

**FORT
FRANCES
PUBLIC LIBRARY
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



“Inspiring Endless Opportunities”

A Message from the Board Chair & CEO

Public libraries are among the most valued and trusted institutions in our communities. They are places where people of all ages can learn, connect, discover and grow. Beyond books, libraries provide access to technology, educational and recreational programs, community gathering spaces and essential resources that support lifelong learning and civic engagement.

Every day, our library serves members of our community at every stage of life – fostering early literacy, supporting students with resources, guiding job seekers, promoting lifelong learning for adults and seniors, and providing space for meaningful social connection for all. Libraries help bridge gaps in access, ensuring that everyone in our community – regardless of age, income, or background – has the opportunity to succeed.

As community needs continue to evolve, so too must the services we provide. Adequate and sustainable funding is essential to maintaining current programs, expanding services, updating technology, preserving collections, and ensuring welcoming spaces for all users. Investment in public libraries is an investment in education, economic development, social inclusion and community well-being.

On behalf of the Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre, we would like to thank our municipal leaders, dedicated staff, Board members, community partners, volunteers and patrons for their ongoing support. Together we can ensure that our library remains a vibrant and essential community hub for generations to come.



Nadine Cousineau
CEO



Sheri De Gagné,
Board Chair

2025 Library Board Members

Mike Behan, Council Rep
Sheri De Gagné, Chair
Robin Dennis, Vice-Chair
Hue Eldridge
Tanis Fretter
Mayor Andrew Hallikas
Ken Kellar

Bill Morrison Jr., Council Rep

2025 Library Staff

Holly Angus
Joelle Barron
Richard Bee
Nadine Cousineau
Alina Eldridge
Colette Fafard
Layne Gibson
Harper Gunderson
Duane Hicks
Debbie Howson
Samantha Manty
Shannon McFarlane
Chantel McLeod
Evan Miller
Khloe Morrison
Sheri Payne
Carolyn Stang

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who generously donated to FFPLTC in 2025. Your support enables us to better serve our community!

2025 Revenue & Expenses

Revenue

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Library Generated | \$38,255 |
| Donations | \$24,561 |
| Grants | \$24,943 |
| Municipality | \$613,256 |

TOTAL REVENUE **\$701,015**

Expenses

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Salaries, Wages, Benefits | \$414,127 |
| Contracted Services | \$19,678 |
| Buildings & Yards | \$99,637 |
| Library Services | \$69,801 |
| Materials | \$6,184 |
| Rents & Services | \$22,499 |
| Financial Services | \$619 |

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$632,545**

2025 Highlights

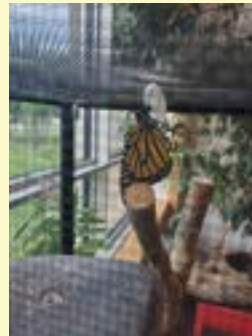
2025 was another busy year for FFPLTC.

We continued to offer our most popular recurring programs, including Story Time, LEGO Club, Pokémon Club, STEM Saturdays, Fireside Yarn Club, yoga classes, book club meetings, orchestra concerts and movie screenings. We were proud to once again host the Teddy Bear Picnic and Trunk-or-Treat – two beloved community events which bring hundreds together for fun and celebration. We introduced several new programs, including Art-as-Therapy Open Studio, a Welcoming Week Community BBQ, a custom jewelry pop-up workshop, a monarch butterfly release project, and a puzzle swap table that quickly became a community favourite. We hosted our first visit from the CNIB Thunder Bay Mobile Hub and we were overjoyed to see the return of Baby Time after a long hiatus.

The year also marked a period of transition and growth for our staff. We welcomed Nadine Cousineau as Chief Executive Officer, Joelle Barron as Adult Services Coordinator and Alina Eldridge as Child and Youth Services Coordinator. Our dedicated and enthusiastic staff truly make a positive impact on our community through library service.

A significant accomplishment of 2025 was FFPLTC's successful re-accreditation under the Ontario Public Library Guidelines. This accreditation demonstrates our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality library services that meet established provincial standards and best practices.

Looking ahead, FFPLTC is committed to building on this momentum and continuing to serve our community as an essential and vibrant community hub.



Library Statistics



2,248 Active Library Cardholders



387 Programs
7,429 Participants



6,571 Computer Sessions



40,491 Items Circulated



244 Inter-Library Loan Requests



718 Study Room Bookings



20,163 Digital Items Circulated



121 Home Deliveries

Friends of the Library

FFPLTC would not be the special place that it is today without the generous and ongoing support of the Friends of the Library. This dedicated group of volunteers plays a vital role in advocating for the library, fundraising, and supporting programs and events throughout the year.

In 2025, the Friends were as busy as ever! They organized the annual Book Sale, volunteered their time at programs and events, and launched their first ever Hidden Bid Auction. Through their fundraising efforts the Friends contributed financial support toward programming costs and enhanced our Children's Department by purchasing a new play structure and area rug for the Toddler Room. Their continued dedication helps to enrich the public library experience for patrons of all ages - we love our Friends!



Community Partners

FFPLTC was pleased to collaborate with the following community organizations in delivering programs and events in 2025: Alzheimer's Society of Kenora/Rainy River, Borderland Pride, CNIB Thunder Bay, EarlyOn Fort Frances, Kiwanis Club Fort Frances, Lakers Junior 'A' Hockey, Northwestern Health Unit, Northwestern Ontario Metis Child and Family Services, Rainy Lake Community Orchestra, Rainy River District Community Policing Committee, Rainy River District Paramedic Services, Rainy River District Stewardship, Science North, Seven Generations Institute - Waking Up Ojibwe, Thunder Pride and Tour De Fort

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

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