“I could never retire and move somewhere else unless they had a library as nice as ours.”
— Jennifer Bamia
2014 was a busy and memorable year for the Prince George Public Library; a year filled with enhancements to services, new and innovative programming, significant improvements to our facilities, and the hiring of a new Chief Librarian. 2014 was also an exciting time for our City and the Library as we worked together to prepare for the Canada Winter Games in February, 2015.

The Board worked with a recruitment firm to search for a new Chief and in September of 2014, we announced the appointment of Acting Chief Librarian Janet Marren to the position.

We were pleased with building improvements that included new public washrooms in the downtown branch that opened in early 2015. Nechako Branch received a facelift with an improved service counter and shelving. Phase 2 of the Knowledge Garden was completed with the addition of fencing, a picnic table, benches and stepping stones. We hosted our first Harvest Feast dinner in October to raise funds for the Knowledge Garden. We thank the City for funds set aside to identify a project scope for the much needed entrance project.

On behalf of the current Board and staff, we would like to sincerely thank Anne George who served 4 years on the Board, and was Chair for the last 3 years. Her work has had a lasting impact in our community.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Michael Collins
Vice Chair

Shelley Stafford
Donovan Lincoln
Dawn Stevens

Wendy de Marsh
Dynn Bailey

Anne George
2014 Board Chair
Reflecting on the past year

- We’re proud that the Prince George Public Library continues to provide vibrant and social spaces for our community to read, learn and discover. 2014 marked a particularly transformational year as we worked on improving our facilities, services and collections while laying plans for major events upcoming in 2015.

- The PGPL, the Prince George Citizen and a devoted collection of volunteers came together again in 2014 to host the annual Raise a Reader campaign. More than $30,000 was raised for literacy programs in Prince George as a result of this single event.

- We thank City Council for timely approval and funding for building renovations in 2014. Renovations for accessible washroom facilities needed for our own users and for incoming athletes were begun in 2014 with a grand opening planned for January 2015.

- The British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) recognized our library with two Merit Awards in 2014. The Library Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) and the Don’t Read These Books literacy campaign were both honoured by this provincial body.

“One of Prince George’s most precious gems, the Prince George Public Library, needs to be acknowledged and celebrated for all that it offers. Thank you for the tremendous amount of work and support you provide to make it so!”

- Allison Gallagher

Reflecting on the past year
The library hosted many unique events and presentations including "Mild to Wild: Hiking in the Prince George Region" with Rob Bryce, Family Literacy Day with Shake Mania with CBC Raves and "Farm to Table" with Hope Farm. Partnerships with the City’s Heritage Commission and UNBC’s Community Development Institute (CDI) allowed the library to share community expertise in our space. New collections in 2014 included up-to-date video games selections and the QuickFlicks DVDs that allow users to access the newest titles with a reduced wait-time.

Library programs contributed to the learning continuum in 2014. PGPL supported school readiness through its early literacy programs and encouraged reading retention through the summer reading program. We held a regularly scheduled Homeschoolers’ Gathering programs and initiated a family Homework Help program where tutors met regularly with children struggling in school. We partnered with the UNBC Northern Medical Program to provide an experiential learning opportunity for two medical students, identifying programming gaps related to health literacy needs.

“This is the most amazing library I’ve ever been to. They have video games. Can you wrap your head around that?”

- Overheard in Children’s

PRINT ITEMS CIRCULATED IN 2014 TOTED
819,750
THIS INCLUDES ITEMS USED IN THE LIBRARY, A SLIGHT INCREASE OVER 2013 NUMBERS
2014 marked a 40% increase in use of the Library’s Home Service program. Accessibility to a wider range of reading materials was made possible for Home Service clients with the introduction of eReaders for loan, allowing users suffering from visual or physical impairment to read in larger fonts from a lightweight resource.

The library joined the National Network for Equitable Library Service (NNELS) in the summer of 2014. With a donation from the Spruce City Lions Club, the library purchased specialized DAISY players for loan to any patron with a print impairment. These two services are complementary, with NNELS providing access to content and the specialized equipment providing the means to enjoy it.

Library staff attended numerous events throughout the region to highlight library services – a Health and Wellness Days at Canfor, Summer Reading to Go at the mall, Huble Homestead children’s day, Willow River Fun Days, the AGM of the McLeod Lake Indian Band, a Family BBQ in Beaverly and the Seniors Fair at the BCNE, among others.

Popular “Dr. Tech” tutoring programs continued, inviting people to bring in any technical device for hands-on help from library staff and volunteers. A mobile circulation module and tablets were purchased for library staff to use for outreach demonstrations. These ongoing training programs continue to improve digital literacy in the community.

Thank you for offering Zinio! I absolutely love it. To have such a wide variety of magazines readily available in this format is a very great treasure. Its ease of use is appreciated to.

-J. Kemp, Prince George
“Thank you for numerous years of providing such a welcoming environment for my youngsters. My children are always excited to visit your up to date selections really inspire my kids to read. Your extensive programming, free and appealing to a wide range of interests, is a tremendous support to the community! What a treasure to PG.”

- Comment Card, 2014

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2014 municipal elections were an opportunity for community engagement and civic literacy. The library was a neutral community space where people could come and learn about their civic leaders and issues of concern to them. The Mayoral Debate at the library was the first community electoral activity of the election period and attracted over 400 people. The debate was also broadcast to the public and broadcast simultaneously in the library’s open computer lab.

A ‘Speed Candi-Dating’ event held close to voting day gave community members an opportunity to speak with candidates one-on-one.

FUTURE MAYOR, LYNN HALL, SPEAKS WITH MEMBERS OF THE VOTING PUBLIC AT THE 2014 CANDID-DATING EVENT
The Prince George Public Library is grateful to be primarily funded by the City of Prince George, the Regional District of Fraser Fort George and the Province of British Columbia. Additional projects are made possible through grants and fundraising activities.

We would like to acknowledge our many individual donors and supporters who provided contributions to our collections and services in 2014. The following organizations and businesses also provided funds for projects over and above our regular operational income:

**PG Newspapers Digitization Project**
Irving K. Barber
LMIBC
CNC
The Prince George Citizen
Friends of the Library
Knowledge Garden
BC Hydro
friends of the Library

**Homework Help**
PG Literacy Advisory Committee
Library QSA Program
MyPG Social Development Grant

**Accessibility Devices**
Space City Games Club
Huber Farms and Equipment
Canadian Tire

**Harvest Feast**
Books for Babies
Knowledegarden
Lego Program
Success by Six
Friends of the Library
Success by Six
Northern Interior Children's First Initiative

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**Statement of Operations - Cash Based**

**Revenue & Deferred Contributions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Funding</td>
<td>$3,671,060</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provincial Funding</td>
<td>$220,939</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local &amp; other</td>
<td>$111,627</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions used in 2014</td>
<td>$80,706</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amounts transferred from Deferred Contributions to purchase assets</td>
<td>$49,371</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$4,422,066</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$240,846</td>
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**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$18,123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Contribution expended</td>
<td>$88,768</td>
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<tr>
<td>General &amp; Admin</td>
<td>$213,922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>$482,942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Materials (paper, books, audio-visual, subscriptions)</td>
<td>$229,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wages, benefits, other employee costs</td>
<td>$2,524,677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>$103,210</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$3,792,248</td>
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**Investment in Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge Garden</td>
<td>$57,059</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>$50,249</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Infrastructure</td>
<td>$13,170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Materials (over 20 years, shelved)</td>
<td>$229,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$340,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2014 Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, 2014</td>
<td>$50,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prior year balance</td>
<td>$22,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total balance, 2014</td>
<td>$72,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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