



Librarian's Report October 2016 Wendy Wright, Library Director

September Circulations: **8,992**

Visits: **6,357**

Public Computer & WiFi Sessions: **1,839**

Children's & Youth Programming

- The perennially popular early literacy programs **Babytime, Toddlertime, and Storytime** are in full swing again for the fall.
- **Friday night teen and 'tween programs** funded by the **United Way** have resumed, featuring gaming, socializing, library services and snacks in a supportive youth-only environment.
- The **Volunteens** group, also funded by the **United Way**, is busy planning and assisting with **Non-Instructional Day activities**.
- The **Volunteens** have also cooked up a **Haunted Library** scheduled for the evening of October 28, with gentle fun for little ones in the children's room and creepy scares for older kids in the rest of the library. Visit if you dare! The Volunteens are so enthusiastic about developing and offering exciting free library programs for local kids that they requested permission to **fundraise** for supplies. All of us at the library are impressed with the motivation, creativity and confidence of these young people.
- The library partnered with the Association des francophones et francophiles du Nord-Ouest (**AFFNO**) to bring trilingual storyteller and musician **Jean-Pierre Makosso** to the community. Despite a small turnout due to multiple large community events happening at the same time, Jean-Pierre put on a spectacular show. Attendees sang, danced and drummed along as he shared stories from Africa.

Adult/General Audience Events

- Local doula **Catherine Dworak** gave a presentation on the cultural history and transformative power of **birth**.

- **Dr. Sheila Smith and Dr. Peytra Davies** presented an evening information session on **pre- and post-natal mental health**.
- **Book Lovers' Night Out** resumed at **The Alpenhorn**. This book discussion group will meet monthly throughout the coming winter and spring thanks to **Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation's** funding for a staff facilitator. Drop-ins are always welcome.
- The **Bulkley Valley Museum** partnered with the library to participate in **BC Culture Days**, creating a self-guided walking "Culture Hunt" in downtown Smithers. Participants followed clues to various buildings and monuments representing diverse aspects of our local culture.

Reports & Funding

- Thanks are due to the **Friends of the Smithers Library** for continuing to financially support the purchase of specific programming supplies, prizes, equipment, and collections.
- The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (**MARR**) generously donated funds enabling the library to purchase new materials by and about **Aboriginal history and culture**, including **NFB documentaries**.

Staff

- We bid a fond **goodbye to Heidi Brown**, who has relocated beyond commuting distance, and **welcome Reinhard Jonker**, the library's new Computer Tutor. Reinhard is already winning praise from patrons for his approachable manner and knowledge of computers.
- Wendy Wright and Nicky Davis attended the **Northwest Library Federation (NWLFF) conference in Terrace**, participating in sessions about legal reference, leadership and teamwork, and the library's consortial computer system. Wendy also attended a trustee orientation session and participated in federation meetings.

Community

- The library joined in the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre's first **Orange Shirt Day** community walk in honour of residential school survivors and the memory of those who died there.