

# 2017



# ANNUAL REPORT



FORT  
FRANCES  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

One of the perquisites of being the Board Chair is the opportunity to speak publicly about our wonderful Library and all of the amazing people who work so hard to make it a focal point of our community.

This past year was another banner year. We continue to expand the services and programs we offer. By now most in our community know that we offer much more than “just books”. We are seeing a rise in the use of our “in-house” equipment and services, whether it be programming, technology, or materials. Many residents drop in to just visit while others take advantage of recreational opportunities; borrowing seeds, walking poles, fishing rods, tackle and of course the latest book or DVD. We are the Living Room of our community.

We have built a reputation for being an innovative, inclusive, progressive, safe, and welcoming space for all. In the past year we have received two provincial awards for innovation. We continue to be a known and respected ambassador of Fort Frances and the surrounding areas, province wide.

To ensure our award-winning Library remains a dynamic and relevant community centre takes many people and hard work. We are fortunate to have a first-rate staff of knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and friendly employees led by our progressive and energetic CEO, Caroline Goulding. The Library is overseen by a board composed of very far-seeing, hard-working, dedicated, and community-minded members, who

willingly put in countless hours. Still, all these people are not sufficient to attain and maintain excellence. We are blessed with a well-developed network of volunteers, led by our Friends of the Library. These selfless individuals pick up much of the load in tight economic times and help us to be the best that we can be. Employees, Board, and Volunteers work seamlessly together to make us a cornerstone of the Community. I thank them all from the bottom of my heart.

I also wish to recognize and thank the Town of Fort Frances for their continuing and generous support, not just financially but in many other ways such as in-kind services and the advice of town employees. Our Library works closely with the Town Treasury, Human Resources and Community Services Departments. The Manager of Community Services, Jason Kabel participates in Board meetings and provides cogent advice and strong support. We also thank the two Town Councillors June Caul and Ken Perry, who sit on our Board.

The Community should be very proud of their Library. It is a place of relaxation, recreation, learning, fun, and inclusion for all. We support diversity, equity, critical thinking, democracy, arts, science, culture, and creativity among other values.

We are about Inspiring Endless Opportunities. We are your Public Library.

Andrew Hallikas,  
Chair, Fort Frances Public Library Board

## FORT FRANCES PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Andrew Hallikas, Chair  
Robert Schulz, Vice Chair

June Caul, Councilor  
Sheri De Gagné  
Robin Dennis

Ken Perry, Councilor  
Kerry Zucchiatti



# INSPIRING ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

2017 was a busy year in the Library. Many of our services were accessed more frequently or heavily than in past years. Most impressive was our growth in membership, our total number of members grew by 13% in 2017.

Our Wi-Fi and computers were used more frequently and heavily. The number of people who attended programs grew. More of our materials were used in the Library. More eBooks and Audiobooks were downloaded than ever before. We interacted with the community more frequently on social media and our posts reached further. More people visited our website and our study rooms were booked more frequently. In 2017, the Library truly inspired endless opportunities.





# INSPIRING ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



**620 PROGRAMS**  
attended by  
**14,022 PEOPLE**



**95,728 VISITS**



**2,919**  
ITEMS

used in the Library



**77,141**  
ITEMS  
checked out





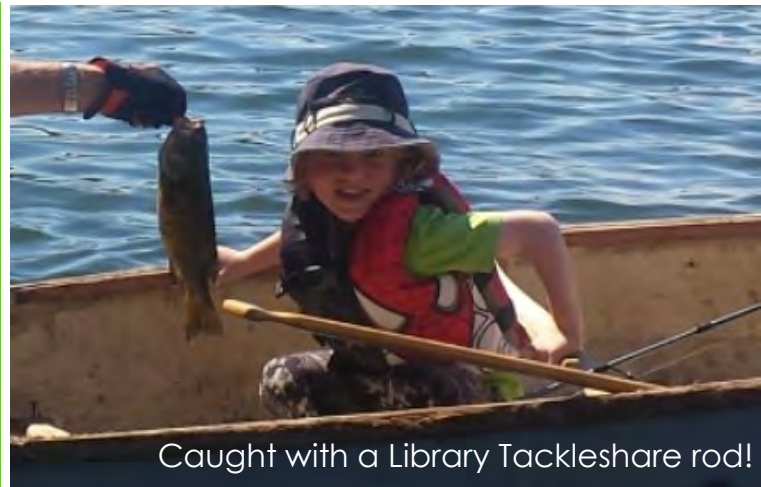
# INSPIRING ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



**9,872 eBooks and Audiobooks were DOWNLOADED**



**Databases were accessed 3,892 TIMES**



Caught with a Library Tackleshare rod!



**16,027 COMPUTER SESSIONS**



**13,536 WI-FI SESSIONS**



# INSPIRING ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



**4,547 MEMBERS**



**2,415 SOCIAL MEDIA  
INTERACTIONS**  
and our posts reached  
**104,892 PEOPLE**



**925  
STUDY ROOM  
BOOKINGS**



**16,690  
WEBSITE VISITS**





# AWARD WINNING YEAR

The Rainy River District Library Cooperative (RRDLC) is a partnership between:

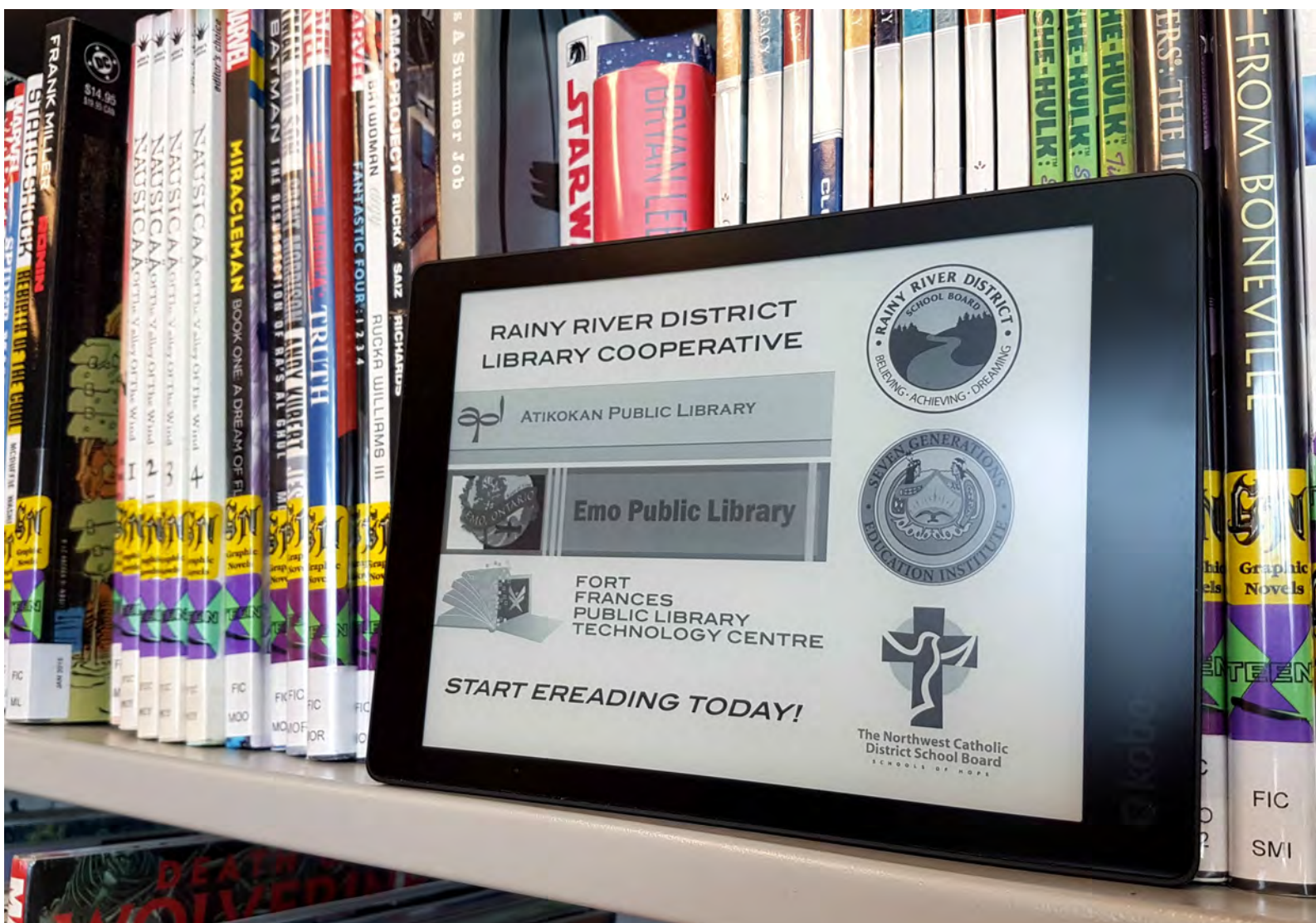
- Atikokan Public Library
- Emo Public Library
- Fort Frances Public Library and Technology Centre
- Rainy River District School Board
- Northwest Catholic District School Board
- Seven Generations Education Institute

Through this partnership every child in the Rainy River District is eligible for a free public library card. It also ensures

they have access to a wide range of eBooks and databases.

In 2017, the RRDLC won two awards: the Minister's Award for Innovation—Small Library Category at the Public Library Service Awards and the Ontario Library Service North Award for Excellence in Technology and Innovation.

Both these awards recognize the unique and innovative nature of this partnership. The Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre is proud to be a member of this dynamic and forward thinking group.





# NEW IN 2017



## **Minecraft Programs**

As a part of summer programming, Saturday Minecraft allowed kids to create and explore in an open world.

## **Simple Pleasures Workshop Series**

Stepping Stones, Pizza Making, Photo Transfers, and Bread Making were the exciting activities offered through our new adult programming initiative.

## **3D Printing Certification Course**

Designed to allow people to use the 3D printer on their own, the this course teaches people how to safely and successfully use our 3D Printers.

## **Quick Prints**

This program allows people to enjoy the fun of 3D Printing without needing to know how to use the 3D Printer. People can choose from a list of pre-programmed 3D objects. Staff will set everything up and they can watch the 3D Printer in action!

## **Local Film Festival**

For the first time we ran a film festival where all the films featured had a local connection.

## **Large Print Pool**

We joined a large print pool with other libraries across the North. The pool allows us to bring in a wider variety of large print books for users.

## **Co-operative Education Student**

We were very fortunate to host a high school placement. They helped launch the MakerSpace Certification program and offered one-on-one technology appointments.





## Tween Club's Postcrossing Project

This project sees the Tween Club sending postcards around the world and getting postcards back in return.

## Pints and Pages Book Club

Launched over the summer at the Flint House, Pints and Pages is a book club for people who do not always have time to read the book. Covering an eclectic mix of reading, the group meets monthly.

## Food For Fines

During Ontario Public Library week in October, we joined libraries across the North in a challenge to donate to local food banks. People were able to 'pay off' fines using non-perishable food items.

## Local Author Visits

The Library hosted a number of local authors who either launched or spoke about their books.

## Board Games

The Library now has Board Games that families can use while they are hanging out in the Library or take home.



## RETURNED IN 2017

Tween Club  
 Pokemon League  
 Story Time  
 Rainy Lake Readers Book Club  
 Fireside Lounge Knitting Club  
 Baby Time  
 Public Library Players League  
 TD Summer Reading Club  
 Trunk or Treat  
 Teddy Bear Picnic  
 Movie Matinees  
 Family Movies



# OUR VOLUNTEERS

Much of what the Library does would not be possible without the ongoing support of our volunteers. They help run our events and services. The Library flowers are maintained by the Horticultural Society

We are particularly grateful to our Friends of the Library for all that they do for us. The Friends truly help the Library to be the best that it can be. Each year the Friends fundraise to support Library programs. We would not be able to

offer all the programs and events that we do without their support.

Our Friends meet every month on the third Thursday, except for July and August, at 2pm. If you are interested in joining, you can attend a meeting or drop by the Library.



4,610

BOOKS delivered by  
VOLUNTEERS





# 2017 STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES\*

## REVENUE

Library Generated	\$42,652.10
Donations	\$14,034.05
Grants	\$36,696.92
Reserves	\$1,571.11
Municipality	\$481,054.23

**TOTAL REVENUE** **\$576,008.41**

## EXPENSES

Salaries, Wages, Benefits	\$396,023.59
Contracted Services	\$6,486.26
Buildings & Grounds	\$82,704.88
Library Services	\$68,772.43
Supplies/Materials	\$8,439.95
Rents & Services	\$12,459.33
Financial Services	\$1,121.97

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$576,008.41**



\*unaudited







# **FORT FRANCES PUBLIC LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**

If you have any questions about our annual report, please contact:

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Chief Executive Office

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