

## Library Report March 2018 Wendy Wright, Library Director

### **February 2018**

- Circulations 8,552
- Visitors 7,460

The library's focus over the past month has been on laying a path to the future. Nearly the entire staff joined the board for a full-day **strategic planning** session in February, and **CUPE negotiations** took place in early March.

### **Community Outreach & Partnerships**

- Meetings have begun to plan 2018's **National Indigenous Peoples Day** festivities. This will be the library's third year on the Planning Committee.
- Representatives of Smithers Secondary School's Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA), Positive Living North (PLN) and the library met to begin planning a **community Pride celebration** in May. The library will support this initiative with tie-ins including a **Pride Storytime, Pride display, and bookmarks** featuring LGBTQ2SA+ materials in our collection.
- A **GSA** outreach visit and needs assessment is in the works.
- **CBC's Daybreak North** radio program will broadcast a series of panel discussions about the 2018 **Canada Reads** titles over four weeks in March. The panel consists of representatives from the Smithers, Prince George, and Prince Rupert libraries and is hosted by Carolina de Ryk.
- Students from Smithers Secondary's **auto repair class** visited the library for a **database tutorial** to register for library cards.

### **Ongoing Programs and Facility Usage**

- The Wetzin'Kwa-sponsored program **Book Lovers' Night Out** continues to attract new members with **13** people discussing "The Stranger in the Woods" at the Aspen Riverhouse this month.
- **Babytime, Toddlertime, Storytime, Magic: The Gathering, Book Club, Board Games** and **LEGO/KEVA** programs continue.

### **Staff & Volunteers**

- It is with sadness that we announce the passing of **Peggy O'Neil**, long-time library volunteer and mother of staff member Erin Hart. Peggy's presence, energy, and generosity will be missed by many.

### **Funding**

- **LawMatters** grants for small libraries, used to purchase updated editions of commonly used law books, will be raised to **\$300** in 2018.
- Our **annual report** to the province's **Libraries Branch** has been submitted.
- The Library continues to seek funding for Teen Programming and an Indigenous Student for our Summer Reading Club team.
- Edmison Mehr is completing their **annual audit** of the library.

### **Professional Development**

- **Deputy Fire Chief Kelly Zacharias** led staff training on the proper use of **fire extinguishers**.
- Library-focused **webinars** recently viewed by staff or the director include the topics of the **opioid crisis**, **homelessness** in small and rural communities and **programming for seniors**.