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Matters

Lillooet Community Foundation

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Lillooet Area Library Association



2019 Annual Report

Lillooet Area Library Association

Vision: A welcoming hub for culture,
learning and enjoyment.

Mission: Connecting community,
fostering knowledge and understand-
ing, sharing and reconciling stories.

Values: Inclusivity, Equality, Respect,
Empowerment, Curiosity, Intellectual
Freedom, Accountability.

A Message from Regan Dixon, Library Board Chair

The year 2019 may have seemed quiet,
but there was, and is, much activity
behind the scenes. Some of the devel-
opments brought forward are high-
lighted below.

The library's new, additional room in
the REC center has been improved by
building a partition wall to make sepa-
rate areas for both large and small
group activities and furnishing them
both with materials storage cabinets,
appropriate comfortable chairs, and
also a carpet for the children's area.

Provincial Community Adult Literacy
Programme funding sources dwindled,
so contributions from private donors
was sought and received.

The St'at'imcets language practice at
Lillooet library was popular, as are the
ongoing reading summer reading
programs attended by children from
the surrounding bands.

New patron computers have been
purchased for the Lillooet branch,
technical issues have been ironed out,
and staff training on digital resources is
ongoing, alongside upgrades.

The Bridge River branch welcomed a
new librarian in the person of Vanessa
Blake, who initiated home delivery of
library materials to housebound
patrons, and has placed neighbour-
hood book boxes. Baked treats and
community barbecues have made the
library an extra welcoming environ-
ment to patrons.

In addition to receiving regular visits
from school children and hosting a
knitting circle, the Gold Bridge branch
has been fundraising for the Lillooet
homeless shelter and food bank. A
dedicated volunteer is receiving thou-
sands of training in library procedures.

The Lillooet Area Library Association is
always responding to changes in library
usage, and is moving forward to meet
needs that were unimaginable at the
time of its inception. Watch for the
upcoming Maker Space and Library of
Things!

- Regan Dixon, Board Chair

A message from Toby Mueller, Library Director

2019 was a year of innovation, responding to challenges, and continuing the core work of being “a welcoming hub for culture, learning, and enjoyment”.

The foundation of our daily work is to provide the books, movies, and other resources that our patrons need. Our staff answered 3,839 reference questions in 2019. These can be everything from a book recommendation for a toddler, to helping someone download government forms, to a list of movies available in other languages. We feel a lot of pride, and pleasure to provide the answers to all your questions!

We received a \$2,500 grant from Law Matters to purchase legal material for our Library. We updated our collection and with their guidance purchased some specialized new books that we hope will be of local use and interest.

Our Summer Reading Club was a great success. In 2019 we expanded the program and offered it at the Bridge River Library in Tsal’alh. Local kids enjoyed a six-week program offered by our staff and volunteers. The Lillooet Club continued the tradition of providing a high quality, free summer day camp.

The Lillooet Public Library completed renovations. The improvements to the back room of the Library will enable new program developments in 2020. The beautiful new multipurpose space has been fully furnished and is being used for a wide variety of events, and programs. A highlight event was an author reading with Don Dickson from his newest novel, “Rag and Bone Man”.

In partnership with other local non-profits, LALA provided leadership to fundraise and support the creation of a “community coordinator”. A person was hired in the autumn of 2019 and is coordinating actions identified in our first At the Table Event.

- Toby Mueller, Library Director

Highlights from 2019

THE NUMBERS

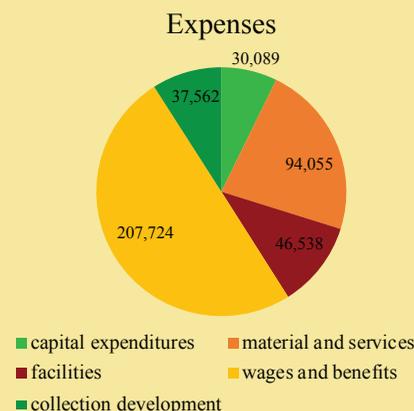
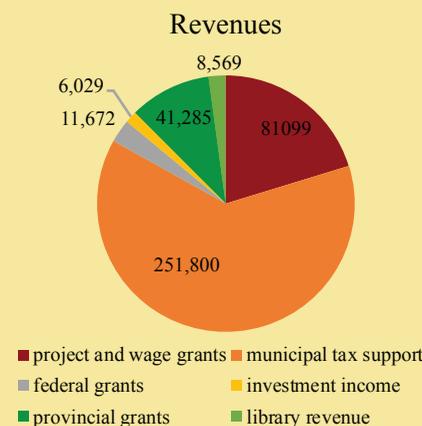
Population served.....	4,250
New cards issued.....	185
In person visits to our libraries.....	17,694
Outbound Interlibrary Connect Items	1,147
Inbound Interlibrary Connect Items..	1,485
Reference questions answered.....	3,839
Ebooks checked out.....	5,001
Digital magazines checked out.....	679
Digital films watched.....	58

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Attendance at adult programs.....	626
Attendance at children’s programs..	631



Fun and crafts at the Maker Space!



- ## Library Staff
- ### Lillooet Public Library
- **Library Director** - Toby Muller
 - **Community Librarians**
 - Angela Jean-Louise
 - Cindy MacDonald
 - Michelle Smith
 - Lynn Taylor
 - Stephanie Witt
 - **Adult Literacy Coordinator**
 - Sherry Rhodenizer
 - **Administrative Assistant and Literacy Outreach Coordinator**
 - Marianne Gagnon
 - **Community Coordinator** - Kim North
 - **Program Assistant** - Lorelei Lester
 - **Children’s Program Coordinator**
 - Lynn Taylor
 - **Volunteer Coordinator** - Gillian Smith
 - **Summer Reading Club** - Hunter Gair, Kirstyn Isaac, Clairice Poppy, Saqa7 Thevarge

Gold Bridge Library
Community Librarian - Jean Shaw

Bridge River Library
Community Librarian - Vanessa Blake

Board Members

- Regan Dixon
- Jane Duber
- Beverly Goes
- Maggie Lord
- Karen Playfair
- Jen Leach (District of Lillooet)
- Vivian Birch-Jones (SLRD)