



2022-2025

STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The Smithers Public Library and the Library Board are committed to serving residents of Smithers and the Bulkley Valley by providing timely, topical, thought-provoking, and entertaining information, via a variety of media, learning opportunities, and experiences. We also endeavour to connect community members and strengthen our social fabric, contribute to community stability, resilience and reconciliation, and embrace equity, diversity and inclusion. Moreover, we will continue to maintain the Library as a safe, welcoming community hub, accessible and useable by all ages and mobilities. To this end, we continue to pursue a new, energy-efficient building, adequately sized and equipped to meet community needs for years to come.

The Library staff and Board have prepared this Strategic Plan to identify priority actions and tasks to serve patrons, visitors, and guests. We are mindful of the dramatic global, regional and local changes underway (environmental crises, diseases, wars, social inequality and unrest, divisive politics), and trust that this plan will help the Library meet the challenges of today's world and contemporary northern life.

This Plan consists of Vision and Mission statements that provide broad guidance and direction for the Library. Five goal statements then identify what needs to be done to deliver the necessary services.

MISSION

The Smithers Public Library connects our community to literacy, lifelong learning, inspiration, and discovery.

VISION

The Smithers Public Library is a welcoming, vibrant, joyful and inspiring community hub that unlocks infinite possibilities.

CORE VALUES

- Intellectual Freedom
- Fostering a Love of Lifelong Learning
- Equitable Access
- Community Service
- Creativity & Collaboration

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

NEW LIBRARY

- Pursue a new, energy-efficient building that will meet community needs for years to come

CREATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- Create opportunities to bring people together over shared interests
- Outreach to community partners

ENHANCING COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

- Maintain a topical and current collection of materials regarding global warming, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution
- Provide educational opportunities for the public
- Examine operations for opportunities to reduce our carbon footprint

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSIVITY

- Conduct a community needs assessment to identify underserved groups and barriers
- Endeavour to diversify Board committee membership

ADVANCING TRUTH & RECONCILIATION IN OUR COMMUNITY

- Continue to provide educational opportunities in a variety of formats
- Conduct an audit of the library regarding the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's *94 Calls to Action*

