

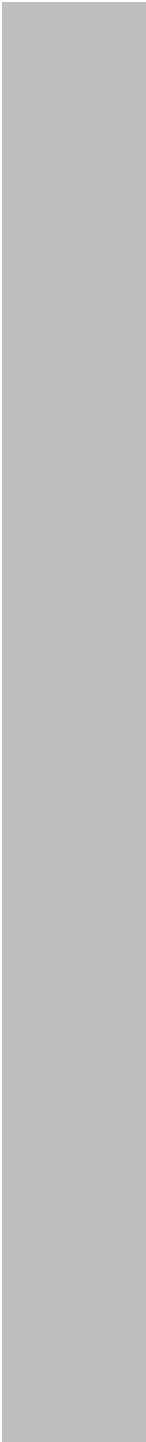


ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL Report 1999

www.stcatharines.library.on.ca



ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD 1999

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MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Catharines Public Library Board is committed to providing all the citizens of St. Catharines with the highest level of library services, materials, and facilities within the resources available to meet their informational, educational, and recreational needs.

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS 1999

In 1997 the Library Board engaged a consultant to conduct a library user survey. The final report, published in October 1997, identified both the strengths and weaknesses of the library system. Operational goals for 1999 began to address areas of concern and included additional operational enhancements.

FACILITIES

The user survey confirmed that the facilities needed to be upgraded. This year the Merritt Branch was re-carpeted and the interior was painted. The Port Dalhousie Branch was re-carpeted and its interior and exterior were painted. A number of upgrades were completed at the Central Library: the 22-year-old roof was replaced; the Children's area was re-designed, re-carpeted, and painted; and a central information desk was installed on the first floor to consolidate information service delivery.

PROGRAMS

Regular children's programs included Time for Tots, Toddler Time, Preschool Story Time and March Break Programs. The TD Summer Reading Club theme was "Pirates and Adventure". Book talks, crafts, and contests were part of the activities. In the fall Glenna Janzen presented a storytelling session on Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins. Teen programs included the St. John Ambulance Babysitters course.

A variety of adult programs were offered, including gardening clinics, tax and family law seminars, and a golf clinic with golfer and writer Bruno Frattaroli. The Library also had author readings by William Thomas, Patricia Abram, and Janice Kulyk Keefer. The Seniors' Secretariat funded ten programs to mark the International Year of the Older Person. The Library offered sessions on life writing, herbal medicine, calligraphy, wine tasting, learning to draw, senior fitness and safety, instruction in the use of the Library catalogue and Internet basics, which were attended by 381 people. In addition, two computer courses were introduced: An Introduction to the Internet and Learn to Search the Catalogue. Twenty sessions were offered and 101 people attended.

TECHNOLOGY

The installation of the new computer system was completed in February. In May training sessions were offered to the public on the use of the new system. In June the Library provided connections to the Internet at all Branches. In September, the TeleCirc system was installed. This automated dialing system calls patrons to notify them about their holds and overdue fines, and allows patrons to dial in 24 hours a day to renew their material and enquire about their borrowing information. The Library also installed WebPAC software, which provides remote access to our catalogue via the Internet. The Library's website was completely redesigned and an automated accounts payable system was introduced.

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

In 1999 the Library received \$5,100 from Human Resources Development Canada and \$10,000 from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation for the purchase of public Internet stations. Industry Canada provided \$24,000 to be expended to upgrade telecommunications infrastructure.

COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

A multi-year collection assessment plan was implemented. Prior to 1999 the Library subscribed to several CD-ROM products, which provided full-text coverage of selected magazines and newspapers. Access was restricted to specific workstations at the Central Library. In November the subscriptions were converted to electronic subscriptions accessible via the Internet and were made available across the system. Patrons had access to the following databases: Canadian Business and Current Affairs - Business and Reference, and Canadian Newdisc.

In September the first edition of *Library News* was published. This bi-monthly newsletter provides information on services, programs and special events. Tips for Students and the Answer Sheet series were developed. Answer Sheet topics include: essay style, bibliography, steps to research, guide to writing a book report, and how to evaluate a website. A Comment and Suggestion Form was introduced to encourage Library user feedback. The *Strategic Agenda: serving our community 2000-2003* was also completed and approved by the Library Board.

STATISTICS

Library Use

Circulation	1,272,494
In-House Use	906,783
Information Requests	204,329
Visits	603,044
Holdings Filled	45,772
Patrons Registered	65,252

Program Attendance

Programs	8,656
Class Visits	2,765

Collection

Volumes held	348,685
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LIBRARY SERVICES

- Collections (Print And Non-Print)
- Information Services
- Local History/Genealogy
- Interlibrary Loan
- Computer Courses
- Reserves
- Access To The Internet
- Children's Programs
- Teen Programs
- Adult Programs
- Meeting Room Rentals
- Word Processing

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1999

Revenues

Municipal Contribution	3,669,000
Provincial Grant	228,616
Miscellaneous Revenue	596,783

Total Revenues **4,494,399**

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	2,303,791
Library Materials	631,019
Occupancy Costs	353,939
Library Services and Supplies	189,237
Operating Capital	746,932

Total Expenditures **4,224,918**

Unexpended Revenue **269,481**

The Library gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the following: the City of St. Catharines; the Provincial Government; sponsors of our programs; and the many donors who assisted the Library through contributions to the Endowment and Trust Fund, Honour With Books, and Gifts In Kind.

LIBRARY LOCATIONS

Central

54 Church Street, L2R 7K2
905-688-6103, fax 905-688-6292

Tues. - Thurs. 10 am - 9 pm

Friday 10 am - 6 pm

Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday 1:30 pm - 5 pm

Oct. - Dec.

Jan. - May

Grantham

Scott and Vine Streets, L2M 3W4
905-934-7511

and

Merritt

149 Hartzel Road, L2P 1N6
905-682-3568

Tues. - Wed. 10 am - 5:30 pm

Thurs. - Fri. 10 am - 9 pm

Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Port Dalhousie

23 Brock Street, L2N 5E1
905-646-0220

Tuesday 1 pm - 8 pm

Thursday 10 am - 12 noon

1 pm - 8 pm

Saturday 11 am - 4 pm