



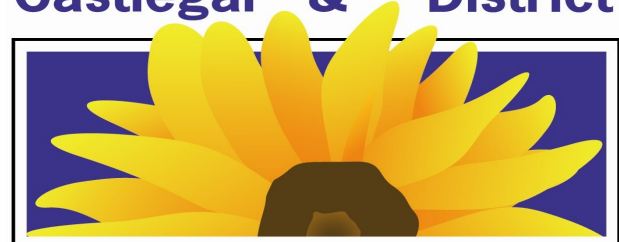
Minds Grow Here

1005 3rd Street
Castlegar, BC V1N 2A2
Phone: 250-365-6611
Email: info@castlegarlibrary.com
Site: castlegarlibrary.com

Hours

Monday	10am-6pm
Tuesday	10am-6pm
Wednesday	10am-8pm
Thursday	10am-8pm
Friday	10am-5pm
Saturday	10am-5pm

Castlegar & District



Public Library

~ Minds Grow Here ~

**ANNUAL REPORT
2023**

MISSION STATEMENT

**YOUR SPECIAL PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY TO
EXPLORE, CREATE, SHARE IDEAS AND
INFORMATION & HAVE FUN.**



CHAIR'S REPORT

2023 seemed to be an especially busy year. With the retirement of our outstanding Library Director Kim Partanen at the end of July, the board advertised for a new Director and conducted extensive interviews right up to the end of the year. We are so excited and grateful that we now have Alex Seaborn in the position as of January 2, 2024.



The Board would like to acknowledge all the librarians for “holding down the fort” during the five months with no Director. A special thanks goes to Julie Kalesnikoff, who stepped in to fill the gaps. Everyone took on extra duties and pulled together. What a great team!


The Board also spent considerable time working with the City of Castlegar to move forward with a CBT grant for LED lighting and a solar array. We appreciate the time the City spent and is spending with us on this upcoming project.

Our strategic plan will be getting redone in 2024, but here is what the Library accomplished in 2023.

Focus Area #1 Organizational Vitality

- contract renewed with the city
- four new laptops purchased for use by staff, with money donated by the Friends of the Library
- Privacy Guidelines Webinar attended by staff
- Ask Me Anything - Untapped Accessibility Webinar series
- Laura Zaytsoff provided Summer Reading Club training to Kootenay Library Federation Summer Reading Club students in partnership with the Creston Library and the Kootenay Library Federation

Focus Area #2: Physical Space and Collections

- water fountain and bottle refill station was installed by the washrooms
 - new roof for the building was completed along with an updated HVAC system
 - received five CO2 monitors for a lending program (starting in 2024)
 - Yoto player with French language content was donated by the Canadian Parents for French—Castlegar group.
- 



THANK-YOU

2023 Core Funders & Partners

Libraries Branch, Province of BC

Government of Canada

Generous Summer Reading Club Sponsors

Dragon Flies and Fairy Dust	Dairy Queen
Shoppers Drug Mart	Pharmasave
Kootenay Savings Credit Union	Kel Print
Safeway	Tim Hortons
Kootenay Market	No Frills
WildSafeBC	NuFloors Castlegar
BC SPCA	Kootenay Columbia Home Medical

Below: Our Summer Reading Club Coordinators with children.



THANK-YOU

2023 Core Funders & Partners

City of Castlegar

RDCK Areas I and J and H

Our Partners & Supporters

Friends of the Castlegar & District Public Library
Kootenay Library Federation
BC Library Trustees Association
BC Library Association
Donna Schmidt Lung Cancer Prevention Society
Canada Summer Jobs (HRDC)
Canadian Council of Archives—Young Canada Works
BC Libraries Cooperative
Columbia Basin Trust
Castlegar News
Castlegar Community Harvest Food Bank

Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
Canadian Parents for French: Castlegar Chapter
IG Wealth Management, Jennifer Priore, and Lisa Parfiniuk
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program—COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream

Below: Let's Talk Science! with the Summer Reading Club



Focus Area #3: Community Engagement

- website update with the BC Library Co-op with a focus on accessibility
- presentation to City Council
- participated in a Career Fair & Open House at Selkirk College as well as the Castlegar Community Connection Fair at the Castlegar Complex

Focus Area #4: Innovation and Programming

- new multi-age groups and drop-in sessions for our Summer Reading Club, successfully accommodating more families
- purchased nine Vox books for kids to gauge popularity (Vox books are print books with built in audio)

The CDPL Board of Trustees would like to thank all of our funders, sponsors, donors, fundraisers and patrons. You have helped keep the Library the important community centre it is. It could not happen without your support.

**On Behalf of the Board,
Nova MacDougall**



Above: librarian Laura Zaytsoff at the Selkirk College Career Fair.

Library Board

Nova MacDougall—Chair
Leeza Perehudoff—Treasurer
Sue Heaton-Sherstobitoff—City Rep
Terry Gerling—Area I Rep
Jesse Ellis
Wendy Hurst
Geeta Gillespie
Dianne Galloway

Nicole McCrea—Recording Secretary



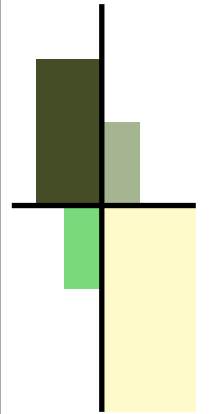
Egg Head generously donated by Grant Thornton



Craft time with the preschool group.

Our Year in Numbers

- ◆ New items added = 4,546
- ◆ Program attendance = 3,314
- ◆ eBook & audiobook checkouts = 21,604
- ◆ Digital magazines borrowed = 5,030
- ◆ New library cardholders = 597
- ◆ In person visits = 61,017
- ◆ Public computer sessions = 5,185
- ◆ Materials borrowed = 94,418



Something for Everyone

- ◆ Fiction & non-fiction
- ◆ ebooks and digital magazines
- ◆ Print magazines
- ◆ Newspapers
- ◆ LinkedIn Learning
- ◆ Radon Detectors
- ◆ DVDs
- ◆ Outreach for seniors
- ◆ Large print books
- ◆ Playaway Launchpads
- ◆ Bat Pack
- ◆ Yoto Player
- ◆ Vox books



Castlegar & District Public Library
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements 2023

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Grants	\$ 636,154	\$ 639,248
Memberships and fines	6,687	7,012
Book and misc. sales	9,457	9,201
Donations and bequests	4,726	2,423
Interest	15,161	7,507
Donated services	<u>12,835</u>	<u>22,944</u>
Total	685,020	688,335
Expenses		
Bank charges	1,854	1,450
Books, periodicals, audio visuals	90,859	91,648
Insurance	2,584	1,500
Memberships and dues	1,297	1,255
Office supplies	42,305	34,706
Professional development	120	1,279
Professional services	4,013	3,500
Repairs and maintenance	38,255	49,554
Special events (Programming)	7,587	7,371
Subcontracts (Bookkeeping)	9,767	9,066
Telephone	3,200	3,163
Utilities	13,243	11,310
Wages and benefits	<u>385,706</u>	<u>452,791</u>
	600,790	668,593
Amortization	<u>9,549</u>	<u>10,964</u>
Total	610,339	679,557
Excess	<u>\$ 74,681</u>	<u>\$ 8,778</u>

Librarians

Alex Seaborn—Library Director
 Julie Kalesnikoff
 Vera Terpin
 Laura Zaytsoff
 Victoria Francis
 Margaret Tessman

Casual Librarians

Marcia Moore

Pages

Haylee McIvor
 Dawn Suecroft
 Ella Girard
 Laura Belanger-Ihlen
 Abi White

Summer Students

Charm Caling & Katy Levesque

 Gloria Currie—Bookkeeper

2023 Volunteers

Joy Andersen
 Dianne Boyd
 Geri Bryden
 Sue DeWolf
 Janelle Ellis
 Sandra Foster
 Brenda Letcher
 Joan Mason
 Marilyn Miraglia
 Lynne Miskell
 Diane Marno
 Cindy Mussio
 Naida Patterson
 Judy Sayers
 Alan Sheppard
 Tracy Winegarten

Friends of the Library

Gordon Turner
 Bev Onischak
 Terry Gerling—Board Rep
 Juliet Genero
 Linda Miller
 Nova MacDougall
 Marcela Rodriguez



Above & Right: Big Buddies and Little Buddies read together.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2023 was a year of transition at the Castlegar & District Public Library. Our previous library director, Kim Par-tanen, led the library through the first half of the year until her retirement in July. For the latter half of the year, li-brarian Julie Kalesnikoff, with support from the board and the other librarians, acted as interim director and made sure the library was able to offer all our regular services to our com-munity. I, myself, was previously a librarian at the Castlegar Library before I was hired to be the director starting in 2024.



2023 was Castlegar Library's first full year back to "regular," indoor programming. In the summer, 164 children and youth signed up for our Summer Reading Club, with more attending our drop-in sessions. Reading Club participants were able to enjoy regular sessions as well as special activities with groups such as WildSafeBC, BC SPCA, and Lets Talk Science!

During the school year, we ran children's programs for a variety of ages: Parent Child Mother Goose for babies, in partnership with CBAL, story times for toddler- and preschool-aged children, Reading Buddies for children in grades 2-4, and our Tween/Teen Friends of the Library group. These popular pro-grams help foster literacy skills and community in our younger patrons.

In partnership with other Kootenay libraries, through the Kootenay Library Federation, we were able to offer adult program-ming sessions throughout the year on topics such as understand-ing mortgages, the climate and forest fires, mushrooms, and In-digenous land defence. In partnership with CBAL, the library hosted a monthly Scrabble Club, as well as one-time activities for events such as Family Literacy Week in January.

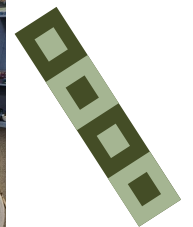


This year, our library's website got a major refresh, both to im-prove its look as well as to better meet accessibility standards. One particular addition to the website was a Community Calen-dar, an event calendar for community groups to submit their events to.

To our collection this year, we added a French language Yoto Player, an audio player that reads stories to you, generously do-nated by the Canadian Parents for French – Castlegar group. We also added Vox books, picture books that you can read and listen to at the same time. Alongside our always-popular Internet-free Playaway Launchpads, we're happy to offer a variety of items for our patrons to learn with and enjoy.

With over 61,000 in-person visits to the library in 2023 and our digital collections being borrowed more than ever, we love to see how our community uses our library. Many thanks to our entire library staff, board members, Friends of the Library, and volun-teers for helping make our library such a wonderful place to visit!

Alex Seaborn



Left:
Summer
Reading
Club

