




ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL Report 2002

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ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD 2002

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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 2002

On January 27, 2000 the Library Board approved the *Strategic Agenda: serving our community 2000-2003*. This strategic plan provided the framework for the renovation of the facilities and for the enhancement of library services.

FACILITIES

In 1999 a consultant conducted a condition assessment of the 22-year-old Central Library. The Board approved a multi-year funding strategy to address the deficiencies identified in the report. In 2002 the Central Library was painted and the re-carpeting project that had been staged over two years was completed.

PROGRAMS

Regular children's programs included Time for Tots, Toddler Time and Preschool Story Time. In January, Story Stairs, a drop-in story time, was introduced at the Central Library. The TD Summer Reading Club, "Read Around the World" included 537 children, a 28% increase over 2001. March Break programs were attended by 883, a 62% increase over 2001. A week-long computer camp, Around the World on the Internet, was held in July. In December cartoonist Jerry Kish welcomed children ages 7 to 12 to his drawing workshop Cartoon-mania.

Teen programs included the St. John Ambulance Babysitters Course, Glitter and Glamour, and Creative Expressions (a card-making workshop). In March the

Wildfire Dance Theatre gave a performance at the Central Library. Over 80 entries were received for the second annual Fresh Ink writing contest for teens. Prizes were awarded for the winning entries and they were published in the Library's *Fresh Ink Magazine*. A summer reading program, Teen Book Survivor Island, was developed for teens 12 and over. A Grade 8 research skills development program was introduced in April. This half-day program teaches students how to research assignments and how to use print and electronic resources effectively. In the spring, twelve classes participated and 300 students received instruction.

Adult and seniors programs covered a wide variety of topics including: gardening clinics, tax and legal aid clinics, wills and powers of attorney, Teacups and Tea (a history of tea and tea etiquette), Preserving Memories (life writing), The Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore (history of the railway stations in Canada), author visits, Book Club meetings, and a Christmas concert by the Chapel Singers and the Salvation Army Citadel Band. The St. Catharines Art Association held their spring and winter art shows at the Central Library.

On June 22, the Central Library celebrated its 25th anniversary with a special day of activities including author readings, contests and a concert by The Malleheads. In the fall a formal reception was held. St. Catharines author Richard B. Wright provided an author reading from his award-winning novel *Clara Callan* at the reception.

TECHNOLOGY

Patron authentication and time out software was installed on the Internet stations in order to manage their use and equalize access. A new paging and voice mail system was also installed, as well as a new automated payroll system. Email notification of overdues was introduced and offered to patrons.

The Library's website was redesigned and upgraded and includes a program calendar, subject directories of weblinks, current lists of bestsellers, technical support information and email reference.

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

The Library received a grant for \$38,000 from the Ministry of Culture's Library Strategic Fund Development Program. The grant was to be used to assist in the creation of the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta trophies and race results digital database. A grant for \$20,000 was also received from Industry Canada's CAP program to upgrade public access Internet stations.

COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

Loan periods and fines were reviewed and standardized. Video loan periods were increased from two to seven days. Two new electronic databases were added - Novelist and Electric Library. DVD and graphic novels were added to the collection. A new computer course was developed to provide instruction on how to search and use the electronic magazine and newspaper databases effectively.

STATISTICS

Library Use

Circulation	1,274,597
In-House Use	908,700
Information Requests	162,344
Visits	712,920
Holds Filled	66,614
Patrons Registered	72,561

Program Attendance

Programs	10,092
Class Visits	3,233

Web Services

Virtual Visits	156,038
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Collection

Volumes held	357,943
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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 2002

Revenues

Municipal Contribution	3,818,400
Provincial Grant	228,616
Miscellaneous Revenue	486,780

Total Revenues 4,533,796

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	2,734,104
Library Materials	748,994
Occupancy Costs	416,447
Library Services and Supplies	203,458
Operating Capital	347,768

Total Expenditures 4,49,915

Unexpended Revenue 83,881

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