

## **MILLENNIUM LIBRARY SELF-GUIDED TOUR**

Welcome to the Millennium Library! This library is the **main library** for the Winnipeg Public Library system, providing support to the **19 branch libraries** around the city.

A few facts about the library:

- The Winnipeg Public Library system is **one of the oldest in Canada**, founded in 1895.
- The renovated Millennium Library, designed by **LM Architectural Group** (Winnipeg) with **Patkau Architects** of Vancouver, was a recipient of the prestigious Governor General's Medal in Architecture for 2008.
- The Millennium Library averages **more than 1000 visitors** each day and half a million visits a year, making it one of the top destination points in downtown Winnipeg.
- There are **over a million physical items** in the 20 branches of the Winnipeg Public Library system. Of these, more than 260,000 are at the Millennium Library (this includes books, magazines, music and movies, etc.).
- The Winnipeg Public Library offers **over 3,000 free workshops and programs** (online and in person) every year for all ages, including computer classes, story times, book clubs, lectures, and more. Register for free at [wpl.winnipeg.ca](http://wpl.winnipeg.ca).

### **LIBRARY LOBBY**

In this area:

- **Community Connections:** a social services information hub that connects people with resources for basic needs. People who visit are served by the library's Community Crisis Workers and library staff. Visiting agencies are also booked to offer their services in housing, employment, mental health, addictions, and other needs. Community Connections' opening hours are different from the Millennium Library. See [winnipeg.ca/communityconnections](http://winnipeg.ca/communityconnections) for current hours.
- **Friends of the Library gift shop:** run by volunteers, provides literary-based giftware for all ages. Proceeds are directed back to the Library.

- A **Winnipeg Transit customer service station** is located near the lobby elevators. Purchase tickets or passes or ask any question about Winnipeg Transit, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
- ***Untitled***, a two-story artwork by local artist **Cliff Eyland**: more than 2000 index-card sized paintings mounted on the wall, resembling a pixilated computer image or what Eyland described as “scattered cataloguing.” Binoculars are located in the Skywalk for a closer view. Eyland was an Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba School of Art and this work was the first piece completed under the new Public Arts Program of the City of Winnipeg.
- A **staircase and elevators** link the lobby to the Skywalk which provides access between most major locations in the downtown: to the west are cityplace mall, Bell MTS Place, and Portage Place; and to the east, Winnipeg Square and Portage & Main.

## **CIRCULATION SERVICES**

From the lobby, the **check-in/check-out area** is directly in front of you.

Here you can:

- **get a membership card** for the library system
- update your membership information
- **check out** books, movies, music, and more
- **return your items** even when we are closed, through the book return slots located in the lobby and outside on Donald Street

You can find more information about library memberships on our website at [winnipeg.ca/library](http://winnipeg.ca/library).

## **CHILDREN’S AND TEEN SERVICES**

In this area:

### **Children’s & Teen Services Desk**

Serves both the **children’s and teen** areas. Ask here for help:

- Finding materials for school work or to read for fun
- Using computers in the children’s area
- Registering for teen and children’s programs

## Teen Central

Millennium Library was built with teens in mind. The Teen Central area includes:

- **Fiction and paperbacks** appealing to teens
- **Indigenous Resources**
- A large **graphic novel** and **manga** collection
- A **non-fiction collection**, for informational books with high teen appeal
- **Movies** (DVDs, Blu-Rays) for teens
- **Magazines** for teens

## Children's Services

The children's collection is like a mini-library inside the library itself, because it has some of everything! This area serves everyone from babies to families with children up to age 12.

In this area:

- The **Mona Gray Program room**, where staff hold programs for kids year-round
- Three main collections:
  - **Non-fiction**: all types of informational books
  - **Children's Fiction**
  - **Picture Books** for younger readers and babies
- Our special children's collections:
  - **Folk and Fairy tales** from many lands and cultures
  - Kinsmen Collection of **Books in Braille**: children's materials for the visually impaired
  - **Adapted books** created for visual learners. Each symbol represents a word, assisting the reader in understanding the text.
  - **Movies, Music, and Games**: DVDs, Blu-Ray, CDs, and Video Games for children and teens
- **Ah kha koo gheesh**: a unique feature of the Millennium Library, created to highlight the **Indigenous Resources collection** and recognize Winnipeg's Indigenous peoples.
- **Family Literacy Playground**: Play is key to early childhood literacy and critical to a child's healthy development in all areas. Play is one of the five practices (*Talk, Sing, Read, Write, and Play*) that are the foundation of early literacy skill development.

## **READER SERVICES**

This area houses the **fiction collections for adults**, including general fiction, mystery, science fiction/fantasy, romance, westerns, inspirational fiction, and graphic novels. **Around 30,000 books** are in these collections.

Reader Services also organizes many programs for adults at Millennium Library including the popular Skywalk Concert and Lecture series, musical performances, author appearances, writing workshops, the Writer-in-Residence service, and more.

In this area:

- **New & Noted room:** Housing the latest fiction and non-fiction books received, the **Express Bestseller** collection of highly popular books, magazines, and all genres of adult paperbacks, this cozy area is perfect for a quick lunch-hour trip or a leisurely afternoon's read.
- **Holds shelving:** Here you can pick up books you have requested (look under your last name).

## **RICHARDSON READING TERRACE**

Head up to the **second floor** via the **Richardson Reading Terrace**. At the base of the terrace sits the second major public art work in the Library, ***The Illumination*** by Lethbridge, AB artist **Nicholas Wade**. This sculpture, made up of the letters in the most common English word ("THE") interlocked in an architectural "embrace," speculates on our culture's preoccupation with language.

## **SECOND FLOOR: Special Services**

In this area:

- **Wii ghoss:** learn about the histories, traditions, stories, and languages of Indigenous peoples with this Indigenous Resources collection
- **Musical Scores**

- Music **CDs** in a variety of genres from Classical to Rock
- **Movies** on DVD and Blu-Ray
- **National Film Board** DVDs: a unique collection of Canadian documentary films, animation, and alternative dramas
- **Adult Basic Education (ABE)**: literacy books for adult learners
- **EAL/ESL**: resources for people learning English as an Additional Language
- **Multilingual Collection**: books and magazines in over thirty languages other than English
- **Language Learning**: books and kits for learning languages
- Adult **Large Print** Books for readers who want larger print
- **Audio Books**: books on CD and MPC-CD (anyone may borrow)
- **DAISY Discs**: audiobooks on disc, reserved for patrons with print disabilities

**Assistive Technology tools** such as text magnifying devices and “talking terminals” for people with print disabilities are also available on this floor.

Ask the staff at the **Special Services Desk** for more information about any of these collections or services.

Also on the second floor:

- **Meeting Room Complex**: Carol Shields Auditorium, Buchwald Room, Anhang Room, and other meeting rooms (all may be rented for a fee).
- **Blankstein Gallery**: where local artists display their work in monthly exhibits free of charge
- **Tutorial rooms**: bookable by the public, these free spaces provide individuals or small groups (up to 6 people) with space to tutor, study, or have small meetings
- **Community Crisis Worker** offices: Community Crisis Workers are available to assist anyone needing help with emergency shelter and housing, social assistance, employment, counselling, mental health services, health care information, and more.
- **Writer-in-Residence** office: The Writer-in-Residence is an established author who provides free critique and mentoring services to Manitoban writers. Ask Reader Services staff for more information about the Writer-in-Residence.

### **THIRD FLOOR: ideaMILL**

“Makerspaces” are designed to encourage people of all ages to create, experiment, collaborate, and innovate in a self-directed, hands-on learning environment. Our ideaMILL gives you access to tools, software and mentorship that can help take your creative ideas and turn them into tangible products or prototypes. Some of its equipment includes:

- **3D Printers** to print your designs
- Computers and resources for creating and editing digital media
- **Crafting area:** sewing machines, button makers, and more
- **Classroom lab space:** up to 16 computers or 32 lecture-style seating
- Two bookable **sound recording booths**
- Photography and video creation equipment

The ideaMILL is open the same hours as the Millennium Library. Children under age 12 need to bring a parent or guardian.

As you leave the third floor, note **the painting of Andrew Carnegie by V. A. Long** hanging by the terrace stairs. More than a century ago, Carnegie donated the money for the first library in Winnipeg, on William Avenue. Two other branch libraries built with funds from Carnegie are still in use today: Cornish and St. John’s.

### **FOURTH FLOOR: Information Services**

The Information Services section fills the entire fourth floor. Here is where you'll find a large collection of **adult non-fiction** books, **reference books** (for in-library use only), the largest number of **public computers** in the building, as well as the Library’s **Local History Room**.

Information Services staff are there to help answer your research questions – no question is too big or too small. If they aren’t able to find an answer, they will suggest other sources to contact.

Here are just a few examples of the types of questions we answer:  
How do I borrow eBooks and streaming movies from the Library?  
I need to find out how to fix something in a 2016 Honda Civic.  
Where can I find information about a prescription drug?  
Do you have books with images of Picasso's Blue Period?

Next to the elevators is a cozy nook with a great view. This is a **programming space** where people are encouraged to participate in creative and interactive activities. Keep checking in to see what's new – drawing and colouring, poetry, puzzles, and more.

Several **mobile display units** throughout the floor showcase staff picks from our collections and highlight resources related to job searching, creating résumés and cover letters.

On the tall shelves that run from one end of the fourth floor to the other, you'll find books about **popular non-fiction topics** including employment, computers and software, fitness and health, cooking, parenting, automotive repair, travel, home improvement, and history.

Other collections on this floor include **biographies** (life stories), Canadian **topographic maps**, and **atlases**. Library staff can help you use these resources.

On the shorter shelves, you'll find **reference books (for in-library use only)** about art and literature, history, and medical encyclopedias. These shelves also store a unique collection of resources for apprenticeship training.

A bulletin board for **crisis support information** is located next to the washroom. This information, which is updated regularly by library staff, is also available as handouts. Ask at any service desk in the building.

The **Local History Room** is a unique feature of the Millennium Library, holding books and materials related to Manitoba and Winnipeg.

Computers here offer access to research databases including Newspaper Archive and Ancestry. A book scanner is available to use at no cost – just bring a USB stick drive to store the images.

In the Local History Room you will find:

- **community histories** of Manitoba municipalities
- **Henderson Directories** which list who lived where
- a **large non-fiction collection** about subjects related to Winnipeg and the rest of Manitoba
- **biographies** of local personalities and **fiction** by local authors from the past and present
- **“Where File”**: an archive of some of the questions answered by Library staff over the latter part of the twentieth century including entries on local businesses and organizations
- files of historical **newspaper clippings** related to Winnipeg (and some Manitoba) topics

### Micromedia

**Of note in this area:**

- Local and national **newspapers**
- **Microfilm readers with printers and USB access** are a valuable research tool. Microfilm are images of newspapers or documents on film – many of our titles go back more than 100 years! Microfilm is often used to research family history, newspaper advertisements, articles, and opinions of the time.

Some of the materials available include:

- the ***Winnipeg Free Press*** dating back to the 1870s, when it was known as the ***Winnipeg Daily Times***;
- the ***Winnipeg Sun*** from 1980 to the present;
- the ***Winnipeg Tribune*** from 1890 until it ceased publication in 1980.

### ALL FLOORS: Computers & Printing

The Millennium Library has **internet computers** available for you to use:

- Some of the computers located close to the Readers Services desk on the main floor are **Express Internet** computers, meaning they operate on a first-come/first-served, **30 minute only** basis.
- The rest of the internet computers in the Library can be booked in advance or you can log in on a walk-up basis.



- Your library card provides you with **120 minutes of free computer access** each day. For information on how to book a computer with your library card, please ask at any service desk.
- Most Library computers also offer **Microsoft Office**.
- **Printing, scanning to email**, and black & white/colour **photocopying** services are available on all floors. Local **faxing** is available – ask at any service desk.
- Free unlimited wifi is available at all WPL branches, including the Millennium Library. To connect with your computer or other mobile device, choose the **WPG-Wifi network** and agree to the Terms of Service.

This concludes your tour of the Millennium Library. Please ask our staff if you have any questions, and remember – the Library doesn't end here!

- You can search our catalogue in the library or from home to find books, recommended reads, and much more. Visit our website or **download the Library app**.
- The Library subscribes to multiple **digital resources** that offer downloadable and streaming **ebooks, audiobooks, music, and movies** for all ages, **magazines and newspapers**, resources for learning English, and more.
- All you need to access our digital resources is your library card and an internet connection.
- Visit [wpl.winnipeg.ca](http://wpl.winnipeg.ca) and explore!