

Librarian's Report May 2015

Wendy Wright, Library Director

Stats (April 2015):

- Visitors = 4,960
- Total items circulated = 7,669
- Public computer and WiFi sessions = 1,464

Local artist **David Mio** has brightened up the Children's Room with his lovely paintings. The art is for sale with proceeds going to the Friends of the Smithers Library.

Adult Programs:

- Derrick Stacey Denholm launched his new book *Ground Truthing: Reimagining British Columbia's Coastal Rainforests* with a fascinating discussion and slideshow. Interior Stationery sold books at the event. Attendance – 11.
- Smithers poet (and library staff member) Melissa Sawatsky joined Lower Mainland poet Kevin Spentst for an evening reading. Attendance – 10.

After Hours Use for April:

- **Smithers Tabletop Gaming** (thrice monthly) – 38 attendees
- **Scrabble** (thrice monthly) -- 19 attendees. Scrabble will now take a break for the season.
- **Book Club** (monthly) -- 8 attendees
- A new group has asked to play a card game called **Magic: The Gathering** in the library, and will share the space with the Tabletop Gamers until Scrabble resumes in the fall.

Trade Show:

- The library and the Friends of the Smithers Library shared a booth at the Northwest Trade Show. The library showcased our free computer tutoring service; eBooks, eAudiobooks, and digital magazines; the new Technology Kits, and children's iPads. Nicky presented a Storytime on stage and a hands-on activity with Squishy Circuits. Our shared booth took home a ribbon for Best Information Booth.

Staff:

- Congratulations to Melissa Sawatsky on her acceptance into the University of Alberta's online Master of Library and Information Studies program!
- The Summer Reading Club Summer Student posting has closed and interviews are in process.

Children's & Teen Programming:

- The last month has been one of transition as Wanda left her position and trained Nicky. Nicky began leading **class tours** of the library in early May.
- **LEGO Thursdays** – 25 builders. Attendance is dropping with the advent of warm, sunny weather.

Community Needs Assessments:

- The library participated in a Bulkley Valley Literacy Coalition meeting and displayed the new Tech Kits available for circulation. We heard that many local students are keen on computer programming, and that the school district plans to incorporate it into their offerings in the future.

Funding:

- The library received a \$150.00 grant from BC Courthouse Libraries towards the purchase of current legal resources.

Technology:

- The five Technology Kits and supporting books purchased with a Bulkley Valley Community Foundation grant are now available for 7-day loans. Patrons may borrow a MaKey MaKey, a Complete Raspberry Pi B+ Starter kit, a Squishy Circuits kit, a Snap Circuits Jr. kit, and a Finch Robot.

Collection:

- The Newspapers.com database donated by Grant Harris is unfortunately not configured for public use. Newspapers.com informs us that they hope to have institutional licenses available in the future.

Libraries & Literacy Branch:

- The library's annual Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) has been submitted to the Ministry. Thanks to Elma Hamming, Leslie Ford, Lynnda McDougall, Erica Adema, and the staff of Edmison Mehr for all of their work.