



Librarian's Report January 2016

Wendy Wright, Library Director

2015 Annual Stats:

- **100,753 items** borrowed or read in the library (**up 14.33%** over 2014)
- **73,004 visitors**
- **18,915 public computer and wifi sessions** used

Children's Programming:

- **Babytime, Toddlertime** and **Storytime** resumed on January 11, 2016.
- Thursday afternoon **LEGO** time continues.

Teen & 'Tween Programming (*funded by the United Way of Northern BC*):

- The next season of **Teen Night** began on January 8 after a winter break. Due to popular demand, the upcoming program will offer rotating evenings of Minecraft, Dungeons & Dragons, and Magic: The Gathering. Magic players have been known to show up half an hour early, eager to play. Full library services and a snack are provided, and many attendees are discovering fantasy fiction through sharing with other participants.

Adult Programs:

- **Book Lovers' Night Out** participants met at the Alpenhorn in January to discuss *All My Puny Sorrows* by Canadian author Miriam Toews. The group meets at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Join the group in February at the Aspen Riverside Lounge to discuss a book of your choice on the theme of romantic love.

Upcoming events:

- Later in January, the library will participate in Family Literacy Week with a program called Reading With Radar and a contest. Families can also make a craft at our Family Play Day table this month.

After Hours Use:

- **Smithers Tabletop Gaming** and **Magic: The Gathering** continue to grow.
- The **Book Club** gathers in the library on the first Monday of the month.

Outreach:

- The library and **Friends of the Smithers Public Library** have partnered with Smithers' **Safeway** supermarket to encourage literacy and the sharing of ideas in the community. Safeway has welcomed a **Little Free Library** in their seating area. The

waist-high bookcase was constructed by Wally Bergen and stocked with donated books for all ages. Community members are invited to take a book or leave one for others to enjoy. A nod to Smithers' Mayor and his family for first inspiring the community with their Little Free Library.

Staff:

- The library welcomes **Sandra Schuffert**, our new **Children's & Youth Programmer**. Sandra has many years of experience assisting children with special needs and presenting Sunday school storytimes. She has attended many of the library's programs for children and youth over the years, and will complete courses in children's and young adult library services. Sandra's daughter Ellena works at the library as a page.

Library Operations:

- Thanks to the Town of Smithers for fixing the outdoor lights by the parking lot to improve staff and patron safety.