

## APRIL 2021 LIBRARY REPORT

### STATS (March)

- 2,078 eBooks, eAudiobooks & eMagazines
- 1,922 Children's books
- 1,024 Online program viewers & participants

### Health & Safety

The library continues to operate through a **Takeout** service delivery model, to be reassessed at the monthly Board meeting. A patron borrowing magazines over the phone in March thanked us for all we are doing and said "**When this whole thing is over, the library will be my first stop!**" Another appreciative Takeout patron thanked the staff with a "**Library Takeout**" **bag of homemade goodies.**

### Programs

- 9 youth had a blast at the March 30 **VolunTeens** Zoom session funded by Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation.
- Sandra has kept families entertained with **Bounce, Sing & Learn** and **Preschool Playtime** on YouTube and "**Where is Pete?**" on Facebook. The Winter/Spring session of programming ended on April 14 and Sandra is now planning summer activities for ages 0-12.



- There were **6 attendees** at the April 14th **Book Lovers' Night "In" (BLNO)** Zoom meeting. Two people joined in from Hazelton; one has an infant and enjoys being able to participate remotely. BLNO continually attracts new members from most age groups (20s to 60s) and varying ethnicities. While individual meetings have anywhere from 4 to 12 attendees, the reach of the program is much larger as the makeup of the group keeps changing. Over the **6 years** (!) the program has been running, approximately **45 different community members** have attended Book Lovers' Night Out regularly, intermittently, or a few times. Thanks to Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation for funding this program.

### **Funding**

- Many community partners have come together to support the **Books for Babies** program this year. **RBC** and **CIBC** have each donated **\$500**, the **Provincial Employees Community Services Fund (PECSF)** donated **\$780**, **Scotiabank** donated **\$50**, and the **Friends of the Smithers Library** will cover the remaining cost. These donations will enable **150** new families throughout the Bulkley Valley to receive a brand-new children's board book, CD of children's music, book bag and information on library membership and programs. **Public Health nurses** from **Northern Health** will begin distributing the materials when they arrive this summer. Thank you all for your generosity and cooperation in keeping this valuable initiative going.
- A local youngster, with help from her sister, raised **\$250.00** for the **New Library-Gallery Project** through a bottle drive in March. Thanks to **Ivy and Madigan Wright** and everyone who contributed by donating their refundables.
- Our **2020 Public Library Annual Survey Report** (statistics) has been submitted to Libraries Branch.

### **Professional Development**

- Staff have participated in online workshops and webinars on library technology and dealing with racism in the library.
- The library received an inspiring email from one of our former Computer Tutors who worked here as a Smithers high school student:

"I just wanted to reach out and show my appreciation for your help with where I am today. I recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in Computer Science, and have just started a job in my field as a software developer. The work experience and learning from working as the computer tutor at the Smithers Public Library was instrumental in finding a job in the tech field."