

Circulation Stats: Up 8.89% over 2015's first third

Monthly Stats (April 2016)

- Circulation **8,943**
- Visitors **8,200**
- Public computer and WiFi sessions **1,800**

Children's & Youth Programming

- Welcome to **Tina Edwards** and **Chanelle Tom**, our new **Summer Reading Club (SRC)** students. Both have volunteer experience with children and are full of enthusiasm for this summer's work. 2016 is the library's first year of hiring a team to lead this essential program, and we look forward to our increased capacity to reach and engage a wider and more diverse section of the community through the students' combined efforts. This year's provincial SRC theme is '*Book a Trip*'.
- The library's May 20 **Tech for Kids Non-Instructional Day program** inspired more than **50** people. Children were introduced to six of the circulating Tech Kits purchased by the **Bulkley Valley Community Foundation** and encouraged to experiment with robots, apps, circuitry, and 3-D printing and scanning. An astounding amount of collaboration and information-sharing occurred naturally between the children as they tinkered, discovered and created together in a prime example of the current BC educational models '21st. Century Learning' and 'Learning Transformation'. Thanks to our young community volunteers **Ella Bachrach, Tess Willington, Torben Schuffert, and Madigan and Ivy Wright.**
- Thanks to all of the teachers who have brought their classes for Sandra's school tours throughout May. We hope to see their students in the library all summer long!
- **LEGO Thursdays** will continue through the summer.

Adult Events

- **55** community members were treated to an evening presentation by internationally recognized artist and storyteller **Roy Henry Vickers** on April 11. Thank you to sponsors **Canada Safeway, the Northwest Library Federation, and Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation.**
- The library hosted a **Poetry Coffeehouse & Open Mic** on April 11 in honour of National Poetry Month. This was a multi-media event that wove verbal imagery together with **live music and visual art.** Thanks to all of the local poets for sharing their work with their community, to Program & Events Coordinator Melissa Sawatsky for her vision, and to our sponsor **Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation.**
- **Book Lovers' Night Out** returned to The Alpenhorn for April's discussion of *The First Bad Man* by Miranda July. The book discussion group will be extended into June by popular demand.

After Hours Use

- **Magic: The Gathering** sessions average nearly 30 attendees per week.
- The **Book Club** will break for July and August.

Staff & Professional Development

- We bid Library Page **Bronwyn Hobson** a fond farewell. Bronwyn has brightened up the library with her positive attitude and gentle smile for years. Best of luck at UVic!
- We welcome NWCC accounting student **Ian Kerr** who joins the library as a Page.
- The Director completed the course '**Redesigning Library Spaces for Maximum Effect**'.
- Children's & Youth Programmer Sandra Schuffert earned her **Child Care First Aid** certificate in April.
- The Director attended meetings and conferences in Richmond with the **Association of BC Public Library Directors (ABCPLD)**; the **Libraries & Literacy** branch of the Ministry of Education; the **BC Library Association (BCLA)**; and the **BC Library Trustees Association (BCLTA, with Board Co-Chair Wally Bergen)**; as well as a guided tour of the Richmond Public Library's digital makerspace, '**The Launchpad**'.
- **Health & Safety Committee** members Wendy Banta and Wendy Wright attended full-day WorkSafeBC training in Smithers in mid-May.

Reports & Funding

- **Canada Summer Jobs** approved \$1,569.00 of the library's request for a \$2,155.00 subsidy towards one Summer Reading Club student's wages.
- The library's **Annual Statistics Survey** and **SOFI** have been submitted to Libraries & Literacy. Many thanks to **Elma Hamming** and **Leslie Ford** at the Town of Smithers for all of their hard work on the SOFI.

Outreach

- The Library's and Friends of the Smithers Library's **Northwest Trade Expo** booth was hopping! A steady stream of curious onlookers discovered the technology available to them (thanks to our Mayor and MP for participating in a demo); new faces joined the Friends to volunteer at their table; and scores of hopefuls entered our Book Bundle draw. One family emailed their appreciation (below):

"Dear Smithers Library,

Thank you very much for the books [our son] won from the trade show. He wanted to read them as soon as we got into the car. He was captivated by the pictures in Peter Pan and wanted to know all about Neverland and Captain Hook.

Going to the library each week to pick some new stories for the week is quickly becoming one of [his] favourite activities. He enjoys playing on the iPads and is fascinated by the 3D printer. He also enjoys taking home a stack of new books...and especially loves it when someone from the library talks to him about the books he picked.

Thank you very much for all the hard work everyone does to make the Smithers library a special and fun place for kids. We really appreciate that he can come to the library and feel free to explore all the great books and technology. He was really interested in the robots on display at the trade show and he is looking forward to borrowing them when he is little older.

We are looking forward to reading his new stories...we have a feeling he will be asking for "one more story" for the next few nights!

Thank you again"