

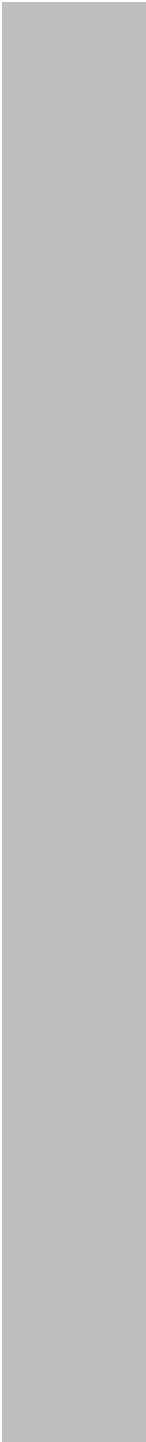


ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL Report 2004

www.stcatharines.library.on.ca



ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD 2004

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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.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Public libraries play a special role in the communities they serve. Their doors are open to everyone regardless of age, ability, education or economic status. They provide cultural resources, vital social spaces and reflect some of society's noblest values: social justice, democracy, learning, creativity and curiosity.

The *Strategic Agenda: Information and Innovation 2004-2005* provides the framework for the ongoing development of the Library. The strategic plan was developed by the Board and staff utilizing data obtained from the 2003 Community Needs Assessment Survey.

RESEARCH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

A primary role of the Library is to provide collections that address the information, leisure and research needs of the community. The collections include print and non-print materials as well as electronic databases and Internet resources. To facilitate access to the materials the Library offers research skills development programs. Sessions in the computer lab include: Searching the Online Catalogue, Introduction to Computers, Internet I, II, III, and Finding Health Information on the Internet.

Training sessions are also offered for the electronic subscription databases which provide access to over 2500 magazines, newspapers, reference works and digital images. The databases can be accessed in the Library or remotely through our website. In 2004 training sessions were developed for Electric Library Canada, a database geared to the needs of children in grade 8 to grade 12. A half-day Grade 8 Research Skills Development Program introduces students to

electronic and print materials and basic research methodology.

PROGRAMS

Another focus for the Library is the development of literacy skills and the encouragement of life-long learning. Programming and collections support this activity.

To develop foundation literacy skills in children the Library offers the following programs: Toddler Time, Time for Tots, Preschool Story Time, and Story Stairs. The Summer Reading Program, "Fire Up Your Imagination", included 574 children between the ages of 5 and 12 registered. Registration in the Summer Reading Program has increased by 65% since 2000. In 2004 staff also introduced the Lollipop Summer Reading Club for children ages 4 and under.

Teen programs included: the Grade 8 Research Skills Development Program; Fresh Ink, the poetry and short story writing contest; St. John Ambulance Babysitters Course; Cartooning: Basics and Beyond; Manga/Anime: Japanese art of cartoon making; and Our Beliefs, a program delivered by teens to share information about their spiritual and cultural practices.

Adult programs included: tax clinics, family law, legal aid, the *Tenant Protection Act*, wills and powers of attorney, T'ai Chi and book clubs. Author readings and book signings were provided by Richard B. Wright (*Adultery*); Albert van der Mey (*Floral Passion*); Stephen Henighan (*Streets of Winter*); Catherine Slaney (*Family Secrets: crossing the colour line*). A new program, the Book Café, was launched in October. The Afternoons for Seniors series sessions included: Ask a Pharmacist, Senior Friendly Travel, Investment

Strategies, Genealogy for Beginners, and Famous Visitors to the Falls with author and historian Sherman Zavitz.

COLLECTIONS

Collection development, access, and promotion are ongoing activities. All materials (on order and received) are included in our online catalogue which is accessible 24/7. A variety of book lists and research aids are generated highlighting resources for specific subjects, genres and formats. In 2004 the entire collection was inventoried. The last complete inventory was conducted in 1998.

The Special Collections Department collects material on local history and genealogy in a wide variety of formats. The Discover Your Roots program orientates genealogists to these resources and family history research methodology. The program was launched in 2003 and due to high demand the program continued to be offered in 2004.

TECHNOLOGY

The St. Catharines Public Library, Niagara College, Niagara Health System, District School Board of Niagara, Niagara Catholic District School Board, and the Regional Municipality of Niagara formed a consortia to investigate the creation of a high-speed fibre optic network in the region. In 2004 the Niagara Regional Broadband Network Limited began construction of the network which will include 250 public sector sites.

In 2004, Industry Canada's Sustainability for Public Internet Access program provided \$13,000 to upgrade the public access Internet workstations.

MEETING ROOMS

The Library serves as a meeting place for community groups and 737 meetings were held at the Library this year.

OUTREACH AND VISITING LIBRARY SERVICE

Over 3000 items were delivered through the Visiting Library Service. In addition to the programs, class visits, tours and orientation seminars, the Library conducted outreach to primary and secondary schools as well as participating in civic events, fairs and festivals.

LIBRARY SERVICES

- Access To The Internet
- Book Clubs
- Collections
- Print
- Non-Print
- Electronic Resources
- Computer Training
- Information Services
- Interlibrary Loans
- Local History/Genealogy
- Meeting Rooms
- Programs for Children, Teens, Adults
- Visiting Library Service
- Word Processing

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.

STATISTICS

Collection

Volumes held	358,588
Periodical Titles Held	745
Periodical Titles Electronic	6951

Library Use

Circulation	1,257,900
In-House Use	1,051,100
Information Requests	179,350
Visits	
In Person	581,308
Virtual	216,000
Holds Filled	80,048

Program Attendance

Programs	11,283
Class Visits	3,568

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2004

Revenues

Municipal Contribution	4,116,200
Provincial Grant	228,616
Miscellaneous Revenue	324,662

Total Revenues 4,669,478

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	3,010,342
Library Materials	810,069
Occupancy Costs	451,120
Library Services and Supplies	202,826
Operating Capital	70,125

Total Expenditures 4,554,482

Unexpended Revenue 124,996

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



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