

First Quarter Circulation Stats: Up 6.49% over 2015's first quarter

Monthly Stats (March 2016)

- Circulation **8,812**
- Visitors **6,202**
- Public computer and WiFi sessions **1,765**

Children's & Youth Programming

- The **United Way of Northern BC's** weekly teen and 'tween program ends April 29. Remaining spring funding will be put towards developing and promoting a **teen volunteering opportunity** with the Summer Reading Club.
- **Babytime, Toddlertime, and Storytime** have wrapped up and will recommence in the fall. Parent feedback on the programs was positive, particularly regarding the teaching of a new word in baby sign language each week. Caregivers requested lyrics to the program's songs for use at home over the summer.
- **LEGO Thursdays** run year-round, with lower attendance in fair weather.

Adult Events

- **Book Lovers' Night Out** was held at the **Trackside Cantina** in March, attracting 3 new drop-ins to the regular group.
- The library partnered with the Grendel Group, the Bulkley Valley Museum, the Kassandra Trust, Nature's Pantry, the National Film Board and CICK 93.9 in presenting an evening at the **Old Church**. The annual return of the oolichan to the Skeena River and local filmmaker Howard T. Ennis' 93rd. birthday were celebrated with a **screening of Mr. Ennis's two 1940's films**, refreshments, and an open mic. Approximately **50 people** attended the event.
- The Bulkley Valley Museum, Four Dimensions Computer Centre, InstantFlix and the library partnered to present the 1985 documentary "**Kerouac: King of the Beats**" at the Old Church. **InstantFlix** is a database found on the library's website that enables patrons to **stream movies** using their library card. Check it out!
- The **Arthritis Society** presented a public workshop at the library with 11 participants.

Outreach, Community Needs Assessments & Partnerships

- The library is pleased to join **Smithers' National Aboriginal Day planning committee**, comprised of representatives from the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre, the Town of Smithers, and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation (MARR). We look forward to contributing to the festivities at Bovill Square on June 21 and partnering in a month-long **Indigenous Reading** promotion.
- MARR, the library, and the Northwest Library Federation (NWLFF) have been investigating the possibility of the library hosting a **community conversation on the reconciliation process**. Several NWLFF libraries are now interested, and the federation director will try to arrange these workshops for some time in 2017. Public libraries are ideal venues for these discussions as they are neutral and welcoming places for all to learn our shared history, make connections, and co-create the future.
- **WorkBC** and the library met to discover and help promote each other's services to community members. A partnership presentation on résumé writing was tentatively planned, but unfortunately falls outside of WorkBC's current service parameters.
- The **Bulkley Valley Economic Development Association** (BVEDA) approached the library suggesting a joint program to encourage information-sharing and innovation using our combined Raspberry Pi microcomputers. The BVEDA learned of the library's many other technologies available to the public and will inform their clients. We look forward to our first 'Raspberry Pi Jam' maker meetup together.

After Hours Use

- Wednesday night **Magic: The Gathering** continues to draw a crowd.
- **Smithers Tabletop Gamers** have adjourned for the time being but might reconvene in the fall.
- The **Book Club** utilises the library for their monthly meetings.

Collection

- The library's **adult literacy section** has seen increased usage in the past month, as has **Zinio**, our **eMagazine** service, with over 100 eMagazines virtually checked out in March.

Reports & Funding

- **Libraries & Literacy** has granted the library the same operating amount as last year, **\$26,592.00**. The amounts of their other three annual grants will be announced in May.
- Our **Canada Summer Jobs** grant application for **\$2,155.00** towards a **Summer Reading Club student** has not yet been approved. Hiring interviews are underway at the library for this essential program attended by over 100 children.
- The annual **external auditor's report** will be presented at the April 20 library board meeting, after which we will submit our SOFI to Libraries & Literacy by May 16.