

OCTOBER 2023 LIBRARY REPORT

The Library resumed our **cold-weather tea station** on October 24, the day after the first snow in the valley. The hot drinks at the tea station are freely available to everyone and are funded by donations to the program.

Two tent fires occurred in the encampment within one week. Thanks to the Fire Department for responding so quickly.

Invisible Library Services:

There's more to the library than meets the eye. In October 2023, Smithers Library patrons borrowed **989 eBooks, 1082 eAudiobooks** and **554 eMagazines**. That's **2,625 eltems in one month**! eltems are convenient (no need to make the trip to the library) and accessible (adjustable font size and volume). Best of all, they greatly expand the range of items available through our tiny library without taking up shelf space.

Finance:

The library presented our 2024 budget request to the Town of Smithers and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako on November 7.

Special Events

Haunted Library

Saturday, October 28th | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

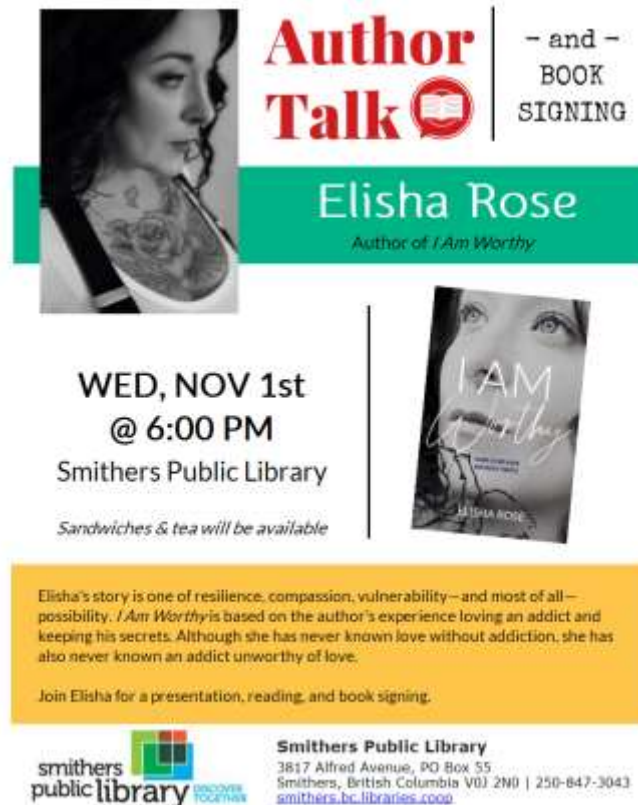
A record-breaking **300 people** passed through this year's Haunted Library. Scary stories and ghoulish delights abounded, with Hallowe'en games and treats for little ones in the children's room and spine-tingling guided tours for older kids and tweens. Thanks to Sandra, the Library VolunTEENS, the Friends of the Smithers Library and Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation for making this 5th. annual event happen.



Author Talk with Elisha Rose

Wednesday, November 1st | 6:00 PM

Elisha's story is one of resilience, compassion, vulnerability—and most of all—possibility. *I Am Worthy* is based on the author's experience loving an addict and keeping his secrets. Although she has never known love without addiction, she has also never known an addict unworthy of love.



The poster for the Author Talk with Elisha Rose features a black and white photo of Elisha Rose with a tattoo on her neck. To the right, the text reads "Author Talk" in large red letters, followed by "- and - BOOK SIGNING" in smaller black letters. Below this, a green banner contains the name "Elisha Rose" and "Author of *I Am Worthy*". The event details "WED, NOV 1st @ 6:00 PM" and "Smithers Public Library" are listed, along with the note "Sandwiches & tea will be available". A small image of the book cover for *I Am Worthy* is shown. A yellow box contains a bio of Elisha and the event description. At the bottom, the Smithers Public Library logo and contact information are provided.

Author Talk - and - BOOK SIGNING

Elisha Rose
Author of *I Am Worthy*

WED, NOV 1st
@ 6:00 PM
Smithers Public Library

Sandwiches & tea will be available

Elisha's story is one of resilience, compassion, vulnerability—and most of all—possibility. *I Am Worthy* is based on the author's experience loving an addict and keeping his secrets. Although she has never known love without addiction, she has also never known an addict unworthy of love.

Join Elisha for a presentation, reading, and book signing.

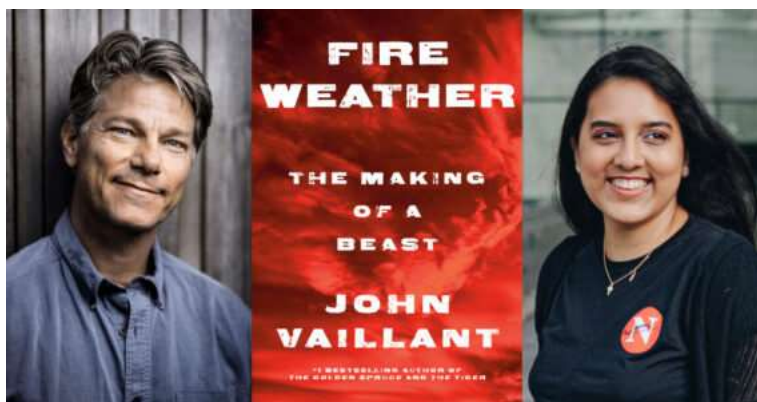
smithers public library discover together

Smithers Public Library
3817 Alfred Avenue, PO Box 55
Smithers, British Columbia V0J 2N0 | 250-847-3043
smithers.bc-libraries.com

Virtual Programming Series: John Vaillant -- Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast

September 13 at 6:30

Vaillant's most recent book was published in June 2023. It follows the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire and its aftermath, and describes the anthropological history between humans and fire, how it has shaped our societies, and how it now threatens them in the context of climate change. This event is part of the BC Public Libraries' Virtual Programming initiative, which will focus on climate this fall.



The **Library VolunTEENS** put on another terrific **non-instructional day program** for elementary school-aged children on November 10, with fantasy-themed crafts and activities. Thanks to Erin Cockriell for filing in for Sandra and to Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation and the Friends of the Smithers Library for their financial support.

A colorful poster for a fantasy-themed program. The background features a whimsical landscape with a castle, a dragon, and a fairy. The title 'Fantasy Adventures' is in large white letters, with 'NID PROGRAM' below it. A text box in the center says 'Spend the morning adventuring with dragons, elves, fairies and princesses.' Below that, it says 'This drop-in NID program is open to all school-aged children.' A teal cloud-like shape contains the date and time: 'Friday, November 10 9:30 - 11:00 AM Smithers Public Library NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED'. At the bottom are logos for Smithers Public Library, Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation, and Library VolunTEENS.

Fantasy Adventures
NID PROGRAM

Spend the morning adventuring with dragons, elves, fairies and princesses.

This drop-in NID program is open to all school-aged children.

Friday, November 10
9:30 - 11:00 AM
Smithers Public Library
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Questions?
Call us at
250-847-3043

smithers public library

WETZIN'KWA
COMMUNITY FOREST CORPORATION

library
VolunTEENS

Ongoing Programs

Book Lovers' Night Out (September 2023 to June 2024) is generously funded by Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corp.

BABYTIME (infants to 18 months): Mondays, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.; **TODDLERTIME** (18 to 36 months): Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.; and **STORYTIME** (age 3 to 6): Wednesdays, 9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

LEGO TIME is on Thursdays after school.



A **Book Club** and the **Smithers Board Games Group** meet at the library monthly.



Professional Development

Selected staff viewed webinars or attended training on assisting patrons who have dementia, email marketing and accessible websites.

Staff

Vanessa Martin is leaving us for greener pastures, literally: she and her partner are moving to France to farm. We will miss her warm smile and gentle manner and wish her every happiness in her new venture.

Tara Williston has joined our team as an LAI (7 hrs./wk. plus Casual). Tara has a master's degree in library and information science with a focus on Youth Services. She was the Director of the Hazelton Public library for five years and especially loves working with children and learning. Tara has worked as a librarian in the Lower Mainland, teaching elementary school near Hazelton, and at local early childhood development agencies. Tara and her family moved to Smithers from Hazelton a year ago and are already familiar faces to many of us here at the library. Welcome Tara!

Friends of the Smithers Library

Three cheers for the 35 Friends of the Library who helped out with the annual Fall Book Sale! Together, they sold 150 boxes of books and raised \$4700 for all those wonderful little extras that make the Library such a great place to visit. Thanks also to BV Insurance Services and Western Financial for storing books for the sale.