10-18**  
 Looking for something to do on the upcoming Pro-D day? Come join us for a Virtual Reality Event! We will be playing VR Games and walking through virtual Egyptian tombs!  
**Registration required.**  
**Online registration available.**

## 14. December / January Programming Photos

Christmas cracker making



Dickens Christmas



Virtual Reality Programming (Jason testing and getting ready for Jan 30 event!). All the equipment and programs were made possible by our successful application of a \$6300 Telus grant.



Charlotte has once again arranged for seasonal giving garland with hand knit garments free to anyone who needs them over the winter months. Hand knit contributions by our weekly stitchin' group along with pieces made by the Spinners and Weavers Group have all made this possible.



## 15. New – Online Resource Brochure

<h3>Family History</h3> <p><b>Ancestry Library Edition:</b> Genealogical and historical research resources. With more than 5 billion names in over 4,600 databases, includes census, military, court, land, and probate records; vital and church records; directories; and passenger lists. In-library use only.</p> <p><b>BC Historical Newspapers:</b> Check out 125+ years of digital news archives from 3 of BC's oldest and most respected newspapers.</p> <p><b>Points to the Past:</b> Searchable primary source material: maps, photos, newspapers, manuscripts, pamphlets, portraits, sermons, poems, and more!</p> <p><b>All online resources are FREE!</b></p> <p><b>Some online resources may require authentication with your library card, and some may be in-library use only.</b></p> 	<h3>Contact Us</h3> <p>5797 Cowrie Street Sechelt BC, V0N 3A0 PO Box 2104</p> <p>(604) 885-3260 info@sechelt.bclibrary.ca sechelt.bclibrary.ca</p> <p><b>Current Hours</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Monday</td><td>10am-5pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>10am-5pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Wednesday</td><td>10am-6pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday</td><td>10am-5pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday</td><td>10am-5pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday</td><td>10am-4pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday</td><td>Closed</td></tr> </table> 	Monday	10am-5pm	Tuesday	10am-5pm	Wednesday	10am-6pm	Thursday	10am-5pm	Friday	10am-5pm	Saturday	10am-4pm	Sunday	Closed	<h2>Online Resources</h2> <p>Complete list of online resources available through the Sechelt Library website.</p> 
Monday	10am-5pm															
Tuesday	10am-5pm															
Wednesday	10am-6pm															
Thursday	10am-5pm															
Friday	10am-5pm															
Saturday	10am-4pm															
Sunday	Closed															
<h3>Accessibility</h3> <p><b>CELA:</b> The Center for Equitable Library Access is Canada's largest collection of books, newspapers, and magazines in alternate formats for people with print disability. This collection includes audio, e-text, braille and printbraille.</p> <p><b>NNELS:</b> The National Network for Equitable Library Service is an online collection of books in alternate formats for people with print disabilities. Download material directly or request assistance from library staff.</p> <h3>Learning</h3> <p><b>Canadian Encyclopedia:</b> Comprehensive information source about Canada and Canadians. Includes articles written by experts, as well as web links and multimedia clips.</p> <p><b>Explora Primary Schools:</b> Research interface for K-5. Includes articles, essays, and primary source documents.</p> <p><b>Gale Courses:</b> Access to a wide variety of instructor-led online courses covering everything from health and wellness to creative writing, computer programming, GED test prep, digital photography and more. Library card required.</p> <p><b>LinkedIn Learning:</b> Thousands of online courses to learn in-demand skills from real world experts. Library card required.</p> <p><b>Mango:</b> Online language learning system teaching practical conversational skills for over 70 languages. Library card required.</p>	<h3>Listening</h3> <p><b>Library To Go/Libby App:</b> Over 40,000 books, to read or listen to on your computer, phone, or tablet. Library card required.</p> <p><b>Tumble Books:</b> Online collection of animated, talking picture books, chapter books, videos, non-fiction, and graphic novels which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love.</p> <h3>Reading</h3> <p><b>Bibliothèque Numérique:</b> French Language e-books and e-audio books.</p> <p><b>Library To Go/Libby App:</b> Over 40,000 books, to read or listen to on your computer, phone, or tablet. Library card required.</p> <p><b>Novelist:</b> Database of fiction books and authors, recommended reading lists, book discussion ideas, and book reviews for all ages.</p> <p><b>Open Library:</b> Over 1 million free ebook titles to read.</p> <p><b>PressReader:</b> World's largest selection of international newspapers and magazines from around the globe. Library card required.</p> <p><b>TumbleBooks:</b> Online collection of animated, talking picture books, chapter books, videos, non-fiction, and graphic novels which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love.</p>	<h3>Reference / Research</h3> <p><b>BC Laws:</b> Free public access to Statutes &amp; Regulations of BC.</p> <p><b>BC Codes:</b> Current BC Building Code, Plumbing Services, and Fire Code.</p> <p><b>BC Statistics:</b> BCStats is the provincial government's statistical office. It provides statistics, economic research, information, and analysis.</p> <p><b>Business Plan Handbook:</b> A compilation of business plans developed by small business.</p> <p><b>ClickLaw:</b> Plain language legal resources for British Columbians.</p> <p><b>Consumer Reports:</b> Complete ratings and recommendations on appliances, cars &amp; trucks, and more. Library card required.</p> <p><b>Gale Virtual Reference Library:</b> Easy to use Travel Guide E-Books. Library card required.</p> <p><b>Greenfile:</b> Free database with an environmental focus.</p> <p><b>Small Business Accelerator:</b> Free online access to reliable business information.</p> <p><b>SecheltTests.ca:</b> Free driver training quizzes.</p> <p><b>Vehicle Safety and Inspections Standards:</b> Current standards and BC legislation. In-library use only.</p>														

Director's Report

## 16. Library Entrance Glass Doors Broken

Bad things always happen on a Saturday! Last Saturday, our library entry doors completely malfunctioned and commenced making horrific noises – that wouldn't stop. Once again, we called Dylan, who ended up having to disengage the motor so the continuous loud noise would stop. They are still lockable and open and close with muscle strength only. These sliding glass doors were installed by the library during the Canada 150 renovation in 2018. We arranged with Sechelt Glass to come and access. They installed the glass but another company, who is now defunct, installed the motorized mechanisms. At this time, we will have to have the motor replaced and Sechelt Glass is helping us find one. Our maintenance budget of \$1500 is just not cutting it anymore...



## 17. Literacy Coalition Activities for 2025

Sechelt Library is an active member and participant in the Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition along with Gibson Library, CapU, Festival of the Written Arts, SD46, and other private members. Our first scheduled event to celebrate Literacy Week was exciting performances by the popular “Myrtle Sisters” on Jan 24, 2025. It was SUCH a fun events for all! Leianne and Sam worked at both performances with the rest of the Literacy Coalition team (set up, performance, snacks, clean up) for over 250 kids and their families on the Sunshine Coast.

Jan 2025      Literacy Week Special Event (Myrtle sisters) (see Coast Reporter story below)

Friday, January 10, 2025 | Coast Reporter | 33

# ARTS & CULTURE

## FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

### Time-traveling sisters tap appetite for literacy

**MICHAEL GURNEY**  
Arts & Culture Writer

An all-ages spectacle featuring tap, swing and three-part harmony has been assembled by the Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition to mark BC's Family Literacy Week.

Family Literacy Week, including Family Literacy Day, which takes place on Jan. 27 each year, highlights how families can learn together through daily activities and is celebrated through organized events at schools, libraries and communities across Canada.

The Sunshine Coast Literacy Coalition will produce two performances by The Myrtle Sisters on Friday, Jan. 24. The “sisters” are a trio of East Vancouver performers — Candice Roberts, Nayana Fielkov, and Kat Single-Dain — who have been performing as an ensemble for nearly 15 years. All three are practiced in the serious discipline of clowning.

“People think you're clowns, that's the red nose,” said Roberts. “But clowning means we're trained in the art of play and interaction and presence and being able to see the audience and have them see us. It's about creating a shared space of joy with a group of people, making up an experience together.”

The Myrtle Sisters presentation will focus on self-expression and celebrating differences, using original and historic live music and dance. The group has performed the show and its companion pieces at schools throughout the province, including their latest tour: a week-long engagement in Port McNeill that culminated in a vaudeville-style performance for the entire community.

The three songstresses based their collective persona on Jazz Age song-and-atrios, but regularly update their repertoire with cutting-edge footwork. In the midst of recent performances set in 1921, they presented vintage dance routines like the Shim Sham and the Big Apple — then invited young audience members to demonstrate their moves. The Myrtles learned to Floss, did the Orange Justice dance (popularized by the video game Fortnite), and mastered the Griddy Dance made famous on TikTok.

Single-Dain is a professional swing dance instructor; Roberts herself is a tap dancer and ukulele player. “People will be like, ‘Oh, I know how to play ukulele or I know how to tap dance,’” she laughed. “And I answer: but at the same time?”

As a group, the Myrtles incorporate literacy into their craft. “We're all readers,” said Roberts. “We're telling a story, and we're also telling the story of ourselves.” She recently pursued studies in creative nonfiction and embarked on a project of writing memoirs.

The Sunshine Coast

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The Sunshine Coast

celebrations and public health centres.

In April, the group will hold its inaugural teen writing contest, which is being spearheaded by the Gibsons Public Library. Sponsorship for it and other coalition activities flows from Decoda Literacy Solutions, a provincial network of literacy stakeholders.

Diening said that literacy coordinators in other parts of BC have commented on the high proportion of performance-related campaigns on the Sunshine Coast. “I say simply: this is the community we live in and it's alive, so we want to support it,” she explained.

The Myrtle Sisters shows for children (and families) take place at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24 at xwesam-Roberts Creek Community Hall. Admission is free for both events, but preregistration is required at [www.sd46.bc.ca/register-now-family-literacy-day-celebrations/](http://www.sd46.bc.ca/register-now-family-literacy-day-celebrations/).

supported by the Raise-a-Reader campaign and the Sunshine Coast Credit Union.

“It's a sharp team,” said coalition leader Trudi Diening, the literacy outreach coordinator at the ká-lax-ay (or Sunshine Coast campus) of Capilano University. “We've been doing it for so long and many people have no idea who we are, but still we're loud and proud about it.”

In September, the coalition distributed 247 copies of *The Wildflower* to Kindergarten students in School District 46. The handout was followed by a picnic at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden. *The Wildflower* illustrator Sara Gillingham attended the event, signed every book, and sketched a picture on each frontispiece. Literacy-themed booths and giveaways have become a feature of local Pride Month



PEBBLE STAR ARTISTS PHOTO

The Myrtle Sisters will appear over two performances at the Roberts Creek Community Hall later this month.

Literacy Coalition's purpose is to support projects that enhance lifelong literacy. The coalition is comprised of Capilano University, the Gibsons and District Public Library, Pender Harbour Community School, School District 46, Sechelt Public

Library, the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts, Sunshine Coast Welcoming Communities, local author and editor Kallie George and Langdale Elementary Teacher-Librarian Karen Webb. The pair of concerts on Jan. 24 is financially

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Schedules subject to change without notice - Visit <a href="http://bcferries.com">bcferries.com</a>				
LEAVE HORSESHOE BAY / LEAVE LANGDALE		LEAVE EARLS COVE / LEAVE SALTRY BAY		
Jan 1, 2025 - Mar 31, 2025		Dec 20, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025		
7:30 am ..... Daily	6:20 am ..... Daily	6:35 am Mon - Sat	5:40 am Mon - Sat	
9:45 am ..... Daily	8:40 am ..... Daily	8:25 am ..... Daily	7:30 am ..... Daily	
DATE	TIME	(M)	(FT)	
2025-01-10	04:07	4.32	14.2	
	08:18	3.81	12.5	
	12:53	4.45	14.8	



- Feb 2025 Purple Sock Giveaway (Library event only)
- Mar 2025 Early Years Fair
- Jun 2025 Pride in the Park
- Jul 2025 Financial Support for 12<sup>th</sup> Night Play at Rockwood (fundraiser Bev Shaw Literacy Fund)
- Sep 2025 Book Giveaway and Author reading for all SSC kindergarten Kids Botanical Garden
- Sep 2025 2025 Books for Babies Program

## 18. Coast Reporter Advertising for Literacy Week





## 19. Insurance Claim - Contents

Ongoing claim reimbursement from the 6 different insurance companies which share the AON policy is slow and painful. About \$15K remains outstanding.

## 20. Elder College Course Assistance

Teresa has taken on this semester's request by Elder College to have a book list ready for an upcoming Elder College Course. It is a significant amount of work and Teresa, with input from Lorinda will do this on behalf of both Gibson and Sechelt Library.

*Elder College - Reading List*

**9. International Security and the Middle East**



**Presenter:** Keith Maxwell

**Dates:**  
Four Wednesdays  
April 2, 9, 16, 23     2pm to 4pm

**Venue:** Seaside Center, Sechelt

The Middle East has been an international security trouble spot for most of the past hundred years. It has borne witness to the decline and fall of three empires and has been a focal point for religious, sectarian, and ethnic conflict for centuries. While much of the international focus has been on the ongoing tensions and conflict between Israel and Hamas and other Arab entities and states, inter-Arab conflict has resulted in the deaths of even greater numbers of people.

## 21. Article in the Coast Life Magazine

This was sent out previously, but in case you have not yet read – here it is.



SANDRA FRIEDMAN, LEFT, AND GILLIAN SMITH, ARE CO-CHAIRS OF FRIENDS OF THE SECHELT PUBLIC LIBRARY, AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT RUNS BOOK FAIRE.

# THE BOUNTY OF BOOK FAIRE

**Library volunteers' lucrative non-profit is a book-lover favourite**

STORY & PHOTOS BY RIK JESPERSEN

**W**HEN SOMEONE REMINDS YOU THERE'S A BOOK FAIRE coming up at the Sechelt Public Library, they could be suggesting one of two things: Either you should start getting rid of the ridiculous number of books you have piled up everywhere, or you might want to go get some more.

Book Faire has indeed become a popular institution on the Sunshine Coast. After more than 12 years of nearly monthly, Friday-to-Sunday sales at the library's combined lobby/committee room, the Faire has a reputation for accepting donations only of lightly used books. They'll then be turned around and sold for up to \$2.50 (\$1 for pocketbooks), or five hardcovers for \$10. To Coasters, that's irresistible.

"The Sunshine Coast is addicted to books," said Sandra Friedman, co-chair of Friends of the Sechelt Public Library (FSPL), which runs Book Faire. "People here feel that if you don't have a pile of books under your bed or beside it, then you feel very insecure. So, we sell books."

Do they ever. Many customers walk out with a literal

armload. Sales revenue over three days can often total \$1,000 to \$2,000. And, despite the challenges of the pandemic years and a grievous flood at its venue last winter, Book Faire has generated a whopping \$230,000 since 2012. All funds, except for storage-locker and insurance expenses, go to the library, and that has made an enormous difference.

"The Friends of Library were integral to our survival when we weren't funded adequately," Sechelt Public Library Director Leianne Emery said in an interview. "Now they're integral to keeping it beautiful, and warm, and inviting and professional. I don't take lightly what they do for us."

Emery noted the library has three primary funders, the District of Sechelt, the Sunshine Coast Regional District, and the shisháhl First Nation.

"But that funding is for operations only," Emery said. "If we need a new shelf, new chairs, new computers, those are capital assets, and I don't have any budget for any of that. If I can't find the money from a grant—and we apply for lots—I can't buy them. This library would not look anywhere nearly this beautiful if the Friends had not contributed what they have over the years."

Book Faire income has paid for everything from DVDs and board games for a few hundred dollars to more than \$18,000 for three rolling magazine-storage shelves, and more than \$26,000 for two, state-of-the-art book-checkout machines. Thousands more have been spent on durable and comfortable easy chairs. Subtle but costly improvements like bookcase bottom shelves that are sloped upwards also ease and enhance the library user-experience.

"Things are expensive," said Emery. "Without [Book Faire] funding, we just don't have the same kind of library."

Friends of the Sechelt Public Library was founded in 1997 to develop ways to help fill those budget gaps. The society ran some small-scale projects like raffles and one-day book sales, but by 2012, Friedman and Gillian Smith, now FSPL co-chairs, knew they had to up their fundraising game. >>



BOOK HUNTERS COMB THROUGH THE HUNDREDS OF BOXES OF QUALITY SECOND-HAND TOMES AT A RECENT BOOK FAIRE AT SECHELT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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"The sale eventually evolved into the three days on a weekend, monthly, and twice a month in the summer," Smith said. "We don't do December, and sometimes not January."

In 2024, for the first time since it began, there also was no Book Faire in February due to a calamitous mid-January water leak that rained down from the District of Sechelt Municipal Office on the floors above. "The whole front half of the library was destroyed," Emery said.

Damage was so extensive that the library had to close completely for nearly six months, until early July. Funds from Book Faires would be needed more than ever, but the sales could not be based in the library lobby. So, except for one weekend at the Sechelt Activity Centre, Book Faire moved a block away to the Seaside Centre on Teredo St. for half of 2024. It didn't return to its library home this year until September.

**'LUGGERS,' 'SETTER-UPPERS' AND 'SMOOSHERS'**

Wherever its venue, Book Faire runs smoothly thanks to a volunteer corps who manage all the merchandise, which is stored in hundreds of cardboard boxes containing thousands upon thousands of books. About a dozen helpers contribute hours as "luggers," "setter-uppers," "smooshers," or "floorwalkers." That is, they take on the tasks of lugging the boxes to the library from the Faire's Sechelt storage lockers, setting up the boxes by category on dozens of tables, and then "smooshing" them (squeezing them efficiently) into their boxes—and ensuring each book ends up in the right box.

"We can make mistakes," said Friedman. "Somebody will put *Chicken Soup for the Soul* in with the cookbooks. It happens."

The floorwalkers answer questions, help keep things tidy and do more smooshing to accommodate yet more books dropped off at the donations table. The volunteers at that station are the gatekeepers charged with maintaining Book Faire's reputation for quality. You don't get to donate just any book. Certainly, no book that is "worn, torn, underlined, highlighted, dusty, dirty, moldy or in otherwise poor condition," according to FSPL's page on the library website. No computer books or manuals, no Readers' Digest condensed books, no textbooks, no encyclopedias. The donations table volunteers are cheerful but firm.

"It's taken a long time to train our people to say, 'No, we're not taking this,' Friedman said.

Adds Smith: "I couldn't do the donation table, because I'd be too willing to take everything. People are being good enough to give to their books away and we can't insult them. But at the same time, those who come to buy know the books on our tables are going to be in darn good shape."

The library website will list dates for 2025 Book Faires. They're open from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Donations are not accepted on Sundays.)

"There have been some very frugal years here," Emery said. "And the 'Friends' have been a saviour." **CL**

## 22. Letter to Staff

Subject: Thanks to All, and Especially Charlotte!  
Hi All:

On behalf of the entire crew in the Repair Cafe empire (now, double-digit participants!), we want to thank all, and especially Charlotte, for all the support and help you have given us this last year during our Sechelt Library events. It is so very much appreciated. We always have a good time, even when we don't get many customers and we have to fix our own stuff (and that's good and bad ...).

We are heading into our 7th year, and probably our 5,000th item, and it has gone by in a blur. It's entirely possible that the Sunshine Coast contingent of this worldwide phenomenon is one of the oldest continually-run events anywhere. Many urban events only occur monthly, and we are up to 5 events monthly, with more coming in 2025.

We could not do it without great venues, and without the active support of our hosts. The fact that we are gaining new audiences and new workers means that the stockpile of broken things is still growing. So, it's more than probable that the crowds will grow.

Thank you again. We are blessed. All the best for 2025. We will see you soon.  
On behalf of the crew: Wayne, Lee, Jan, Mikah, Arne, Rayb, Morris, Daniel, Alastair and moi ...

Fred Mason

## 23. Kisses Jan 10



Director's Report

## 24. Letter to District of Sechelt Council



### Council Correspondence

District of Sechelt  
2nd Floor, 5797 Cowrie Street  
PO Box 129, Sechelt, BC  
V0N 3A0

December 23, 2024

### Letter of Appreciation

On behalf of the Sechelt Library Board and staff, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dylan Chow, a dedicated member of the District of Sechelt team, for his unwavering support and assistance to our library.

Dylan has consistently gone above and beyond to address day-to-day building issues, responding promptly and ensuring that both the needs of our staff and the integrity of the shared Library/DOS building remain a priority. His clear communication and commitment to finding effective solutions have made him an invaluable partner to our team.

Most recently, Dylan demonstrated exceptional professionalism during two unexpected ceiling floods at the library. These incidents, which occurred on Saturday, November 30, and Saturday, December 14, were caused by external construction work on the south side of the building rather than routine maintenance issues.

In both emergencies, library staff quickly identified the flooding and took immediate steps to protect library materials. However, Dylan, despite being called in on his day off, arrived promptly to assess and mitigate the situation. His extensive knowledge of construction and maintenance, coupled with his logical and systematic approach, enabled him to identify the source of the problem and stop the water inflow. Notably, Signia, the building contractor, was not on-site during either incident, making Dylan's expertise and intervention all the more critical.

While we still faced challenges in managing the aftermath of these floods, we cannot overstate the significance of Dylan's actions in preventing potentially catastrophic damage. His dedication and skill were instrumental in safeguarding the library during these crises.

We are deeply grateful to Dylan Chow for his exceptional contributions and unwavering support. He is a true asset to the District of Sechelt and a remarkable example of public service.

On behalf of the Sechelt Library Board and Staff,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leianne Emery".

Leianne Emery  
Director, Sechelt Public Library

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rhian Piprell".

Rhian Piprell  
Chair, Sechelt Public Library Board of Directors

## 25. Outreach Event at Pender Harbour Library

On Wednesday January 22, 2025, Jason, Charlotte and Sam went up to Pender Harbour Reading Centre (now called Pender Harbour Library) to do an outreach event form memberships and tech services with our online resources.

It should also be noted that Karen Dyck has resigned as the Chair of the Pender Harbour Reading Library and Sylvia Showler will



Letter from Karen Dyck (excerpt):

Thank you both, Lianne and Marlene, for involving the Pender Harbour Library in the seniors' opportunity to learn about accessing digital library materials through the Sechelt Public Library's Libby subscription. I found the Sechelt staff to be well-prepared and keen to work with our seniors....



take her place. We have enjoyed many years communicating and working with Karen and wish her well going forward as well as welcoming the new Chair, Sylvia.