

FALL 2022/WINTER 2023 LIBRARY REPORT

Special Programs & Events

Thanks to the Library VolunTeens, funded by Wetzin’kwa, and Sandra for hosting fun activities and games for the little ones during the **October Non-instructional Day**.

Around 100 people visited the **Hallowe’en Hullabaloo** at the Library. Thanks to the VolunTeens, Sandra, and to the Friends of the Smithers Library for supplying all of the sweet treats.



CICK presented **three Podcast Bootcamp** workshops led by **Pamela Haasen** and **Dan Mesec**. The workshops filled up quickly, with 15 attendees at each one.

After two years of virtual visits, Santa delighted children and caregivers in person at the annual **Santa Storytime**. Special thanks to **Calvin and Michelle Elliott** for spreading holiday cheer.

Coast Mountain College staff from Terrace set up a table at the library to promote their Adult Basic Education (high school upgrading) program.

**CICK NEWS PRESENTS
PODCAST BOOTCAMP
AT
SMITHERS
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

HOSTED BY CICK NEWS HOSTS
PAM HAASEN & DAN MESEC




TUESDAY NIGHTS
NOV 8, 15 & 22

SCAN TO APPLY



FREE

REGISTER AT SPL OR SMITHERSRADIO.COM

**STORYTIME
WITH SANTA**

Jump into your pyjamas and snuggle up for festive stories, holiday carols and a visit with Santa Claus.



Friday, December 16th
@ 6:00 p.m.
Smithers Public Library





Ongoing

Weekly **Babytime**, **Toddertime** and **Storytime** for young children and their caregivers wrapped up for the fall season on December 12 and will resume on January 23. Recently, adults with special needs have also been welcomed into these developmentally appropriate programs which are supported by the Friends of the Smithers Library.

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

A local **Book Club** meets at the library on a monthly basis.

Children's Programs @ the Library



Winter/Spring
Jan 23 -
Apr 12, 2023

Babytime
Mondays @ 9:30 AM

Toddertime
Mondays @ 10:30 AM

Storytime
Wednesdays @ 8:15 AM

Pick a program that suits you & your child

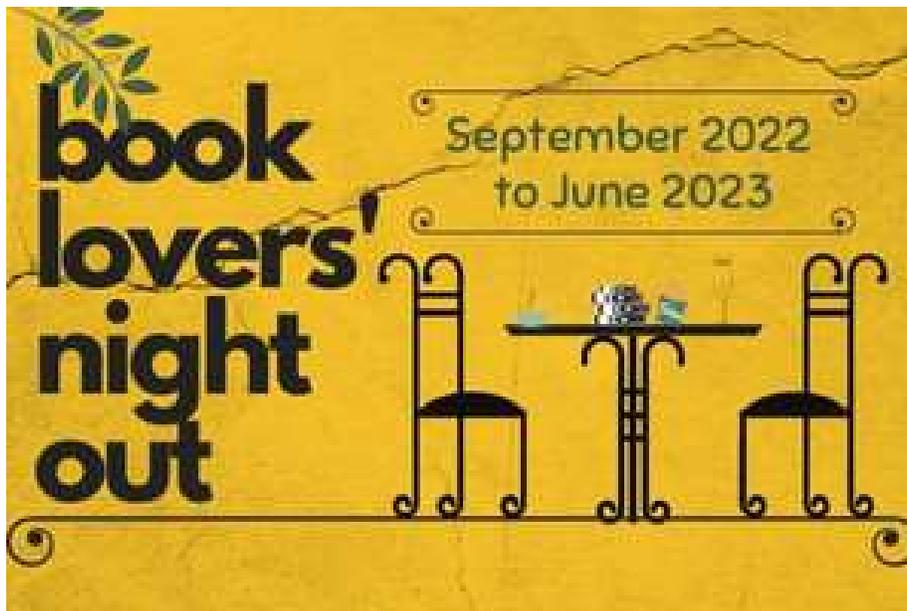
• FREE •
• FUN •
• IN PERSON •

Smithers Public Library



The **Smithers Boardgame Group** welcomes new players to drop into the library from 1-5 on the third Sunday of each month.

Book Lovers' Night Out, sponsored by **Wetzin'Kwa Community Forest Corporation**, continues to be popular with around one dozen attendees per session and more people participating by reading the book from home. The program has changed venues from a restaurant to the library.



Outreach & Advocacy

Staff gave two orientation tours and library cards to members of a Northern Health Day Program.

The Director met with **the Honourable Nathan Cullen, Minister of Municipal Affairs**, to discuss the rise in organised censorship attempts, Freedom to Read Week, and the myriad ways that public libraries serve our homeless community members.

Sandra visited a local school's computer lab to teach a class how to borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Using a hot water dispenser funded by the Friends of the Library, staff have created a **Tea Station** for patrons during the colder months, with free hot drinks and light snacks. The library welcomes donations towards this initiative and uses them to purchase refreshments, hand and foot warmers, gloves, toques, and gift certificates to fast-food restaurant for patrons without warm places to go when the library is closed.



A tent beside the library caught fire and its inhabitant was injured. Staff brought our neighbour new clothing and connected them with local resources to replace their shelter and belongings. The Town has ordered metal snow fencing to create a safety barrier between tents and the wooden library building.



Jordan Boehm, a student visiting from Thailand, interviewed the library about our relationship with the homeless encampment and will turn our conversation into a 5-minute film. The film is part of his application to film school and will be freely available for the library to use and share.

Reports & Funding

Board Chair Christine Tessier and Director Wendy Wright presented the Library's **2023 funding request** to the Town of Smithers' Finance Committee on November 30.

New furniture purchased with one-time provincial Covid Relief & Recovery and Emergency Funding has arrived. Thanks to the Government of British Columbia and to all of the staff and volunteers who worked so hard rearranging the library and assembling the new furniture.



Building

Jaima Timler, Climate Action Specialist for the Town of Smithers, is investigating replacing our lights with **energy-saving LEDs**.

The Library will work with the Town to fulfill new **BC Accessibility Act** requirements. The first meeting of the joint committee was held on January 12.

The library has replaced its **photocopier** with an improved model and our **hot water tank** is working intermittently.

Farewell & Thanks

The Library Board, Staff, Friends and Volunteers honoured Wally Bergen with a retirement party on December 14. Wally has volunteered with the Library Board and Friends of the Library for nearly two decades, tirelessly raising funds and advocating for a new building. This year he was presented with the BC Library Trustees Association's Trustee Excellence Award. Wally's dedication will be missed on the Board, but he continues as Treasurer for the Friends.

