



**FORT
FRANCES
PUBLIC LIBRARY
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Being associated with the Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre, is one of the proudest and most rewarding things I have done. It is an honour and privilege to work with amazing and talented people, in the aid of providing outstanding Library services to our unique, diverse community.

To have a highly functioning and relevant library, requires trust and cooperation among many groups: Board, CEO, Staff, Volunteers, Patrons, and the Municipality.

Our Board consists of uniquely gifted volunteers who are passionate about their Community Library. They are committed to guiding our library into the future and supporting it as it fulfills its role as a cornerstone of culture in our community.

We are fortunate to have a highly qualified, enthusiastic CEO who brings a passion for excellence and libraries to our facility. Her vision and hard work allows us to move forward with our Strategic Plan, continue to grow services and serve our patrons at the highest level.

At the FFPLTC we are blessed to have amazing staff. From the moment a patron enters the building, our staff are there to ensure that their Library experience is welcoming and rewarding. Our staff are caring, knowledgeable, creative, and motivated. They deliver our programming and services—which are second to none.

We could not function without our volunteers. These committed and generous individuals allow us to expand our services beyond economic limits.

The Town of Fort Frances also generously supports its library; financially, through in-kind services, and by providing two councillors who sit on our Board. Our Library, although independent, is a part of the Community Services Division. We are indebted to the Manager of Community Services for his support and advice, as well as to the many other Town employees who go above and beyond in assisting us.

Finally, I am very appreciative of our patrons and the community we serve. The Library constantly receives positive feedback and support from the community. We are truly grateful and humbled, as we continue to receive generous financial support in the form of bequests and donation.

The FFPLTC is a dynamic and growing hub within our Community. We are a safe place that values democracy, equity, diversity, inclusivity, critical thinking, arts, culture, knowledge, and creativity.

We have something for everyone and we invite you to visit us in person or on-line.

I am very proud of our Library.

Andrew Hallikas - Chair

FORT FRANCES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Andrew Hallikas, Chair
Robert Schulz, Vice-Chair
June Caul, Council Representative
Sheri De Gagné

Robin Dennis
Ken Perry, Council Representative
Kerry Zucchiatti

2016 FACTS & FIGURES

13,695
COMPUTER
SESSIONS

12,218
WI-FI
SESSIONS

INTER
LIBRARY
LOANS

1,363

8,313
DOWNLOADS

9,766
DATABASE
USES

1722

ITEMS USE
IN THE LIBRARY

83,377
CIRCULATION

Working to insp

TEENS

2,240

SOCIAL MEDIA INTERACTIONS

112,593 VISITS

16,247 WEBSITE VISITS



D
RY



103 BOOK-ZOO

686 PROGRAMS

SHAW COMMUNITY LIB

13,580 ATTENDEES

pire all to discover, explore, innovate, & create

DISCOVER



As part of our mission, we strive to inspire passion for continuous learning in the communities we serve. In 2016, Library information resources were used **103,178** times. That includes everything from the number of books checked out from the Library or downloaded, to how many newspapers were read in the Library, to the number of times our databases were used.

Library membership increased 6% to 4,010 users and our database usage doubled in 2016. We attribute this success to the continued development of the Rainy River District Library Cooperative as well as the library services agreement with Alberton .



VOLUNTEERS

From big to little, volunteers are essential to many of the important services and events we offer at the Library. Our home delivery service is completely run by volunteers, including selecting the books and dropping them off. Our volunteers help at events and in some cases, like the Ballroom Dance Lessons offered in 2016, they run them as well! We are very grateful for all the hard work and dedication of our volunteers.

This year our volunteers selected and delivered 5,063 books, audiobooks, and DVDs to home delivery patrons. We also held our first ever Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue. It was our way of thanking our volunteers for all they do.







686
PROGRAMS

13,580
ATTENDEES

CREATE

The Library's programs are an integral part of how we fulfill our vision statement of "working to inspire all to discover, explore, innovate, and create." Our programs support the development of important skills within our community, including:

- Early Literacy
- Literacy
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- Arts
- Language

We promote literacy through Story Time, class visits, book clubs, and more.

CHEERS to the library for hosting Magic: The Gathering and Pokemon card leagues. They get people of all ages using their math and literacy skills while at the same time socializing face-to-face and having fun.

- Fort Frances Times August 23, 2016 Edition

We promote culture within our community through fashion shows, concerts, dance lessons, movie screenings, and more.

The Library works to make Fort Frances a greener community through our Sunflower Challenge, Seed Library, and by planting our Canada 150 Garden.

We strive to support diversity and inclusivity through events like our Community Chat Room and Human Library.

We cater to a number of interests from knitting with Fireside Yarn Club to cutting edge makerspace programs. Patrons can even play different musical instruments in the Library, like our keyboard or guitar.

Above all the Library contributes to a sense of community within Fort Frances. We are a space where there is something for everyone and all are welcome.

INNOVATE

In addition to its core activities and services in 2016 the Library spearheaded many new and enhanced initiatives.

Pokemon League

Kids learn about the card game and play with their friends!

New Staff

Nadine Mutz joined the Library as our Public Services Clerk & Caroline Goulding as CEO.

Tackleshare

No rod? No problem! The Library started lending fishing equipment for free, including equipment designed for children.

Minecraft in the Library

You can play Minecraft Education Edition free on our Kid, Tween, & Teen computers.

National Aboriginal Day

We hosted a fashion show showcasing the clothing of local designer Lori Yerxa.

Teen Play Centre

We launched a new gaming centre, so that youth can play in the Library.

Lego Club

Our community showed off some of its STEM skills at the Library through our Lego Club.

Blue Spruce Celebrity Story Time

Local celebrities leant their voices to a special Blue Spruce Story Time.

New Magazines

We renewed many print magazines using a new, cost-effective service and began offering magazines online through Flipster.

Our two most popular
staff members,
Milo & Otis,
joined the Library
in February.



Community-Led Library Programs

Adult Graphic Novel Collection

We created a new collection in 2016, offering graphic novels for adults

Canada 150 Tulips

We planted red and white tulips in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary.

Seed Library

We grew our Seed Library this year with classes participating in the program.

Headphones

We now sell earbuds on behalf of our Friends for people who forgot theirs.

Rainy River District Library Cooperative

We continued to work toward our goal of ensuring every student has a public library card, with our partners in the District.

Dad to Fab Sewing Bee

With the help of volunteers we held a sewing bee for tweens that turned old 'dad' shirts into amazing new creations!

Yoga in the Library

One of our volunteers led yoga classes for seniors and teens.

Adult Crafting

Programs included a Photo Transfer Workshop and Make, Take, and Bake.

Ballroom Dance Lessons

Volunteers put us through our paces, teaching ballroom lessons.

Community Chat Room

The Diversity Committee partnered with the Library to host this community discussion.



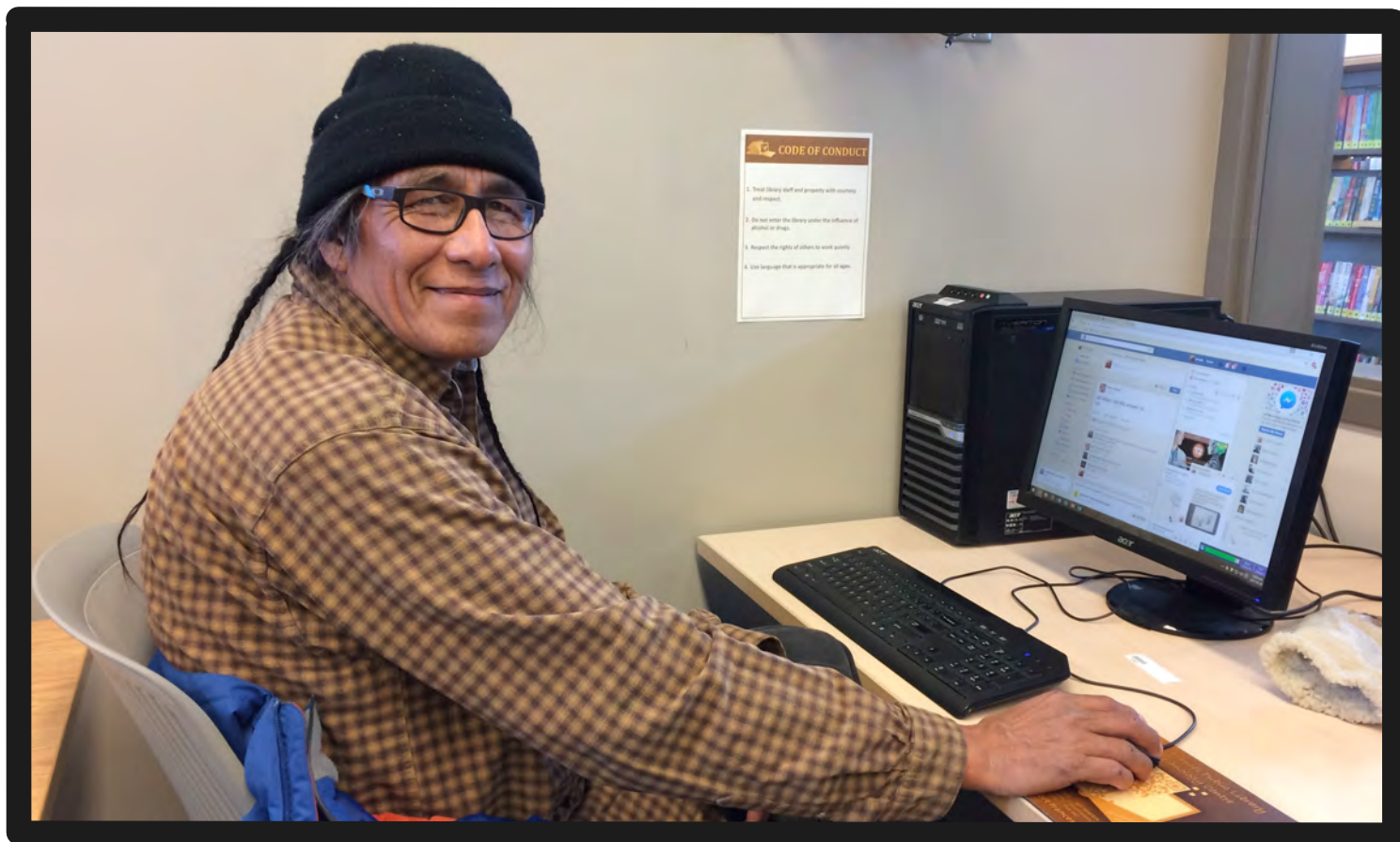
EXPLORE

13,695
COMPUTER
SESSIONS

In December 2016 the CRTC announced that broadband internet access was to become a basic service. Many people now recognize how crucial internet access is — you need it to look for a job, apply for government services, do your homework, and research health concerns. It also plays an important role in keeping us connected to one another.

Our role goes beyond ensuring that everyone can access the internet. We act as guides as they explore new technologies and offer assistance as people navigate online.

12,218
WI-FI
SESSIONS





CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Each person that walks through our doors is supporting the Library and the role it plays within our community. It is truly astounding that in a community of 7,420 we had **112,593** visits in 2016. That's enough for each community member to have used the Library over 15 times which equals about one visit every three weeks!

Connecting with our community extends to every interaction between the Library and community members, including online. We try to connect with community

members through our website and social media, by listening to what they want from their Library, and letting them know what we have to offer.



2016 STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES*

REVENUE

Library Generated	\$40,986.13
Donations	\$19,801.53
Grants	\$47,757.43
Reserves	\$6,595.00
Municipality	\$493,191.00

TOTAL REVENUE **\$608,331.09**

EXPENSES

Salaries, Wages, Benefits	\$412,864.90
Contracted Services	\$6,906.09
Buildings & Grounds	\$64,576.20
Library Services	\$71,340.76
Supplies/Materials	\$14,951.25
Rents & Services	\$25,768.89
Financial Services	\$1,080.48

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$597,488.57**

*Unaudited



Our newspaper subscriptions were donated in memory of an avid Library user



Beta Sigma Theta generously donated a new play structure this year

MAKING IT POSSIBLE

The Library is grateful for the ongoing funding supplied by the municipality of Fort Frances each year. We are fortunate to have a high level of direct community support, shown through the many donations we receive.

Each year our Friends of the Library make a very generous donation which covers all of our programming costs not funded through donations from individuals or other organizations. We are incredibly grateful for their ongoing support; without it we could not offer the number of programs we do!

In 2016 the Library received large bequests, which were deposited separately from our

operational budget and will be held to fund special initiatives. This year, we used funds from a prior bequest to support continued innovation in the Library, we purchased materials & equipment for our MakerSpace and computers for our Children's Library.

The generosity of our community makes so much of what the Library does possible. We received a number of donations from community members and organizations in 2016 and we are grateful for their support. Their donations went to support our programs, collections, and services.



**FORT
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If you have any questions about our annual report, please contact CEO
Caroline Goulding at ceo@ffpltc.ca