

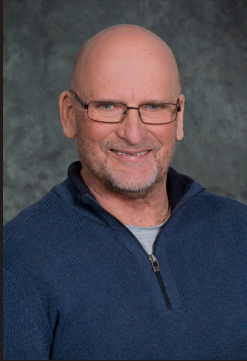
Prince George Public Library

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



The Prince George
Public Library
www.pgpl.ca

2015 LIBRARY BOARD



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VICE-CHAIR

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

For the Prince George Public Library, 2015 was a year of reflection, celebration and consultation. The Library commemorated 60 years as a Municipal Public Library with its Diamond Anniversary. It was also a significant year for community partnerships as the Library worked with the City to host athletes who competed in the 2015 Canada Winter Games, and with the Heritage Commission to celebrate Prince George's 100th Anniversary.

The Board looked ahead to the year 2020 and worked to shape the direction for the Library over the next four years. Considerable time was spent consulting with community members to gather public input on the Library's future. We are very proud of the resulting 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. Central to the Strategic

Plan is our vision "to be at the heart of a community where everyone is welcome to explore and share. Our programs, services and collections enrich and engage the community."

In October the Board hosted the second annual Harvest Feast fundraising dinner to support the continued development of the Knowledge Garden.

Library and City of Prince staff continue to collaborate to identify the project scope for an improved entrance for the Bob Harkins Branch, downtown. A full-day entrance workshop in August gathered community stakeholders together to consider requirements and choose the optimum location for the entrance. The preferred option design will continue the revision process in 2016.

- Carolynne Burkholder-James



CAROLYNNE BURKHOLDER-JAMES
2016 BOARD CHAIR
2015 BOARD MEMBER

REFLECTING ON THE PAST YEAR

2015 was a banner year for the City of Prince George as it hosted the Canada Winter Games and celebrated its 100th Anniversary. The Prince George Public Library was pleased to contribute to both events and thrilled that many celebrations took place outside our front doors in the newly named Canada Games Plaza.

While the second floor of the Library building became the Athlete's Lounge during the Winter Games, the Library moved popular collections to the main floor and, with the assistance of the Winter Games Host Society, opened a pop-up satellite branch in the Pine Centre Mall for the month of February. Users loved our temporary mall location!

For the City's 100th anniversary a Local History Speaker Series with the Heritage Commission highlighted 100 years of Prince George Citizen's headlines and 100 years of firefighting with the PG Firefighter's Association. In July over 200 people attended the Time Capsule opening at the Library to view items that had remained buried for 25 years. In the same month the Library launched a downtown walking tour app, which narrates stories about our historic downtown for users exploring the area.



Pop-up branch at Pine Centre Mall, February 2015.

2015 marked the library's 60th diamond anniversary in June. Bylaw 801 signed June 20, 1955 established the Library Association of the day as a Municipal Public Library. A celebration with cake and dignitaries gave an opportunity for the public to express their thoughts on what they loved about the library and their hopes for the library's future.

"I love my library because for everyone there is that wonder of a new world hidden in the pages"

"Someday my library will never close"

"Someday my library will host a 'holo-deck' where I will walk into story-worlds."

"I love my library because of all the money I save getting FREE books, DVDs and downloadable magazines. YAY!"



Councillor Terri McConnachie and Honourable Shirley Bond,
MLA Prince George-Valemount



Family Literacy day in January was celebrated with the 3rd annual Munsch Mania day with many celebrity readers on hand to share their favourite Munsch stories. The Honourable Shirley Bond, MLA Prince George-Valemount, entertained children with her rendition of “Smelly Socks”.

The Library was thrilled to host a book signing event with General Romeo Dallaire during his visit to Prince George for the Bob Ewert Memorial Dinner in April. Over 100 people waited patiently to meet the much respected Canadian author and hero.



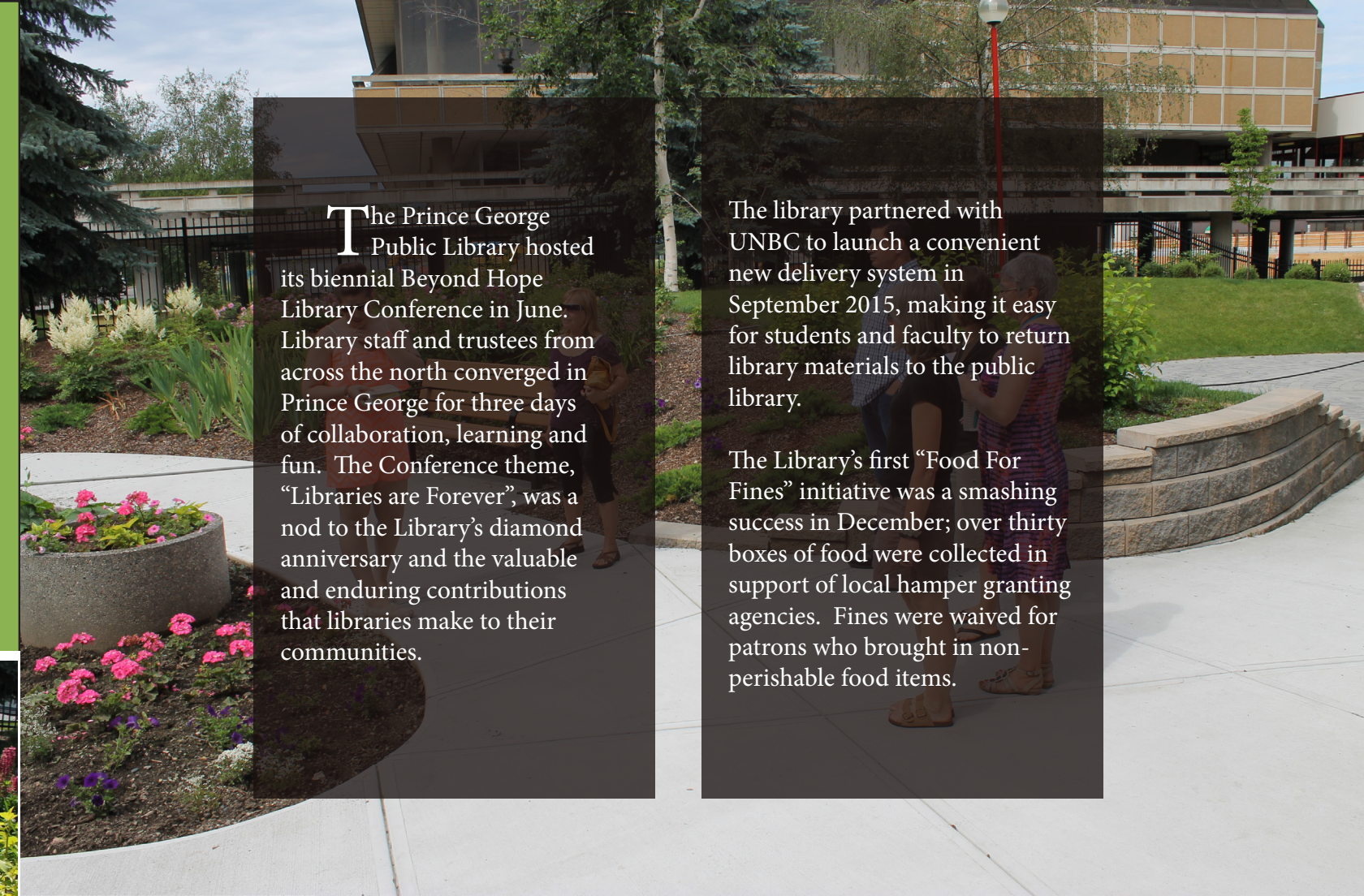
Board, staff, community supporters, Councillors and members of the Spruce Kings Junior “A” Hockey Team joined forces to hawk newspapers on Raise a Reader Day on September 23. Over \$35,000 was raised and distributed to literacy programs in Prince George.

The Library supported civic literacy in preparation for the Federal Election held October 19. In partnership with CBC Daybreak North, a Cariboo-Prince George all-candidates’ debate was hosted in the Library, with over 200 people attending. Leading up to the election Elections Canada set up a booth

in the Library to assist with voter registration and information.

Several notable interior improvements to the Bob Harkins Branch were completed in 2015 including a new teen area, new magazine area, lounge seating on the 2nd floor and space for exam invigilation.

A partnership between the library and the Prince George Youth Custody Centre led to the launch of a creative writing program for incarcerated youth in October. The Teen Librarian continues to make regular visits to the PGYCC to work with youths on their writing projects.

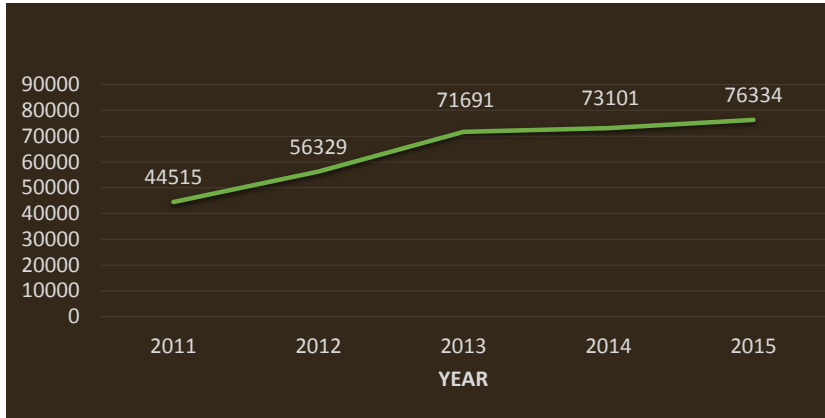


The Prince George Public Library hosted its biennial Beyond Hope Library Conference in June. Library staff and trustees from across the north converged in Prince George for three days of collaboration, learning and fun. The Conference theme, “Libraries are Forever”, was a nod to the Library’s diamond anniversary and the valuable and enduring contributions that libraries make to their communities.

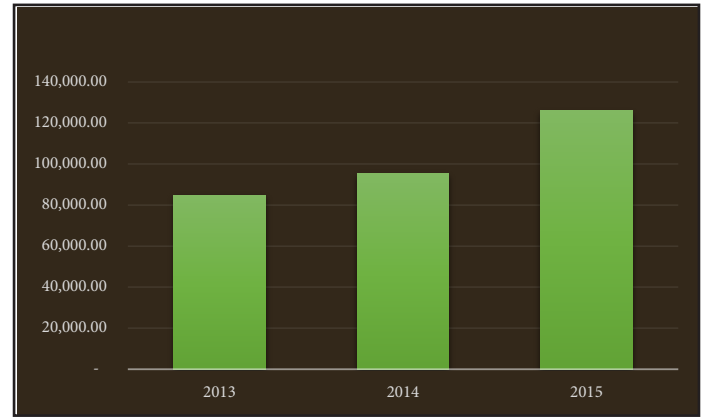
The library partnered with UNBC to launch a convenient new delivery system in September 2015, making it easy for students and faculty to return library materials to the public library.

The Library’s first “Food For Fines” initiative was a smashing success in December; over thirty boxes of food were collected in support of local hamper granting agencies. Fines were waived for patrons who brought in non-perishable food items.

PUBLIC COMPUTER/WIRELESS SESSIONS 2011-2015



DVD CIRCULATION 2013-2015

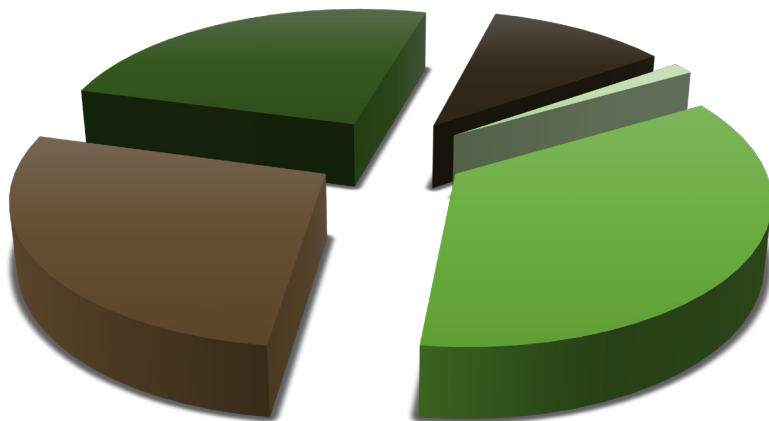


By the Numbers

Circulation of materials in 2015 increased slightly by 1% to a total of **816,420**.

Circulation of eBook, audiobook and downloadable music increased by 2% to a total of **60,800**.

REFERENCE ENQUIRIES



■ Bob Harkins Adult Info Desk
■ Bob Harkins Circulation Desk
■ Email Queries

■ Bob Harkins Children's Info Desk
■ Nechako Branch Info Desk

Over **22,000**
people attended
1215 program
events in 2015
– a participation
increase of **5%**.

In 2015, library staff assisted customers with 73,817 reference inquiries; a 6% increase over the previous year.

3,100 residents registered for a new library card in 2015.

359,203 visits to the library were recorded in 2015 (based on 332 open days).

MISSION

The Prince George Public Library connects people and ideas, inspiring the community to read, learn and discover

VISION

To be at the heart of a community where everyone is welcome to explore and share. Our programs, services and collections enrich and engage the community

As we neared the end of our 2011-2015 strategic planning cycle, the Library spent time consulting with the community and brainstorming with stakeholders, staff and board members to develop a blueprint for the future. The Library considered feedback from almost 1,000 survey responses

and from focus groups, including 42 stakeholder representatives, conducted an environmental scan and reviewed library trends throughout the world. The result is a new mission, vision and values, and five strategic priorities that will guide our work through 2020.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

We create welcoming physical and virtual spaces

We enhance community well-being and engagement

We expand and safeguard access to information and ideas

We nurture an innovative and adaptive organization

We communicate and celebrate the library's achievements and impacts

The community consultation and strategic planning process, Library 20/20, was led by Dr. Cheryl Stenstrom, Professor in the Library and Information Science Department at San Jose State University in California. As Dr. Stenstrom guided the Prince George Public Library through

each step of the process, she developed modules for an online course with the goal that Prince George's experiences and results can be used as a model for other libraries in northern BC.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

We are grateful to be primarily funded by the City of Prince George, the Regional District of Fraser Fort George and the Province of B.C. Additional projects are made possible through grants and fundraising activities.

We would like to acknowledge our many individual donors who provided contributions in 2015. The following organizations and businesses also provided funds for projects in 2015:

Beyond Hope Conference

Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education
North Central Library Federation

Books for Babies

Raise a Reader
Success by Six

Downtown Walking Tour App

Select Committee on Prince George
100th Anniversary Celebration

LawMatters Grant

BC Courthouse Libraries

PG Newspapers Digitization Project

Friends of the Prince George Public
Library
Irving K. Barber
CNC
UNBC
PG Citizen

Summer Heritage Project Assistant

Young Canada Works

Summer Reading Program

Friends of the Prince George Public
Library

Tech Kits

Children First Initiative

Teen Area Computer

New Gold Blackwater Project

Queer Straight Alliance

Children First Initiative
MyPG Social Development Grant
Prism North

Canada Winter Games Student Lounge

2015 Canada Winter Games Host Society

Homework Help

Children First Initiative

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Statement of Operations - Cash Based

Revenue & Deferred Contributions

Municipal Funding	\$ 3,765,328
Provincial Funding	218,355
Late fees & other	110,844
Deferred contributions used in 2014	131,288
Amounts transferred from Deferred Contributions to purchase assets	-
Total	\$ 4,225,815

Investment in Assets

Study Rooms	\$ 25,267
Furniture	75,922
Equipment	8,230
Computer Infrastructure	33,490
Materials (<i>hard cover books, eBooks</i>)	214,528
Total	\$ 357,437

Expenses

Supplies	\$ 22,864
Deferred Contribution expended	131,288
General & Admin	246,793
Rent	484,225
Materials (<i>paperbacks, audio-visual, subscriptions</i>)	240,823
Wages, benefits, other employee costs	2,571,734
Repairs & Maintenance	199,550
Total	\$ 3,897,277

2015 Results

Balance, 2014	-\$ 28,899
Sale of asset	2500
Prior year balance	70,669
Total balance, 2014	\$ 44,270

We gratefully acknowledge the continuing contributions by the City of Prince George, the Regional District of Fraser Fort George and the Province of BC.



PRINCE GEORGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bob Harkins Branch, downtown
888 Canada Games Way
Prince George, BC V2L 5T6
250-563-9251

Nechako Branch, in the Hart
6547 Hart Highway
Prince George, BC V2K 3A4
250-563-9251

WWW.PGPL.CA