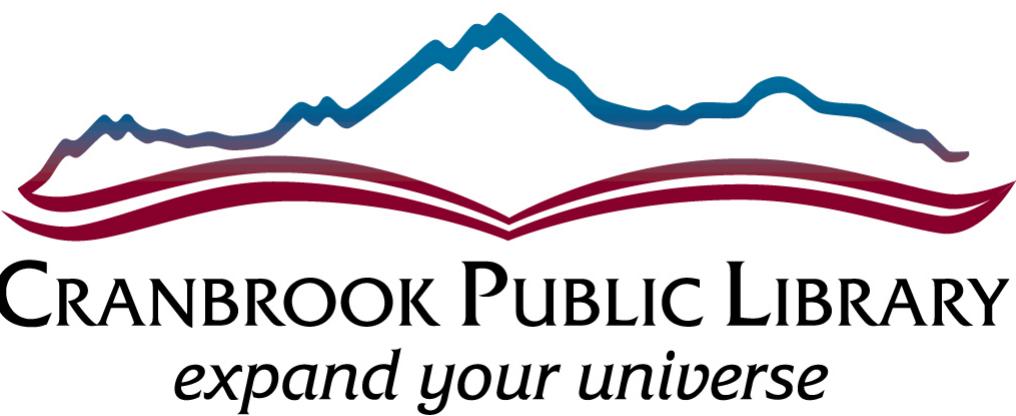


ANNUAL REPORT 2004



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



There are five particular events that stand out in my mind for the 2004 Library year. Those events are as follows:

Firstly, significant progress has been made towards the goal of finding a "new home" for the Cranbrook Public Library. The City of Cranbrook has located and taken positive steps towards the purchase of an existing building near the downtown centre of Cranbrook, with the intent that such a building would be renovated and then used as the new home for the library. The building in question would serve that purpose most admirably. The purchase and renovation of the "new facility" is subject to a successful referendum to approve the financing that would be required to move forward on such a project. As far as timing is concerned, nothing that I am aware of has been written in stone, but I am optimistic that the requisite referendum will proceed sometime in 2005. We may be in for exciting times!

Secondly, we now have our first full year under the stewardship of our new head librarian, Ursula Brigl. All that I can say is that Ursula has, in my humble opinion, not only met, but exceeded, the high expectations that accompanied her into her new position. She is intelligent, personable, full of ideas and enthusiasm, and a well loved captain of the library crew—what more can I say?

Thirdly, the Cranbrook Public Library is blessed with the support of the Friends of the Library. The leadership by its Chairman Don Ohs has been very strong and inspired. Thank you, Don and all Friends. One of just many innovations from the Friends has been obtaining a major Job Creation Project grant from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) for the purpose of cleaning, repairing and doing a full inventory of the Library's collections, getting books ready for the switch to a new security system, creating new signage for the Library, creating an events planner for the Friends of the Library and Cranbrook Public Library to use, and developing a new teen space in the Library. The creation of the teen space is directed specifically to the goal of recognizing how important it is to engage the teens in our community and it has great promise of doing that!

Fourthly, the Board held a very special year-end lunch for its volunteers and staff. It was a wonderful event, and we hope to establish it as an annual event of appreciation and fellowship. The trustees served the meal, and with increased training, and spill even less next year.

Fifth, and finally, it has been a wonderful year. All members of the Board of Trustees are fine, committed people, who are willing to give freely of their time to the Library. It has been both an honour and a great pleasure to work with every one of them. I extend my personal thank you to each and every one of them.

Larry Schafer,
Library Board Chairperson

STATISTICAL REPORT

	2004	2003
CIRCULATION		
Adult Collections	149,767	148,988
Young Adult Collections	4,320	3,659
Juvenile Collections	47,362	45,472
Manual Circulation	0	854
In-House Circulation	9,375	9,632
Total Circulation	210,824	208,605
INTERLIBRARY LOAN		
Borrowed	1,703	1,840
Loaned	1,304	1,215
COMPUTER USE		
Computer Workstations	26,941	28,165
Website Accesses	7,737	4,337
Total Computer Use	35,902	28,876
REFERENCE QUESTIONS		
	9,952	10,991
MEMBERSHIP		
Adult	9,859	9,011
Young Adult	1,662	1,626
Juvenile	2,695	2,476
Senior	610	521
Other	842	746
City	12,211	11,217
RDEK Area C	2,482	2,292
Other	975	871
Total Membership	15,668	14,380
COLLECTIONS		
ITEMS		
Adult Books	46,421	44,760
Young Adult Books	2,202	2,019
Juvenile Books	15,455	14,095
Audio-Visual	4,646	4,309
Serials	193	144
Total Items	68,917	65,375
Items Added	6,765	5,917
Items Discarded	6,785	9,062
Subscriptions Added (Net)	0	1
TITLES	58,678	57,908



Summer Reading Club 2004
Closing Ceremonies



Entries Being Dropped Off During the Sister City Reading Challenge



New Chairs in the Magazine Reading Area

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT



2004 was a busy year at the Cranbrook Public Library, whether it was because of people continuing to take out more items, the Library Board having September declared Cranbrook Public Library Month, staff conducting more children's programming, or the Friends of the Library dramatically increasing their fundraising and support activities.

The Library launched its new DVD collection in September, something made possible in part by a generous donation from the Friends of the Library. The DVD collection has been well received by library users and continues to grow. An increase in the collections budget, along with donations from the Friends of the Library, community organizations and library users, meant that the library was able to add over 8,500 items to its collection. This translated into people borrowing more material; circulation increased by 11% over 2003. We also weeded the collections, with the help of the Friends, to discard unused material, create some space on the shelves and update certain subject areas.

The City of Cranbrook declared September 2004 as Cranbrook Public Library Month, recognizing the contribution the public library makes within the community. During the month, the Library celebrated International Literacy Day, launched the DVD collection, added an evening session to the popular storytime program, held a membership drive; and the Library Board held a hot dog sale.

Throughout the year, several areas in the Library were rejuvenated with the help of the Friends of the Library. The magazine area got four very comfortable wingback chairs and a coffee table, and new sunscreens were installed in the entrance. Also, the table in the Boardroom was split in two and the room was opened to the public as a quiet study and reading room when it was not being used for meetings or special projects. The Library's collections and interior are also getting a boost from the special JCP project that our Chairperson mentioned in his report.

Some new faces joined the staff, and some left. Gordon Jackson, Patrick Stecyk and Naomi Scharein joined the staff when Chelsea Fraser left to continue her studies at Simon Fraser University. Naomi left in December to devote more time to her schooling. Also in December, the Library Board recognized Arthur Dickey for the years of service he has given as a page.

I extend my thanks the board and staff for their tireless work to make the Library a welcoming place its users; the Friends of the Library and other volunteers who assist by raising funds and taking on special projects; and the community businesses and organizations who supported the Library's programs, events and collections. Most of all, I extend my thanks to the people who used the Library in 2004. We look forward to serving you in 2005 and beyond.

Ursula Brigl
Chief Librarian

LIBRARY BOARD

Larry Schafer	Chair
Clouston Chalmers	Vice-Chair Finance Committee Chair
Jayne Garner-Galarneau	Friends of the Library Liaison Community Relations & Resource Development
Angus Davis	City Council Representative
Rob Gay	R.D.E.K. Representative
Marilyn Dakin	Friends of the Library Liaison
Bill Renyk	

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Corporation of the City of Cranbrook
Province of British Columbia
Regional District of East Kootenay
Friends of the Cranbrook Public Library
Adopt-A-Magazine Patrons
Travelogue Series Contributors
CanWest Global (Vancouver Sun)
Lion's Club
Read-a-thon
Cranbrook Garden Club
Cranbrook Retired Teachers Association
Buy the Book Donors
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 24
Ladies Aux. to the Fraternal Order of Eagles
Cranbrook University Women's Club
Paul Dowling
Louise Selby

LIBRARY STAFF

Ursula Brigl, Chief Librarian	Deanne Perreault, Children's & Youth Librarian
Arthur Dickey	Naomi Scharein
Chelsea Fraser (to August)	Lori Stadel
Cindy Friesen	Patrick Stecyk
Laurie Gardiner (Summer Student)	Andrea Thompson (Summer Student)
Gordon Jackson	Nigel Warden (CAP Youth Intern)
Margaret Klima	Nicole Weitzel
Gloria Margison	Michele Wilson

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Rick Doll	Marilyn Forbes
Barb Ward	Bill Hurst
Jim & Venie Webster	Ted Johansen
Rolfe Ganong	Barb Stelmack
Marion Howe	Mary Daniels
Kathie Bondar	Jenny Wolczuk
Norma Bates	Patrick Stecyk



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