Winnipeg Public Library

2021 annual Report

Winnipeg Public Library branches are located in Treaty One Territory, the home and traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota peoples, and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, in Treaty Three Territory.

# Our mission is to enrich the lives of all Winnipeg citizens and their communities by providing high-quality, responsive and innovative library services.

# Winnipeg Public Library by the numbers in 2021:

* 20 public libraries
* 124,106 library cardholders
* 622,344 in-person visits in 2021
* 3,622,407 items borrowed including eBook and eLibrary downloads
* 318 programs offered
* 9032 in program attendance.
* 75,015 questions were answered
* 28,439\* computer bookings \*started bookings in July
* 1,276,378 eLibrary downloads
* 12.234.673 eVisits (website, catalogue sessions and social media)

# Highlights of 2021

## January

* On **January 1**, Winnipeg Public Library became fine-free! Overdue fines and borrowing fees were eliminated.
* Ten branches offered curbside pick-up service.

## February

* On **February 20**, Read by Queens was held virtually on YouTube, in collaboration with Sunshine House, Inc.
* Staff continued to develop online programming.

## March

* All branches (except Cornish) reopened for contactless pick-up and returns on **March 1**.
* Services expanded on **March 15**, customers were able to enter branches to pick up holds, return items and register for and update their membership.
* Spring break programming was offered virtually on YouTube.
* Winnipeg Public Library hosted its 4th Human Library, this time virtually via Zoom, on **March 22**.
* On **March 29**, the new Bill and Helen Norrie Library opened.   
    
  The new **Bill and Helen Norrie Library**, located at 15 Poseidon Bay, features a fully accessible space with double-sided gas fireplace, a reading deck, and children’s area with three reading nook playhouses. It replaced the River Heights Library, which closed on **March 13**.

## May

* On **May 6**, the newly-renovated Cornish Library officially reopened.

The Cornish Library renovations included adult and children’s computer areas, new lounge spaces, accessible washrooms, and a new reading area extension that overlooks the river.

* All branches closed on **May 8** due to public health orders.
* The Bill and Helen Norrie Library achieved a rating of Three Globes by Green Globes Building Performance Assessment New Construction.
* On **May 13**, all branches partially opened with contactless pick-up and returns.

## June

* The TD Summer Reading Club (SRC) and Teen Summer Reading Challenge kicked off on **June 14**. Winnipeg Public Library participated in the TD SRC StoryWalk ® that allowed participants to enjoy the outdoors and reading, while social distancing.

## July

* On **July 26**, all branches expanded in-person service to include collection browsing, membership updates, computer use, printing and photocopying, self-checkout, and holds pick-up.

## October

* Anna Leventhal began her term as Writer-in-Residence on **October 1**.

She provided guidance and feedback on writing and conducted programs via Zoom.

The Writer-in-Residence program provides one-on-one mentorship and public workshops to hundreds of emerging writers of all genres.

* On **October 4**, Red Dresses were hung at all branches to honour the National Day of Awareness and Honouring of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirited Peoples MMIWG2S+).
* Munroe Library closed on **October 23** for renovations.
* Tales at Night, our adult story time, resumed at the Good Will Social Club on **October 27**.

## November

* From **November 17, 2021** to January 14, 2022, Millennium Library hosted Waniskahtan, a travelling exhibit from the Legacy of Hope Foundation, to raise awareness about MMIWG2S+ and the disproportionate rates of violence affecting MMIWG2S+ through information panels and video.
* On **November 4**, Winnipeg Public Library hit 1 million digital library downloads.
* On **November 15** we began offering virtual early literacy programs.

# Winnipeg Public Library Board

2021 was a productive year for the Winnipeg Public Library Board, despite the continued challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board continued working toward its strategic plan goals, including, activities of the Board’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission Committee, support for the Millennium Library Community Working Group, and an update to the Board’s Regulations. In addition, advocacy efforts were undertaken for continued federal and provincial funding for Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) and National Network for Equitable Library Service (NNELS). Financial support was provided to various WPL initiatives, including, the annual Writer-in-Residence program, and reading incentives for participants in the annual TD Summer Reading Club and Teen Summer Reading Challenge. The Community Safety Host program is an Indigenous- and community-led initiative that received funding from the Board to develop and deliver training. The Board remains committed to ensuring WPL continues to be both sustainable and thriving. Many thanks to the five Library Advisory Committees who are a support to library services within their local communities.

# Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

The Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library (FWPL) were delighted to make a $25,000 donation this year to support programs and special projects of the Winnipeg Public Library. This donation will lend financial support to the 2021-2022 Writer-in-Residence program, along with funding for a Family Literacy Playground at the West Kildonan Library. This brings our total contribution to WPL since 2020 to $325,000.

You may have noticed a pair of whimsical owls on communications from FWPL. We were pleased to launch our new logo this year and are excited about the way it represents the diverse group of people who use our library spaces to read, learn, create, play, and connect.

Our website home page was updated this year, and all the pages of our website have been refreshed following our updated brand guidelines. This year we worked with Coal & Canary to create a FWPL candle, with its own unique scent, as a fundraiser. It has been a great success.

We are grateful to our members, volunteers, donors, and our Board of Directors who continue to support us. Their valuable contributions make it possible for us to maintain our commitment to fostering literacy and community connections in our city. Learn more about the Friends at **friendswpl.ca**  
Rita Burgess, President

# Financial Overview

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Revenue 2021 |  |  |
| city of winnipeg | $ 27,152,675 | 91% |
| PROVINCE OF MANITOBA | $2,070,988 | 7% |
| LIBRARY - GENERATED | $71,645 | .2% |
| LIBRARY TRUST/BOOK SALES | $130,537 | .8% |
| TOTAL REVENUES | $29,425,845 | 100% |
| Expenditures 2021 |  |  |
| salaries AND benefits | $15,247,297 | 52% |
| building maintenance | $8,633,229 | 29% |
| \*library materials | $2,907,201 | 10% |
| supplies And services | $2,638,118 | 9% |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | $29,425,845 | 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 2021.

Christos Adamopoulos

Trish Allison-Simms

Peter Attwood in memory of Monique Attwood

Anne Baily

James Beaulieu

In memory of Aaron Berg

Bit Space Development Ltd.

Complex Games Inc.

Nichole Denboer

Rowan W. Dorin

Vivianne Fogarty in memory of Shirley Meyers

Debra L.M. Fredborg

Friends of Winnipeg Public Library

David Glass in memory of Shirley Kozlowich

Heather Graham

Heather Graham in honour of Theresa Lomas

Gabriel J. Hurley

Courtney Rae Jones in memory of Marilyn LaPage

Bella Lam in honour of Lizaeth Ardila

In memory of Ronald Logan

Lynnette Milton in memory of Bill Milton

Terrance Muzychuk

Bettina Nymann

Alan Palen

Harvey M. Peltz in memory of Minnie Karlinsky

In honour of John Robinson

Debra Shukster

Evgueni Sinev

Maureen Steinfeld

The Camp Fire Union Inc.

The Winnipeg Foundation

Literacy for Life Fund

James A. and Jean Bracken Fund

Nancy Turriff and Jeanne Allen Fund

Robert I. and Margaret J. Clague Memorial Fund

Margaret M. and John C. Webster Memorial Fund

Shirley Edith Sherwood Fund

Winnipeg Public Library Board

Library Advisory Committees

In memory of Ruth Wysocki

Zenfri Inc.

# Contact

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