

## JULY 2022 LIBRARY REPORT

### Programs and Events

Summer is here, and the Library is back to our pre-pandemic volume of programs and events in what is usually our busiest time of the year.

The Library was pleased to rejoin our friends from the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre at the first in-person **National Indigenous Peoples' Day** celebration in two years. The Friendship Centre reports that over 600 people of all ages attended the festivities.



Sarah and Sandra brought the Library to the **Farmer's Market** in June with a Storytime on stage, a craft, and Summer Reading Club registration.

76 children have signed up for this year's **Summer Reading Club** program (27 aged 3-5, 34 aged 6-8 and 15 aged 9-12), which began running on July 4. This province-wide public library program is essential in preventing what teachers call "the summer slide". Research shows that children who are encouraged to read throughout summer vacation return to school at a higher reading level than at the end of their previous school year, while the reverse is true for children who do not read over the summer.



# All Together Now

## Summer Reading Club

July 4th to August 12th  
Smithers Public Library

Follow us!



@SmithersBCSRC

### Best Buddies (3-5 yrs)

Mondays, July 4 - Aug 8  
10:00 - 11:00 am

### Perfect Pals (6-8 yrs)

Tuesdays, July 5 - Aug 9  
10:00 - 11:00 am

### Fantastic Friends (9-12 yrs)

Thursdays, July 7 - Aug 11  
10:00 - 11:00 am

Register for the age  
group that suits you!

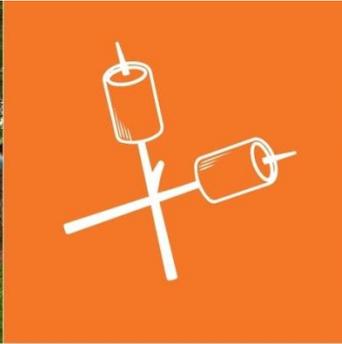


Sandra has continued leading **class tours**, introducing 119 more students and teachers to the library in June.

The Library **VolunTeens** spent a fun evening together with food and games. Two more youth have recently joined the group.

**LEGO Time** continues Thursdays from 2:00-4:00.

We were thrilled to hold the 6<sup>th</sup>. **Annual Community Campfire Cookout & Singalong** in Riverside Park after a two-year hiatus. **114 people** showed up despite the rainy forecast and stayed right through several rain showers. It was clear that people had been yearning for an occasion to come together socially, and this free, outdoors, all-ages evening of fun was enjoyed by all. We noticed lots of new faces, including new parents and new Canadians. Many attendees expressed their appreciation and asked when it would be held again. The word that best describes the mood at this year's event is "**joy**". Thank you to all of our partners: Bulkley Valley Wholesale, the Friends of the Smithers Library, Smithers Community Services Association, the Town of Smithers, and New Directions Holdings Ltd. who made the beautiful piñatas.



# CAMPFIRE COOKOUT & SINGALONG

smithers public library

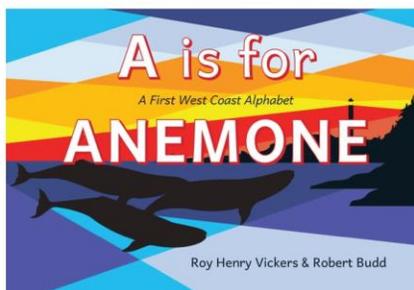
Bring a roasting stick and an instrument if you have one! Hot dogs, drinks and marshmallows will be provided.



**Friday, June 17**  
**5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Riverside Park Gazebo**



36 people spent a memorable evening at the Library with BC & Yukon Book Prize finalists **Roy Henry Vickers** and **Catherine Nolin**. Catherine's informative presentation about her memoir *Testimonio* was moving and enlightening, and inspired Roy to share personal stories from his life and culture with the audience.



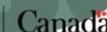
## AN EVENING WITH FINALISTS OF THE 2022 BC AND YUKON BOOK PRIZES

Tuesday, June 28th, 7:00PM  
Smithers Public Library

Join Roy Henry Vickers (*A is for Anemone*) and Catherine Nolin (*Testimonio*) as they read from their shortlisted books.



Funded by the Government of Canada  
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



The Library's request to the Town of Smithers for **2022 Summer Munchkin Time funding was denied**, so we are unable to provide this popular early literacy program for ages newborn to 3 years. Many patrons have voiced their disappointment to staff, including first-time parents who looked forward to the program as a way to develop a social network after being isolated during the pandemic. Library staff and volunteers worked hard to develop a fundraising event ("**LiBrewery Night**") which raised enough funds for the program to go ahead in summer 2023; however, the Library hopes that the Town will fund Summer Munchkin Time in the future as the staff time and various expenses required to plan and host the fundraiser undercuts its financial efficacy.

**LiBrewery Night** was quite an experience! Between all the generous cash donations, silent auction bids, food sales and a portion of the Smithers Brewing Co.'s drink sales, we raised **\$2,133.20**. The event was a lot of fun for **120 people** and a reminder of how many helpful and generous people live in our community. Thanks to everyone who donated their time and money, including volunteers Ken White, Dan Mesec, Ivy Wright, Lacey Grand Maison and everyone at the Smithers Chamber of Commerce, and to our local business donors: Blue Water Sushi, Love of Rocks, Mad Trapper Emporium, Masa Yama Japanese Restaurant, Panago Pizza, Sedaz Lingerie, Smithers Brewing Co., Smithers District Chamber of Commerce, UFO on Main, Heartstrings Home Decor & Gifts, and The MooseFM. Special thanks to staff members Melissa, Erin Hart and Sarah.



**LIBREWERY NIGHT** *A grown-up fundraiser for kids' library programs*

**SMITHERS BREWING CO.**

Trivia Contest  
Prizes  
Silent Auction

Why should kids have all the fun?

**JULY 12** | @ SMITHERS BREWING CO.  
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Thank you to all the local businesses who donated items toward the silent auction.

smithers public library

For more information:  
contact@smitherslibrary.ca  
250-847-3043





Wendy co-presented a training session on intellectual freedom to the staff and Board of the Bowen Island Public Library in June and will collaborate on a session for the BC Library Trustees Association this fall.

Library staff were finally able to get together socially for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. Thanks to The Roadhouse for such an enjoyable brunch.

The Library's Multiculturalism and other Literacy Kits were featured in a **Smithers Interior News** article.

### **FACILITY & OPERATIONS**

Library patrons and staff were without toilets or water on July 14 and 15 due to a **broken sewage pipe**.

The Provincial Libraries Branch now has data available from the **2022 BC Public Library Facilities Survey**:  
Average age of BC Public Library facilities: 37 yrs.  
Average time since last significant structural renovation: 10 yrs.  
Roughly half of BC Public Library branches are standalone buildings; the rest share space or are attached to other organizations or malls.

The library has received our **annual grant from the Province**. The amount has not increased in 11 years.