Winnipeg Public Library

2019 annual Report

Winnipeg Public Library is in Treaty #1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, and Dakota as well as the Birthplace of the Métis Nation and the Heart of the Métis Homeland.

Winnipeg Public Library continues to deliver cultural, technology, and literacy-based programs within the community.

# Winnipeg Public Library by the numbers in 2019:

* 20 public librarys
* 309,661 library cardholders
* 2,418,588 in-person visits in 2019
* 5,761,544 items borrowed including eBook and eLibrary downloads
* 3,886 programs offered
* 101,371 in program attendance.
* 265,932 questions were answered
* 266,914 computer bookings
* 1,002,851 eLibrary downloads
* 14,964,147 eVisits (website, catalogue sessions and social media)

# Highlights of 2019

The new **Transcona Library** opened on March 7. The new library is fully accessible with increased parking and an outdoor reading area. The library also received a **Smartlocker** in October, allowing customers to pick up their holds even when the library is closed.

A sod turning ceremony was held for the new **Bill & Helen Norrie Library** on October 29. The new fully accessible library is expected to open in early 2021.

The **St. John’s Library** reopened on July 5. Renovations included a reading room and new accessible entrance that meets the needs of today’s library users.

**The West Kildonan Library** children’s area in the lower level underwent renovations that were completed in October 2019.

On March 14**, The Prix Ronald-Duhamel - Ronald Duhamel Award** was presented to the **St. Boniface Library staff** for their delivery of services, programming and resources to the citizens of Winnipeg.

Award-winning playwright and author, **Carolyn Gray**, began her term as the **30th Writer-in-Residence** on October 1st. The Writer-in-Residence program provides one-on-one mentorship and public workshops to hundreds of emerging writers of all genres.

A celebration launched the **Sun Life Musical Instrument Lending Library** on October 4. The event included speakers from Sun Life, Councillor Sherri Rollins, Canadian artist Sarah McLachlan and special performances. The library has over 150 instruments available to borrow. The Sun Life Musical Instrumental Lending Library donation drive also launched on October 4. New or gently used instruments can be dropped off at Millennium Library or at Long & McQuade.

A **second full-time Community Crisis Worker** was hired. Based out of Millennium Library, the library’s Community Crisis Workers provide information on shelter and housing, social assistance, employment, counselling, mental health programs and more.

**Family Literacy Day,** held on January 26, collected $2,816 in fines and fees for donation to the Literacy For Life Fund, held at The Winnipeg Foundation.

**Take Your Child to the Library Day**, held on February 2, saw over 200 library cards issued and 1,300 individuals visit a branch to view a family concert or puppet show, listen to a story time or participate in a scavenger hunt.

The **Kindergarten Card Campaign** shared information on early literacy skill development with families of incoming students in Pembina Trails School Division and enrolled students in Seven Oaks School Division. Parents were given the opportunity to receive a library card for their child in kindergarten and all children received a voucher for a free picture book from the Library. More than 600 new library cards were issued to students. Thanks to the Winnipeg Public Library Board for their generous donation to continue this campaign.

The annual **TD Summer Reading club** saw its highest registration numbers in the history of the program. Just over 11,300 participants registered in 2019, a 13% increase over 2018.

**Pow Wow** in the Millennium Library Park held on June 28

# Winnipeg Public Library Board

2019 was a busy year for the Winnipeg Public Library Board. The process of updating the Board’s 5-year strategic plan was started and focused on the advocacy and advisory mandates of the Board. Continued financial support to various programs and services that is offered through WPL such as Indigenous language programs, Writer-in-Residence, hiring a consultant to examine and provide recommendations to the WPL multilingual collection, and materials for Outreach services was provided. The Board remains committed to ensure the sustainability and support of WPL. Many thanks to the Library Advisory Committees who are a support of library services within their communities.

# Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

2019 was an exciting year for the Friends. We were pleased to contribute $43,000 for library programs and special projects. This contribution is the largest ever. To those who attended Books & Brunch, shopped at the Best of Friends Gift Shop and the Fall Book Sale, made donations and bought memberships, THANK YOU!

None of these funds would be available if it were not for the over 70 committed Friends’ volunteers. Hats off to each of them!

These were the Friends’ contributions: supported the Writer-in-Residence program; major contributor to Spring Break Family Programming; funded the St. Boniface Family Literacy Playground, first in the city to be English and French; Wall Decals for St. Boniface Library, to support the early childhood literacy skill development – Talk, Sing, Read, Write, Play; funded the purchase of three more sewing machines – industrial, embroidery and quilting – as well as add-on software to enhance the five sewing machines previously provided by the Friends, in the ideaMILL; and the purchase of Tote Bags, for giveaways at major library events, with Friends logo on them. Learn more at friendswpl.ca.  
Kathy Blight, President

# Winnipeg Library Foundation

We were delighted to see St. John’s Library reopen this year as a direct result of the Centennial Renewal campaign – Cornish Library will soon follow. This year we were the grateful recipients of a generous planned gift. If you have considered leaving a bequest to the Winnipeg Library Foundation in support of your public library as part of your estate planning, we would be happy to help make that process simple for you.

As always, we are grateful to the many donors and supporters – we couldn’t do it without you. Reach us via email to info@winnipeglibraryfoundation.ca, or by phone at 204.989.2060.   
Carole Marshall, Executive Director

# Financial Overview

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Revenue 2019 |  |  |
| city of winnipeg | $22,536,444 | 87% |
| PROVINCE OF MANITOBA | $2,010,118 | 8% |
| LIBRARY - GENERATED | $1,072,056 | 4% |
| LIBRARY TRUST/BOOK SALES | $371,292 | 1% |
| TOTAL | $25,989,910 | 100% |
| Expenditures 2019 |  |  |
| salaries AND benefits | $14,295,801 | 55% |
| building maintenance | $7,370,601 | 27% |
| \*library materials | $2,962,287 | 10% |
| supplies And services | $1,361,221 | 13% |
| TOTAL | $ 25,989,910 | 100% |

\*includes expenditures from book sales, trust accounts and grants

# Donors and Grants

The Library wishes to thank the following people and organizations for their generous contributions in 2019.

Trish Allison-Simms

Peter Attwood

Marilyn Baker

James Beaulieu

Dr. L. A. Black

Teri Cheung

Confidence Rebekah Lodge NO.40

Shannon Corbett

Helle Cosby

Nicole Denboer

Arlene Erickson

Louise Fileccia

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

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The Winnipeg Foundation Literacy for Life Fund

Margaret M. Webster Memorial Fund

Nancy Turriff and Jeanne Allen Fund

Robert Clague Memorial Fund

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# Contact

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