



MARCH 2021 LIBRARY REPORT

Health & Safety

The library continues to operate through a **Takeout** service delivery model, to be reassessed at the monthly Board meeting.

Despite the current health and safety limitations, the library still manages to enrich the lives of our community members. A patron and his toddler, picking up their latest Grab Bag, commented “**This service is great, by the way. We get better books now than when we were choosing them ourselves!**” Another family recently emailed “**We are so happy with Smithers Library - it makes our lives better**” while a patron who accesses digital library materials from home reports “**I can't live without those [e-audiobooks]. They're my company!**”

Programs

- **5** adults attended the March **Book Lovers' Night Out (BLNO)** program and **9** youth had a great time together at the February 23 **VolunTeens** session. Both programs are currently delivered via Zoom and made possible by Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation.
- The weekly **Bounce, Sing & Learn** program continues to have a steady following on YouTube. New episodes for ages 0-3 years and their caregivers are posted every Monday.
- Join Sandra and Pete every Wednesday on YouTube for activities, songs, rhymes, and storytelling in **Preschool Playtime**. Developed for ages 3-5 and their caregivers.
- Play “**Where is Pete?**” on Facebook and find Pete the puppet in a different spot around town each week. Can you recognize where he is?

Professional Development

- Sandra completed the Safe Harbour online course **Introduction to Diversity & Inclusion**. Sandra, Melissa and Wendy took a 2-part workshop on **engaging audiences through Zoom** and Wendy viewed a webinar on **civic literacy** for teens and adults.

Funding

- Provincial: Our **2020 Public Library Grant Report** has been submitted to Libraries Branch. The library's **SOFI** and **Annual Survey** (statistics) reports are due to the province by May 15.

- Municipal: The Town of Smithers is performing their annual **audit** of the library's financial records. Once completed, they will be audited again beginning March 29 as part of the Town's audit by external accountants. Our 2020 financial records will be finalized and presented at the April 21 Board meeting.
- The **Bulkley Valley Credit Union** has generously gifted the Friends of the Smithers Library **\$1,000.00** towards a **Post-Pandemic Travel Collection**. With this funding the library has ordered up-to-date travel guides to replace our existing titles which were mostly published in 1990-2003 and 2012. After so much time at home, people are yearning to travel and dreaming of the trips they will take once the pandemic has ended. As a window to the wider world, the library provides inspiration and trustworthy information resources for the planning process. Thank you to the Credit Union for supporting the spirit of adventure in our community!