




ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL Report 2000

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ST. CATHARINES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD 2000

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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 2000

On January 27, 2000 the Library Board approved the *Strategic Agenda: serving our community 2000-2003*. This three-year strategic plan provided the framework for the renovation of the library 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 Library Board approved a multi-year funding strategy to address the deficiencies identified in the report. In 2000 the following projects were completed: the public washrooms were renovated and modified to meet current accessibility standards; the meeting rooms were re-carpeted and painted; the meeting room corridor was tiled; the entrance to the Library was reconfigured and tiled; the first floor was painted; and the skylights and siding was replaced. In addition, signage was installed throughout the library system.

PROGRAMS

Regular Children's programs included Time for Tots, Toddler Time and Preschool Story Time. To celebrate the Millennium a special Kids 2000 program was developed which included four storytelling sessions. Three films were presented: *Star Wars - The Phantom Menace*, *Stuart Little*, and *Toy Story 2*. Programs were held daily during March Break: Clay Masks with an artist from the Garden Park Gallery; a photography workshop with the St. Catharines Photography Club; Create-a-Card workshop; a Magic Show with Terry Jones; a Music Workshop with a musician from the Niagara Symphony, etc.

The annual Silver Birch Reading Program was conducted from February to May. The theme for the Summer Reading Program was "Read Around the Town." In October local storyteller conducted the annual Ghosts, Ghouls, and Goblins program. In November children welcomed author and storyteller Nan Gregory.

For teens the Library offered a babysitting course in co-operation with the Red Cross and three special seminars: Safe Dating in partnership with the Niagara Regional Police; Beauty Tips and Tricks, and Choosing a University with the liaison officer from Brock University.

A variety of adult programs were offered including: gardening clinics, financial planning, tax clinics, and wills and powers of attorney. Readings were done by Maureen McTeer, author of *Tough Choices*; Joei Carlton Hossak, author of *Restless From The Start*; poet Glen Sorestad, author of *Today I Belong To Agnes*; poet, Patricia Abram, author of *Ink Of Light*; and poet, Eve Tihanyi, author of *Restoring The Wickedness*.

The St. Catharines Art Association held their annual spring and winter art shows at the Central Library and the Chapel Singers presented their annual Christmas Concert.

The computer instruction courses were expanded. Instruction was offered on how to use the online catalogue; basic and advanced Internet searching; finding health, travel and investment information on the Internet, and email.

TECHNOLOGY

In January email reference service was introduced. In May the Library upgraded its Internet connectivity through wireless technology.

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

In 2000 the Library received \$54,084 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the purchase of public access Internet stations, and \$40,000 for the creation of a computer training lab.

An Industry Canada CAP grant for \$68,000 was received for the acquisition of public access Internet workstations, adjustable workstation furniture, and public printers. Thirty public access Internet stations were set up across the system.

COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

In 2000 the Library expanded their electronic subscriptions. Patrons had access in all branches to the following full-text electronic databases: Canadian Business and Current Affairs (Business and Reference), Canadian NewsDisc and Health Reference Center.

Bestseller lists for fiction and non-fiction material were developed and these lists will be published three times a year.

Hours of service were reviewed and increased. Instead of closing at 6:00 pm from June to September locations remained open until 8:00 pm excepting Friday.

STATISTICS

Library Use

Circulation	1,281,807
In-House Use	783,640
Information Requests	202,956
Visits	762,216
Holds Filled	52,885
Patrons Registered	72,982

Program Attendance

Programs	6,414
Class Visits	2,727

Web Services

Virtual Visits	161,148
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Collection

Volumes held	354,790
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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 2000

Revenues

Municipal Contribution	3,699,000
Provincial Grant	228,616
Miscellaneous Revenue	567,064

Total Revenues 4,464,680

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	2,403,366
Library Materials	685,810
Occupancy Costs	379,067
Library Services and Supplies	200,879
Operating Capital.....	577,699

Total Expenditures 4,226,821

Unexpended Revenue 237,859

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