

JUNE 2023 LIBRARY REPORT

Thanks to Deputy Directors Melissa Sawatsky, Erin Hart and all the staff and volunteers for doing such a fantastic job during Wendy's extended vacation this spring and putting on these wonderful events!

Events

First Responders NID Program

Friday, April 21 | 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

160 people came down to the Friday, April 21st non-instructional day event for a meet & greet with some local first responders! Check out the emergency vehicles in the library parking lot and enjoy a themed craft activity in the children's area. Open to all school-aged children and no registration is required. For more information, call Sandra at 250-847-3043. Thank you to Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation for sponsoring this event and the Library VolunTEens for helping to make it happen.



Climate Literacy: What You Can Do

Monday, April 24 | 7:00 p.m.

What is climate change? What does it mean for the Town of Smithers and what can we do locally to make a difference? Jaima Timler and other speakers celebrated Earth Day by discussing what we can do both individually and collectively to mitigate our impact on the environment. Generously sponsored by Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation.

27 people attended the Climate Literacy event, lingering to discuss it afterwards for nearly an hour.



Poetry & Song: Coffeehouse and Open Mic

Friday, April 28 | 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a rousing evening of verse and song, featuring local poets and musicians. During the open mic, community members are invited to take the stage and share a poem or song. This event is free and open to everyone. Coffee/tea and refreshments provided. Generously sponsored by Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation.

Jean Christian: Book Launch & Harp Performance

Friday, May 5 | 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the launch of Jean Christian's latest book *Journey into Deep Memory* on Friday, May 5th at the library. Settle in for a performance of the harp composition, *The Ballad of the Worlds*, followed by readings from the book. Light refreshments will be available. Generously sponsored by Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation.



Class Tours

Sandra led **16 classroom tours of the library** from May 9 through June 6.

Facility Usage

Two book clubs met at the library, as did the **Smithers Boardgame Group**.

Funding

The Library will receive **\$1,000** from **Courthouse Libraries BC's LawMatters** program towards the purchase of print materials on the subject of law.

Community Event Participation

Farmers' Market

Sandra and Addie livened up the **Farmers' Market** one Saturday in June with a Storytime, children's activity, and Summer Reading Club registration at our tent.

Smithers Community Pride Celebration

750 people of all ages attended the Community Pride Celebration in Bovill Square in May, an increase of 250 over last year. Library staff displayed our Pride-related materials for checkout at our tent, signed people up for library cards and provided a rainbow-themed craft. Thanks to the many people who helped make this year's event a success.



Family Pride Storytime at the Library

40 children and caregivers came to the Library's 6th. annual **Family Pride Storytime** in June, twice as many people as we have ever had before. Thanks to Smithers Secondary student June for creating our fun Pride Month window art.



National Indigenous Peoples Day

The library brought a selection of books and DVDs by or about Indigenous peoples to the Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Hall and led visitors in making orange shirt pins to honour the victims and survivors of residential schools and their families.



Multicultural Festival

The Library helped celebrate our community's cultural diversity by providing a themed craft and children's books at the June 24 festival in Bovill Square.

School's Out for Summer

The Library will have a tent at Bovill Square on the last day of school to let the community know about all of our free children's programs and events over the summer holidays.



New Item at Your Library – Hiking Kits

Smithers Public Library is pleased to announce the arrival of our Hiking Kits. Any adult with a BC library card may borrow a Hiking Kit for up to 7 days. The Hiking Kits are starter packs, perfect for a fun and educational way to spend time outdoors and appreciate nature!

Each Hiking Kit contains these essentials:

- Headlamp
- Bivouac sack (emergency blanket & shelter)
- Rescue whistle
- First aid kit
- Trekking poles
- Backpack and rain cover
- Compass (know how to use it)

The kits are made possible by the support of the **BC Parks Licence Plate Program**. Thank you to **McBike and Sport, Outdoor Essentials, Local Supply Company, and Misty River Books** for contributing to the hiking kits.



Staff

Congratulations to three of our staff who graduate from secondary school this month: **Ella Bachrach (Page for 5 years)**, **Isaac Wright (Page for 4 years)** and **Matthias De Gisi (Computer Tutor for 2 years)**. We will miss their energy around the library but wish them all the best as they head off to university.

Congratulations also to three more young students: our Casual Page **Koen Davidson-Trowbridge** on earning a part-time Page position, our new Computer Tutor **Reuben Bruintjes**, and Library VolunTeen **Adelaide Holmes** on becoming our Summer Reading Club Student.